



CABINET MEMBER DECISION

1 March 2022

Worcester City Secondary School Academy Sponsor Competition Specification Approval

Relevant Cabinet Member

Councillor M J Hart, Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education

Relevant Officer

Tina Russell, Director of

Local Member(s)

N/A

Recommendation

- 1. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education is recommended to:**
 - (a) note the outcome of the Public Consultation on the proposal for a new secondary school in Worcester including the draft Academy Sponsor Competition Specification during the period 29 November 2021 to 23 January 2022.**
 - (b) approve the presumption Academy Sponsor Competition Specification as attached in Appendix A.**

Background

2. In November 2021, Worcestershire County Council Cabinet authorised the publication of the Proposal and draft Specification for a new secondary school for Worcester. This included authorising the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education to approve the final specification ensuring consideration of any representations made during the Public Consultation. In accordance with this decision, an 8-week consultation period commenced on 29 November 2021 and ran until 23 January 2022.
3. The Consultation was published on the Worcestershire County Council website and advertised in Crown Gate Shopping Centre and the Hive in Worcester. The Consultation questions were also shared across social media; emailed to local schools, organisations, and representative bodies; shared with the Worcestershire Viewpoint Panel; and published in local media. The Consultation was also adapted into three schools' workshops suitable for primary age pupils.
4. In total 238 responses were received to the online Consultation: 71% were residents of Worcester City and surrounding area; 36% of respondents were parents/carers of current school or pre-school age children; and 19% were current

school staff members or members of Governing Bodies. In addition, a total of 55 year six pupils took part in the

16. Primary School pupils were particularly keen to see green spaces at the school, and ensure the construction uses sustainable materials.

Other Comments

17. A notable number of comments were received from the online survey about the importance to ensure pupils can travel to the school via active travel routes and that clear and practical options should be provided to encourage this. This will be fed into the design of the build and included in the expectations of the Academy Trust operations.

18. Feedback was provided that the expectations of the Academy Trust as an employer should be more descriptive of best practice of a Worcestershire School as an employer. This is outside of the remit of this exercise and therefore no changes to the Specification are recommended.

19. A number of changes have been made to the wording of the document in order to clarify the existing position or for ease of reading. These do not change the material of the specification and therefore have not been outlined above.

Legal, Financial and HR Implications

20. There are no changes to the Legal and HR implications from those outlined in the Cabinet report.

Joint Equality, Public Health, Data Protection and Sustainability Impact Assessments

21. A full Equality and Public Health, Data Protection, and Sustainability Impact Assessment has been carried out in respect of the recommendations. This report results in no changes to the existing assessments considered by Cabinet in November 2021.

Supporting Information

- Appendix A Academy Sponsor Specification

Contact Points

Specific Contact Points for this report

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Background Papers

[Agenda for Cabinet on Thursday, 18th November, 2021, 10.00 am - Worcestershire County Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)