

**Agenda Item No. 6 (h)**

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**11 January 2018**

**Report of the Strategic Director for Children's Services**

**OUTCOME OF THE INFORMAL CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSAL FOR  
A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL TO SERVE THE HIGHFIELDS FARM  
DEVELOPMENT, FINDERN – (YOUNG PEOPLE)**

**1. Purpose of Report**

To report to Cabinet the outcome of the initial consultation to consider establishing a new primary school at Highfields Farm, Findern.

**2. Information and Analysis**

At its meeting on 14 September 2017, Cabinet approved a consultation on a proposal to open a new primary school on the major development at Highfields Farm in South Derbyshire. During the consultation period there were 4 responses; all of which were supportive. There were two responses from members of the public who supported the proposal. A local school responded and supported the need for additional provision in the area to meet the need for places generated by the new housing developments. There was also strong support for having a new school on the development to provide a sense of community. In addition, a response from the Authority's Early Years team, indicated the need to consider early years' provision as part of the new school.

The response to the consultation was limited, but building on the site is in its early stages. Local schools were consulted and the consultation document was made available on the County Council's website. There will be opportunities for further discussion with local communities as the school is designed and developed as the legislative process requires further consultation.

The next step is for the Authority to advise the developer of its intention to establish a new school on the site and invite 'expressions of interest' from potential academy sponsors. The process will be the same as previously followed for new primary schools at Hilton, Chellaston Fields, Drakelow and Boulton Moor.

### **3. Financial Considerations**

The developer at Highfields Farm is making a site available for a one-form entry primary school together with the funds for the County Council to deliver a one-form entry primary school. Section 106 contributions have been agreed by the developer. The triggers for payments under the Section 106 agreement are tied to the procurement process.

The agreement provides for a payment of £3,300,000 (subject to indexation). The phase payments are due as follows:

- 10% on receipt of written notice that the Council has determined to build a new primary school. This notice could be given if the Council decides to go ahead with this proposal after this consultation.
- 45% on written notice that the Council has determined to invite written tenders for the new school.
- 45% on written notice that the Council has determined the tender process.

If the funding available from the developer is not sufficient, there will need to be additional funding from the Children's Services Capital Programme. This would be the subject of a separate report to Cabinet at the time tenders are approved.

### **4. Social Value Considerations**

The new school provides primary education for the pupils generated by the new developments and will deliver facilities to the current standards in the new community close to their homes.

### **5. Other Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: - human resources, prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, and environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

### **6. Background Papers**

A file is available within the Children's Services' Development Section.

### **7. Officer's Recommendations** That Cabinet:

7.1 notes the outcome of the consultation and approves the initiation of

the process to seek a sponsor for the new school by issuing an invitation to potential sponsors to submit an expression of interest; and

7.2 determines that a new school should be built on the development at Highfields Farm.

**Jane Parfremment**  
**Strategic Director for Children's Services**