

Single Member Cabinet Decision

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| Executive Forward Plan Reference | E2243 |
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Determination of Statutory Notice to Enlarge Bathampton Primary School

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| Decision maker/s | Cllr Chris Watt, Cabinet Member for Children's Services |
| The Issue | The four week representation period for the statutory notice published on 3 rd February 2011 proposing the expansion of Bathampton Primary School ended on 3 rd March 2011 and a decision is now required to determine the proposal. |
| Decision Date | 21/3/2011 |
| The decision | The Cabinet Member agrees that: The Statutory Notice for the expansion of Bathampton Primary is approved and the temporary enlargement of the school can be made permanent. |
| Rationale for decision | <p>The school was enlarged on a temporary basis in 2008 by the addition of a temporary building to the school site and a condition of the planning permission granted at that time was that the temporary building would either need to be removed or replaced with a permanent structure after three years. Births and pupil numbers in the city of Bath have risen in recent years and pupil forecasts indicate that the additional places created temporarily will continue to be needed in the future and therefore cannot be removed and must be made permanent.</p> <p>The proposal has the support of the Governing Body of the school who wish to be able to continue to provide this number of places to serve the local community.</p> <p>The Local Authority considers that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply because the school's performance is of a consistently high quality, the number of applications for places is high and intake numbers are healthy and the school has an Ofsted rating of 'Outstanding'.</p> <p>During the representation period no comments or objections to the proposal were received.</p> |
| Financial and budget implications | The capital required for the necessary building work can be met from existing Basic Need Funding for provision of additional pupil places provided by Government funding. In addition, the school has confirmed in writing that it will contribute to the scheme as agreed. |
| Issues considered | Social Inclusion; Sustainability; Property; Young People; Human Rights; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations. |

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| Consultation undertaken | Ward Councillor; Parish Council; Trades Unions; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Stakeholders/Partners; Other Public Sector Bodies; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer. |
| How consultation was carried out | <p>Paper copies of the consultation document were delivered to the school who were asked to give a copy to every member of staff both teaching and non-teaching, to the governing body and to every pupil to take home with them for their parents/carers. The school were also asked to consult with pupils via the School Council. The consultation document was also emailed to the two neighbouring Local Authorities, local Ward Councillors, union representatives, Bathampton Parish Council, the two MPs for Bath and Bath and North East Somerset, the local Church of England Diocese, the governing bodies, teachers and staff at other local primary schools, the Chief Executive and other B&NES officers.</p> <p>Notification of the consultation was also placed on the Council's electronic consultation system E consult.</p> <p>The statutory notice was published in The Bath Chronicle and posted outside the school entrances and placed in the window of the local Post Office and grocery store in Bathampton village. A copy of the complete proposal and statutory notice was given to the Governing Body and to the Headteacher and the Secretary of State. The notice and the complete proposal were also placed on the Council website and the web address was printed in the statutory notice.</p> <p>The notice stated that comments or objections needed to be submitted within four weeks of the publication date and that they should be sent to the Local Authority.</p> |
| Other options considered | The option to remove the temporary building and for it not to be replaced with permanent so that the school reverts to its original size prior to the temporary enlargement was rejected as the additional places created are projected to be required to accommodate pupils in the future, demand for places at the school continues to be high and making the school revert to its original smaller size would be contrary to the presumption that popular and successful schools should be able to expand. |

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| Signatures of Decision Makers | |
| Date of Signature | |
| Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision | |