

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET****3 March 2015****Report of the Acting Strategic Director for Children & Younger Adults****CONSULTATION ON THE SIGNIFICANT ENLARGEMENT OF STENSON FIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL – (CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE)****1. Purpose of Report**

To seek Cabinet approval for a Statutory Consultation on a proposal to expand Stenson Fields Primary School from 280 places to 420 places in response to the increased level of housing within its normal area.

2. Information and Analysis

In 2008, planning permission was granted for a housing development of up to 500 dwellings at Stenson Fields, on the boundary with Derby City. At that time, an agreement was reached between the County Council and Derby City Council that the pupils from these houses would have places provided for both primary and secondary education at schools with Derby City. This agreement was based on the understanding that the City primary and secondary schools were both closer to the housing development and had some capacity within the schools already.

The building of the dwellings at Stenson Fields did not start until 2014, by which time circumstances at Derby City schools had changed and a revision of the original agreement was sought. The new arrangements maintained the provision of secondary school places at a Derby City school due to availability of places at the City of Derby Academy.

However, primary school places could no longer be provided at Grampian Primary School (in Derby City), which has converted to an academy and has stated that it does not wish to expand. Therefore, agreement was reached between the County Council and the City Council to negotiate a new S106 Agreement to fund an expansion of places at a Derbyshire school.

The appropriate school for this expansion is Stenson Fields Primary School where discussion with the Head Teacher and Governors

established their support for this proposal, and analysis of the site identified that it could provide the land area needed for building expansion and the increased requirement for hard and soft play of a larger school.

Attached to this report as Appendix 1 is a draft Consultation Paper, providing information for all interested parties on the proposed expansion and seeking comments following a consultation period of six weeks (term time only) from 16 March 2015 to 8 May 2015.

3. Financial Considerations

Negotiations with the housing developer secured a financial contribution of £1.5 million through a S106 Agreement to fund the provision of primary school places. A project to deliver the additional places is being developed and will be the topic of a further paper to Cabinet, subject to the outcome of this consultation.

4. Legal and Human Rights Considerations

Under The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) 2013 and the School Organisation Maintained Schools: Guidance for Proposers and Decision Makers January 2014, Local Authorities must follow a statutory process if the proposed enlargement to the premises of the school is permanent (longer than three years) and would increase the capacity of the school by more than 30 pupils and 25% or 200 pupils (whichever is the lesser).

5. Other Considerations

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

6. Is it necessary for the call-in period to be waived in respect of the decisions being proposed in the report? No

7. Background Papers These are held on file in the CAYA Development Section.

8. Key Decision No

9. Officer Recommendation

That approval be given to initiating a Statutory Consultation on the expansion of Stenson Fields Primary School from 280 to 420 places;

That the consultation be initiated on 16 March 2015 for a period of six weeks (term time only) closing on 8 May 2015;

That a report on the outcome of the consultation be brought to Cabinet within two months of the end of the consultation, for a decision on the proposal to expand Stenson Fields Primary School

Ian Johnson
Acting Strategic Director for Children & Younger Adults

Stenson Fields Primary School

Proposal by Derbyshire County Council to Expand Stenson Fields Primary School from 280 to 420 places

It is proposed that Stenson Fields Primary School be expanded from 280 places to 420 places in response to increased housing in the school's normal area and associated demand for primary school places. The number of places each year will increase from 40-60.

The school's capacity is 280 (this figure excludes two temporary classrooms recently provided) with 301 pupils on roll and thus it is a popular and overcrowded school.

The housing development has permission for up to 500 houses with a primary school pupil yield of 100. This would add additional pressure to an already full school unless further accommodation is built to accommodate the increased numbers.

An initial study of the site has shown that it is possible to build additional accommodation on the site and there is sufficient land available to meet the building, hard play and soft play requirements for a two-form entry primary school. A project is being developed to expand the school so that it would have the accommodation recommended for a 420-place primary school.

Dependant on the outcome of this consultation and any subsequent application for planning permission for such an extension, it is hoped that the additional places can be available before September 2017

Funding both proposals

Funding of £1.5 million has been secured from a housing developer via a S106 agreement to enable the expansion of the school. Dependent on the outcome of this consultation, a report will be presented to Derbyshire County Council's Cabinet seeking approval for these capital works.

Consultation

The consultation on these proposals will be for six weeks from 16 March 2015 to 8 May 2015.

The consultation document is available on the Derbyshire County Council website or by request from Dee Hill on Tel: 01629 536248 or dee.hill@derbyshire.gov.uk .

Any written comments on this proposal should be sent to:

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The deadline for receiving responses is **Friday 8 May 2015**.