

meeting CABINET

date 27 July 2011

agenda item number 4

REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

Chuter Ede Primary School, Balderton: Outcome of a Section 19 Notice

Purpose of report

1. This report provides Cabinet with the outcome of a published Section 19 Notice and seeks approval for the implementation of the following proposal:-
 - to expand the Chuter Ede Primary School and create a further site on a new housing development at Fernwood in Newark, thereby increasing the number of school places and creating a split site school to more effectively serve the community
2. This proposal is a key decision and was first published in the Forward Plan in December 2010.

Information and advice

Background

3. A formal proposal was agreed by Cabinet at its meeting on 4 May 2011 and in accordance with the provisions of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, the LA is required to publish a Section 19 Notice. An appropriate Notice was subsequently published on 20 May 2011 which provided details of the proposal referred to in paragraph 1 above.
4. For school expansions there is a four week period following the publication of Notices during which objections and comments can be made. The Notice expired on 17 June 2011 and during its publication period no representations were received.
5. The decision on the above proposal now falls to Cabinet to determine. It is a statutory requirement, however, that this determination has to be made within two months of the expiry of the Notice's representation period i.e. by 17 August 2011. Failure to meet this requirement would result in the proposal having to be referred to an

independent Schools Adjudicator for a decision to be made.

Statutory and policy implications

6. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and those using the service. Where such implications are material, they have been described in the text of the report. Attention is, however, drawn to the following:-

Human Resources implications

7. The governors of Chuter Ede primary school will be supported by LA officers to ensure that decisions about staffing are made in accordance with employment law and the Authority's previously determined policies.

Financial implications

8. If the proposal is approved to be implemented it will be necessary to construct additional accommodation on a reserved school site within the Fernwood development.
9. The funding for this expansion has already been secured and consists of:

	£
Section 106 developer contribution	970,445
County Council 3 year Capital Programme 2008 – 2011	600,000
Total Budget	1,570,445

Equal opportunities implications

10. The Head Teacher of Chuter Ede School has given a commitment to parents that one of his key priorities will be to ensure that there is equal access and opportunity to all aspects of curricular and extra-curricular activities for pupils on both sites. The school has just completed the purchase of a minibus which will aid them in delivering this priority.

Implications for service users

11. If the proposal outlined in this report is subsequently implemented, pupils who attain statutory school age from September 2011 and who reside at the Fernwood development and whose parents express a preference for Chuter Ede Primary School will be considered for a place at the new annexe in line with the school's published admissions criteria.

Property implications

12. The site of the new school forms part of the negotiated s106 agreement between the County Council and the developer. The new buildings will provide modern fit for purpose accommodation which should have low running costs and minimal maintenance issues.

RECOMMENDATION

13. That Cabinet agrees to the implementation of the proposal to significantly increase the number of pupil places at Chuter Ede Primary School, from 420 places to 540 places from September 2011. Initially, all places will be located at the Chuter Ede site utilising temporary accommodation. From September 2012 and upon completion of the new building, 120 places will be located at the Fernwood site.
14. As previously reported, Cabinet will receive a separate report to consider a further increase of school places at the Fernwood site from 120 to 210, using Basic Need funding (part of the DfE capital allocations), if/when the need is established and all school places are filled.

COUNCILLOR PHILP OWEN

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services

Reasons for recommendation

15. To enable the provision of additional primary school places at Fernwood to meet the increasing current and future need.

Other options considered

16. There are no other school sites in the area which are large enough to accommodate the required future expansion and only one site allocated under the Section 106 Agreement and hence there are no alternatives for consideration.

Legal Services' comments (LM/21.06.11)

17. Cabinet has delegated authority to discharge the County Council's functions exercisable in its capacity as a Local Authority. Cabinet may therefore approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial comments of the Service Director – Finance (NDR)

18. The financial implications, including the source of funding for the proposal, are set out in paragraph 9 of the report.

Background papers available for inspection

The Complete Proposal referred to in the published Section 19 Notice.

Electoral division affected

Balderton
Farndon & Muskham

M19C2826