

PRESCRIBED ALTERATION TO INCREASE THE SIZE OF WILLINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

To: **Cabinet**

Date: **26 January 2010**

From: **Service Director:
Strategy and Commissioning,
Children and Young People's Services (CYPS)**

Electoral division(s): **Willingham**

Forward Plan ref: **2010/011** *Key decision:* **Key**

Purpose: **To seek Cabinet's approval to proceed with plans to increase the size of Willingham Primary School to provide a total of 420 places through the addition of three permanent classrooms with effect from 1 September 2010.**

Recommendation: **Members are asked to:**

(i) Note the demographic forecast and breakdown of applications for reception places for September 2010 entry;

(ii) Note the responses to the statutory notice published during the autumn term 2009; and

(iii) Approve the enlargement of the physical capacity of Willingham Primary School to provide a total of 420 places through the addition of three permanent classrooms with effect from 1 September 2010.

<i>Officer contact:</i>	<i>Member contact</i>
Name: David Clark Post: Assistant Education Officer Email: david.clark@cambridgeshire.gov.uk Tel: 01223 699782	Name: Councillor David Harty Portfolio: Learning Email: david.harty@cambridgeshire.gov.uk Tel: 01480 477202

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 There is one school in Willingham serving the primary age range. While the total number of pupils on roll at Willingham Primary School steadily decreased from 1999 to a low of 276 in 2005, numbers have since increased rapidly to 341. This can be explained by the fact that 124 new dwellings have been built in the village in the last three years.
- 1.2 The Published Admission Number (PAN) of Willingham Primary School is 45. However, in the last two years, 60 places or two forms of entry (2FE), have been offered to children entering Reception in response to increased demand for places at the school from within its catchment area. Pupil numbers are predicted to remain at this level for the foreseeable future.
- 1.3 The Authority has developed plans to increase the size of the school to provide 60 places for children entering Reception and a total of 420 places across all seven year groups on a permanent basis through the provision of three new classrooms and ancillary accommodation. This change, if approved, would be effective from 1 September 2010.

2. MAIN ISSUES

Consultation

- 2.1 In October 2009, the Authority issued a consultation paper setting out a proposal to expand Willingham Primary School from 315 places (1.5 FE) to 420 places (2FE) with effect from 1 September 2010. This was circulated to parents/carers of children at the school, schools in the area and all other statutory consultees including the Roman Catholic and Church of England diocesan representatives, South Cambridgeshire District Council and the local Member of Parliament (MP).
- 2.2 The design team from Capita displayed plans for the development at the school in order to give the community a chance to comment on the proposal.
- 2.3 There was only one written response to the consultation, which outlined a concern regarding the potential impact of expansion on traffic and access in the area around the school. The school has responded to the concerns raised in the revised Travel Plan, which has had to be produced to accompany the planning application for the new accommodation.

Pupil Applications

- 2.4 The number of first preference applications received for the school for Reception entry in September 2010 currently stands at 49, 4 higher than the school's PAN of 45.

Pupil Forecasts

- 2.5 Pupil forecasts indicate that the reception intake for Willingham Primary School needs to be at least 1.9 FE from 2011/12 until 2014/15. The PAN should therefore be increased from 45 to 60 (2FE) in order to avoid a shortfall

of places.

	PAN		Pri Ft4	Pri 5	Pri 6	Pri 7	Pri 8	Pri 9	Pri 10	Total	Total F.E	Intake F.E
Sep		NHS	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6			
2008/09	45	71	60	47	47	43	36	52	42	327	1.6	2.0
2009/10	45	64	60	57	45	48	46	33	47	336	1.6	2.0
2010/11	60*	55	55	57	57	45	48	46	33	341	1.6	1.8
2011/12	60	58	57	50	57	57	45	48	46	360	1.7	1.9
2012/13	60	65	60	57	50	57	57	45	48	374	1.8	1.9
2013/14	60	63	60	60	57	50	57	57	45	386	1.8	1.9
2014/15	60		55	60	60	57	50	57	57	396	1.8	1.9

*subject to approval

School Admissions Code

- 2.6 The new School Admissions Code (February 2009) tasks admission authorities to consider the overall effect on a school in continually admitting pupils over PAN. In cases where more than 26 children are admitted above the PAN for three years in a row, then the admissions authority must determine a higher PAN at the next opportunity. Whilst the number of children that have been over-admitted at Willingham is 15 in each of the last 2 years, and is less than the number prescribed, it is appropriate to increase the size of the school on a permanent basis and provide it with the accommodation necessary to sustain a 2FE intake.

3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

Resources and Performance

- 3.1 The Authority has developed proposals to provide a 3-classroom extension at the school, including additional accommodation comprising boys and girls toilets and cloakroom facilities. The £900,000 total capital cost of the project will be met from the basic need allocation made to the Authority by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF). The scheme is included in the Children and Young People's capital programme for 2010-2011.

Statutory Requirements and Partnership Working

- 3.2 The Authority can publish expansion proposals for any category of maintained school within Cambridgeshire. A public notice to make a prescribed alteration to enlarge the physical capacity of Willingham Primary School, from 1 September 2010, was published on 18 November 2009. A copy of the public notice is attached as **Appendix 1**. The notice expired on 18 December 2009. Only one response was received. This was from the Local Member, who had no objection to the proposed expansion.

Climate Change

- 3.3 There are no climate change implications at this stage. Should the decision be taken to expand the school to 420 places, there would be a reduction in the number of children having to travel to access education.

The provision of purpose-built high quality education facilities would have to meet the Council's standards in terms of energy and water efficiency.

All building works have to achieve the Building Research Establishment's

Environmental Assessment Methodology (BREEAM) Very Good standard as a minimum.

Access and Inclusion

- 3.4 A duty of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 is that local authorities should take account of the needs of all communities when planning educational provision.

Engagement and Consultation

- 3.5 The Authority has complied with all the statutory requirements in respect of consultation in relation to this proposal.

Source Documents	Location
Prescribed Alteration document School Admissions Code (February 2009)	School Organisation & Planning Cambridgeshire County Council Box CC1206, Castle Court, Castle Hill, Cambridge, CB3 0AP

Appendix 1

Cambridgeshire County Council

Statutory Notice for the Expansion of Willingham Primary School

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Cambridgeshire County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to Willingham Community Primary School, Thoday's Close, Willingham, Cambridgeshire, CB24 5LE from 01 September 2010.

The expansion will add 3 new classrooms to the existing school buildings. The current capacity of the school is 315 and the proposed capacity will be 420. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 341. The current admission number for the school is 45 and the proposed admission number will be 60.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: David Clark, Assistant Education Officer, Planning & Development, School Organisation & Planning, Cambridgeshire County Council, Box CC1206, Castle Court, Castle Hill, Cambridge, CB3 0AP.

E-mail: david.clark@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01223 699782.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to David Clark, Assistant Education Officer, Planning & Development, School Organisation & Planning, Cambridgeshire County Council, Box CC1206, Castle Court, Castle Hill, Cambridge, CB3 0AP.

E-mail: david.clark@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01223 699782.

Signed: Gordon Jeyes,
Executive Director,
Children and Young People's Services

Publication Date: 18 November 2009