



## **CABINET MEMBER DECISION 22 OCTOBER 2018**

### **SCHOOL PLACE PLANNING (BROMSGROVE AREA) ± FAIRFIELD FIRST SCHOOL**

---

#### **Relevant Cabinet Member**

Mr M J Hart

#### **Relevant Officer**

Director of Children, Families and Communities

#### **Local Members**

Ms S A Webb

#### **Recommendation**

1. **The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education and Skills is recommended to:**
  - (a) **note the details of the School-held consultation during the period 30 October 2017 to 8 December 2017;**
  - (b) **note that formal notice to quit has been served upon the tenant of the Council-owned farm land adjacent to Fairfield First School;**
  - (c) **note that there is also a need to replace two temporary mobile classrooms as part of this proposed Published Admission Number (PAN) expansion project;**
  - (d) **authorise the Director of Children, Families and Communities to take all necessary steps to finalise and implement the publication of the statutory proposal and Public Notice to expand Fairfield First School from a PAN of 23 to 30 from September 2020, to include the replacement of the two temporary classrooms; and**
  - (e) **notes the final decision will be made by:**
    - (i) **the Director of Children, Families and Communities in relation to proposals in respect of which no objection is received; or**
    - (ii) **the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education and Skills in relation to proposals in respect of which objection to the Public Notice is received.**

#### **Background**



with First School Head Teachers, the Council has looked to create more places within those schools without waiting lists. Five Bromsgrove First Schools (Catshill, Dodford, Fairfield, Finstall, and Hanbury) were approached in May 2017 by the Council to consider longer term expansions. To this end, three schools (Dodford, Fairfield, and Hanbury) volunteered for consideration, with St Andrews CE First School, Barnt Green requesting inclusion late on.

7. Of these, Fairfield First School was rated 'Good' by Ofsted during its last inspection in March 2015; Hanbury CE First School was rated 'Good' in October 2014; Dodford also received a 'Good' rating in December 2016 and St Andrews CE First School, Barnt Green was rated 'Outstanding' in December 2013.

8. In accordance with the DfE's guidance '*Making Prescribed Alterations to Maintained School Places Statutory Guidance for Proposers & Decision-Makers*' dated April 2016 local informal pre-publication consultations were undertaken during October to December

12. In addition, there are two ageing temporary mobiles at Fairfield First School that will require replacing with permanent accommodation in the near future. The proposal would be for these works to be undertaken alongside those required to expand this school from a PAN of 23 to 30; making the project a three new classroom scheme.

13. As part of the statutory guidance for making school organisation changes, where the Council is seeking to expand a school by a total of 30 pupils or more, the Council must follow the prescribed process as defined by the DfE. The increase of Fairfield First School from a PAN of 23 to a PAN of 30 would result in an increase in the capacity of the school by 35 places. Therefore, if the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education and Skills agrees to support this proposal, the Council would need to publish formal statutory proposals and public notices. Stakeholders will then have a final opportunity to comment or object within the four-week representation period. Notices would then be published in the local press and displayed outside the school concerned. At the end of the four weeks if objections are received the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education and Skills will make the final decision, if no objections are received the Director of Children, Families and Communities will make the final decision.

14. The Directorate commissioned a feasibility study via Place Partnership Ltd to assess likely building options, costs, and timelines. The feasibility report is summarised in Appendix B.

### **Recommendation**

15. On the basis of the information contained in this report, and taking account of the feedback from the consultation in Appendix A, it is recommended to authorise the Director of Children, Families and Communities to take all necessary steps to finalise and implement the publication of the statutory proposal and Public Notice in relation to expanding Fairfield First School from a PAN of 23 to 30 effective from September 2020, to include replacement of the two temporary classrooms.

16. Expanding Fairfield First School should not have a detrimental impact on other schools in the area as the Council is forecasting increased local need.

### **Legal, Financial and HR Implications**

17. Funding is available to support this project within the Council's Basic Need Capital Programme 2018/19.

### **Privacy and Public Health Impact Assessments**

18. A Privacy Impact Assessment Screening was completed in respect of the expansion proposal. The screening did not identify any potential Privacy considerations requiring further consideration during implementation.

### **Equality and Diversity Implications**

19. An Equality Relevance Screening has been completed in respect of these recommendations. The screening did not identify any potential Equality considerations requiring further consideration during implementation.

