

5 November 2012

Agenda Item: 9

REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER, SUPPORT TO SCHOOLS SERVICE

**HEYMANN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL, WEST BRIDGFORD -
POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF PERMANENT PUPIL PLACES AND DELIVERY
OF EARLY YEARS EDUCATION PLACES: OUTCOME OF A PUBLISHED
SECTION 19 NOTICE**

Purpose of the Report

1. This report provides Committee with the outcome of a published Section 19 Notice and seeks approval with effect from 1 September 2013, for the implementation of the following proposals to:-
 - expand Heymann Community Primary School on an adjoining site in newly built premises thereby increasing the school's net capacity by a further 210 permanent pupil places
 - provide 39 full-time equivalent early years education places for children aged between three and four years at Heymann Community Primary School. Consequently this will lower the age range of the school from 5-11 to 3-11 years.

Information and Advice

2. A formal proposal was agreed by Committee at its meeting on 16 July 2012 and in accordance with the provisions of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, the Local Authority (LA) is required to publish a Section 19 Notice. An appropriate Notice was subsequently published on 7 September 2012 which provided details of the proposal referred to in paragraph 1 above.
3. There is a six week representation period following the publication of Notices during which objections and comments can be made. The Notice expired on 19 October 2012 and during its publication period no representations were received.
4. The decision on the above proposal now falls to Committee 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 19 December 2012. 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.

Other Options Considered

5. All options concerning the provision of additional permanent pupil places that were considered are outlined in the report approved by Committee on 14 March 2012.
6. The only other feasible option available to Heymann Primary School for parents/carers who wish their children to receive early years education between three and four years, is to continue to send them to alternative providers and move the children to Heymann Primary School as appropriate for their statutory education.

Reasons for Recommendations

7. The recommendation reflects the location of the projected demand in West Bridgford; the need to provide for families of more than one child; the need to maintain the high level of educational standards in West Bridgford; and the need to deliver permanent places within a defined and tight timeframe (for September 2013).
8. It is Government policy that early years education places can be delivered through LA maintained schools and providers in the private, independent and voluntary sectors. This proposal is perceived as being in the best interests of both Heymann Primary School and the local community.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

10. Children and families will have access to, and an increased choice of, school and early years education in their immediate locality.

Financial Implications

11. The estimated gross costs for developing Heymann Primary are £7.22 million. The funding for this development has already been secured from the Basic Need Programme.
12. Any variation to the numbers of children attending the school through this proposed change to the admission arrangements will be reflected in the school's budget through the Early Years Single Funding Formula.

Equalities Implications

13. Children in central West Bridgford will be able to access school and early years places locally. Any new build scheme will meet requirements for disabled access and special needs.
14. As part of the process of making decisions and changing policy, public authorities are required by law to think about the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics (as defined by equalities legislation) and those who do not
 - Foster good relations between people who share protected characteristics and those who do not
15. Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are a means by which a public authority can assess the potential impact that proposed decisions/changes to policy could have on the community and those with protected characteristics. They may also identify potential ways to reduce any impact that a decision / policy change could have. If it is not possible to reduce the impact, the EIA can explain why. Decision makers must understand the potential implications of their decisions on people with protected characteristics.
16. An EIA has been undertaken and is available as a background paper. Decision makers must give due regard to the implications for protected groups when considering this report.

Human Rights Implications

17. Parental preference will continue to be facilitated.

Safeguarding of Children Implications

18. The new build scheme will take account of safeguarding needs and requirements.

Human Resources Implications

19. Appropriate levels of teaching staff will be appointed and funded from the increases to the school budget triggered by the increased number of pupils, and the school will use appropriate recruitment and selection procedures when making appointments.

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

20. Increasing the number of primary school places is demonstrated by sustainable demand. Any new build project will require planning approval and will meet Building Regulations which reflect sustainability and environmental targets. By providing local school places, the need for travelling by car can be reduced.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That:

- 1) Committee notes the outcome of the Section 19 Notice published under the provisions of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 concerning Heymann Community Primary School.
- 2) Committee agrees to the implementation of the proposals with effect from 1 September 2013 to:-

- significantly increase the number of pupil places at Heymann Community Primary School, from 420 places to 630 places across two sites and develop plans to build on the newly proposed site in central West Bridgford to ensure provision is available in 2013/14
- lower the existing age limit of Heymann Community Primary School from 5-11 to 3-11 years, thereby enabling the school to admit children to attend early years education places.

Marion Clay

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Constitutional Comments (LM 15/10/12)

21. The Children and Young People's Committee has delegated authority within the Constitution to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial Comments (NDR 17/10/12)

22. The financial implications are set out in paragraphs 11 and 12 of the report.

Background Papers

- 1) Report to Cabinet on 14 March 2012 'Proposals to Increase the Supply of Primary School Places In West Bridgford' (previously published)
- 2) Report to Children and Young People's Committee on 16 July 2012 'Heymann Community Primary School, West Bridgford - Possible Expansion of Permanent Pupil Places and Delivery of Early Years Education Places: Outcome of Statutory Consultation' (previously published)
- 3) The Complete Proposal referred to in the published Section 19 Notice
- 4) Equality Impact Assessment

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Electoral Division and Member Affected

West Bridgford West:
C0099

Councillor Gordon Wheeler