

**Single Member Cabinet Decision****Executive  
Forward Plan  
Reference****E2956****Whitchurch Primary School Expansion**

<b>Decision maker/s</b>	Cllr Michael Evans, Cabinet Member for Children's Services
<b>The Issue</b>	Increasing pupil numbers due to housing development will result in Whitchurch Primary School expanding from a one form entry 210 place primary school to a 1.5 form entry 315 place school. To accommodate the extra 105 pupils additional permanent classrooms and facilities will be provided.
<b>Decision Date</b>	15 May 2017
<b>The decision</b>	The Cabinet Member agrees that a project budget of £1.309m will be included in the 2017-18 Schools Capital Programme to expand school place provision at Whitchurch Primary School.
<b>Rationale for decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Council retains the legal responsibility for pupil place planning in its area and in order to do this effectively must find solutions for the delivery of additional school places where required.</li><li>2. S106 Developer Contributions received and expected are to expand or enlarge primary school provision in the area.</li><li>3. Basic Need grant funding is made available to local authorities to address the issue of population growth, enabling them to provide additional school places.</li><li>4. An area of land adjacent to the school playing field has been acquired by the Council using developer contributions to enable the expansion of the school.</li><li>5. The additional primary school places needed in the Whitchurch Primary area are required due to pupils generated by new housing development and some underlying population growth. The project will be funded by S106 and Basic Need.</li><li>6. <a href="#">The Primary and Secondary School Organisation Plan 2015-19</a> (SOP) indicates the Council's Educational Strategies and Criteria for provision of new school places as a result of new housing development or underlying population growth.</li><li>7. Whitchurch Primary school was selected for expansion:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>7.1 Due to the school's proximity to the new housing developments it is the closest for the pupils generated by those developments which are included in the Whitchurch Strategic Housing Site Allocation and Core Strategy.</li><li>7.2 The SOP states "<i>Where possible existing schools should be expanded.</i>"</li><li>7.3 There are insufficient school places in the Whitchurch area to accommodate the children generated by the housing developments and the underlying population growth.</li></ol></li><li>8. To aid parental preference as stated in the SOP and to facilitate sustainable methods of transport to school and keep home to school transport costs to a minimum.</li></ol>

<b>Financial and budget implications</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There are no revenue implications.</li> <li>2. Basic Need grant funding of £3.039m in 2017/18 and £5.758m in 2018/19 has been confirmed by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) for Basic Need to support the provision of additional pupil places where there is population growth.</li> <li>3. Provisional approval of the capital budget was agreed in the Council's 2017-18 Budget Report.</li> <li>4. The project is to be funded by S106 and Basic Need grant.</li> <li>5. S106 contributions of £72,457.50 were received on 6 October 2014 for the housing development at Orchard View, Sleep Lane, Whitchurch (11/02193/FUL). £30k of this contribution has been used to purchase an area of land to the rear of the school site which will facilitate expansion. The remaining £42,457 will be used towards the expansion/enlargement of the school.</li> <li>6. Further S106 Education Contributions are expected to be received from proposed new housing development (Bellway and Barratt) in Whitchurch. Based on current dwelling and pupil number calculations the sum anticipated is £682,765. This figure may fluctuate and if development does not proceed at any of the developments there is the potential that funding may not be forthcoming.</li> <li>7. The final Basic Need allocation is expected to be circa £585k if all expected S106 contributions are received.</li> </ol>
<b>Issues considered (these are covered in more detail in the report)</b>	Social Inclusion; Sustainability; Property; Young People; Other Legal Considerations.
<b>Consultation undertaken</b>	Cabinet colleagues; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Stakeholders/Partners; Section 151 Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer.
<b>How consultation was carried out</b>	Project Initiation Document approved by Divisional Directors, Section 151 Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer.
<b>Other options considered</b>	No other options considered as Whitchurch Primary School is the only school in Bath and North East Somerset that serves the local area.
<b>Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision, including any dispensation granted:</b>	<i>The nature of interest and whether interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest or an-other interest, including any conflict of interest, (as defined in Part 2, A and B of the Code of Conduct and Rules for Registration of Interests). Any Member who needs to clarify any matters relating to the declaration of interests is recommended to seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer or a member of their staff before taking the decision.</i>
<b>Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:</b>	

<b>Signatures of Decision Makers</b>	<b>Delete these red notes:</b> <b>NB: If a joint decision, then ALL decision makers must sign the SAME sheet</b>
<b>Date of Signature</b>	
<b>Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision</b>	