

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Officer Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Peter Colenutt
Title:	Head of Strategic Development
Reference:	Riverside Community Special School - Capacity Increase

Contact name: Claire Campling, SEN Service Manager

Tel: 01962 832206

Email: claire.campling@hants.gov.uk

1. The decision:

1.1. That unconditional approval be given to the following proposal; the publication of a public notice under Section 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006:

To make a prescribed alteration to RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY SPECIAL SCHOOL, Scratchface Lane, Purbrook, Waterlooville, PO7 5QD (category of schools – Special) by increasing the capacity of the school, with effect from 1 September 2019.

1.2. The public notice is an extract from the complete proposal of the project. A copy of the complete proposal is attached under appendix 1.

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

2.1. Hampshire County Council is committed to expanding successful provision where possible to meet demand. Currently there is an increased need to provide support for pupils with ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder and MLD - Moderate Learning Difficulty in the Havant area. This proposal will provide much needed specialist educational capacity to meet this increased need.

2.1. Following local consultation, the County Council received 3 written comments regarding the proposal to enlarge the school. In considering the responses received the County Council felt that the provision of additional school places was necessary. The proposal to increase the physical capacity of Riverside Community Special School, Waterlooville to allow them to offer 117 places should proceed to the next stage of the process. Riverside Community Special School currently has an Agreed Pupil Number (APN) of 105. The proposed Agreed Pupil Number will be 117.

2.2. An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed in relation to increasing the capacity at Riverside Community Special School. The full Equality Impact Assessment can be accessed via this link:

<http://documents.hants.gov.uk/equality-impact-assessments/EIA115130108-RiversideCommunitySpecialSchool%E2%80%93CapacityIncrease.pdf>

3. Consultation

3.1. A formal consultation took place between 25 February and 22 March 2019. A letter was sent to consultees as detailed below and a consultation meeting was held at Riverside Community Special School on 13 March 2019. The proposal was also included on the Hampshire County Council's consultation website. A copy of the consultation letter is attached under appendix 2.

3.2. Letters were sent to;

- Parents of children attending Riverside Community Special School
- Headteachers, school staff and Governing Body of Riverside Community Special School
- Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of neighbouring schools within two miles
- Havant Borough Council – Local Councillors
- Trade union representatives
- Local Dioceses
- MP – Alan Mak
- HCC Elected Member – Cllr Gary Hughes
- Residents in the local area (141 letters sent)

3.3. As part of the consultation process, officers from Hampshire County Council attended the consultation meeting to show and explain the plan to increase the capacity of Riverside Community Special School.

4. Consultation responses received

4.1. Hampshire County Council received a total of 3 comments, 2 of which are in support of increasing the capacity of Riverside Community Special School.

4.2. Two comments expressed concerns over parking during drop off and pick up times at Riverside Community Special School.

4.3. One comment expressed concerns over the timing of the work taking place on site.

5. Comments on consultation responses received

5.1. In response to the comment made around parking during drop off and pick up times, the majority of the children that attend Riverside Community Special School are driven to the school either by taxi or by mini bus. These forms of transport drive on to the school site to drop off and pick up the children. This system will still be in place should the decision be made to implement the proposal to increase the capacity of Riverside Community Special School. Hampshire County Council will inform Riverside Community Special School with this concern of parking for them to encourage individual parents that do drop off their children to school to park appropriately.

- 5.2. In response to the comment made around operating times on site during the construction phase, a Children's Services has requested that HCC Property Services add a planning condition which restricts work to 8am-6pm Monday to Friday and Saturdays from 8am-1pm.
- 5.3. In considering all the responses received, the County Council felt that the provision of additional school places is necessary, and that comments received did not represent sufficient concern to prevent proceeding with the enlargement.

6. Conclusion

Hampshire County Council has a statutory duty to provide school places for all children including those who have special educational needs and or a disability. There is a gap in provision in the Havant area for primary age children who have ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder and MLD - Moderate Learning Difficulty. In order to meet the County Council's statutory duty to meet the needs for these children, the capacity of Riverside Community Special School needs to be increased.

7. Other options considered and rejected:

- 7.1. Not to approve the proposal would mean that there are insufficient primary places for children who have ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder and MLD - Moderate Learning Difficulty to meet the demand from within the area.

8. Conflicts of interest:

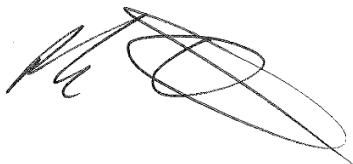
- 8.1. Conflict of interest declared by an Executive Member who is consulted by the officer which relates to the decision:

None

9. Dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service:

None

Approved by:



Date:

25 April 2019

Peter Colenutt, Head of Strategic Development

On behalf of the Director of Children's Services

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS: Information to be included in a complete proposal

Extract of Part 1 of Schedule 3 and Part 1 of Schedule 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended):

In respect of an LEA Proposal: School and local education authority details

The name, address and category of the school.

Riverside Community Special School, Scratchface Lane, Purbrook, Waterlooville, PO7 5QD (category of school – Special)

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

1. The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented, and if they are to be implemented in stages, a description of what is planned for each stage, and the number of stages intended and the dates of each stage.

Works to be completed by September 2019.

Objections and comments

2. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —
- (a) the date prescribed in accordance with paragraph 29 of Schedule 3 (GB proposals)/Schedule 5 (LA proposals) of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), by which objections or comments should be sent to the local education authority; and
 - (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

- (a) **31 May 2019**
- (b) **Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals (3 May 2019), any person may object or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Claire Campling, SEN Service Manager, Children's Services Department, Ell Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG; e-mail: strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk**

Alteration description

3. A description of the proposed alteration and in the case of special school proposals, a description of the current special needs provision.

The proposal is to increase the capacity of the school from 105 to 117 places by installing a double modular classroom on site at Riverside Community Special School. The school currently provides provision for children with a range of moderate learning difficulties and Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

School capacity

4.—(1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 4, 8, 9 and 12-14 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), the proposals must also include —

- (a) details of the current capacity of the school and, where the proposals will alter the capacity of the school, the proposed capacity of the school after the alteration;

The current capacity of the school is 105 and the proposed future capacity will be 117.

- (b) details of the current number of pupils admitted to the school in each relevant age group, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of pupils to be not admitted in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will have been implemented;

The current agreed place number for the school is 105 and the proposed agreed place number will be 117 for 3-11 year old pupils.

- (c) where it is intended that proposals should be implemented in stages, the number of pupils to be admitted to the school in the first school year in which each stage will have been implemented;

Not applicable

- (d) where the number of pupils in any relevant age group is lower than the indicated admission number for that relevant age group a statement to this effect and details of the indicated admission number in question.

Not applicable

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals) /paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18 and 19 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

The number of pupils registered at the school in the 2018/19 school year is 105.

Implementation

5. Where the proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary controlled school a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local education authority or by the governing body, and, if the proposals are to be implemented by both, a statement as to the extent to which they are to be implemented by each body.

Not applicable

Additional Site

6.—(1) A statement as to whether any new or additional site will be required if proposals are implemented and if so the location of the site if the school is to occupy a split site.

No additional site will be required.

(2) Where proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary school a statement as to who will provide any additional site required, together with details of the tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site of the school will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease.

Not applicable

Objectives

7. The objectives of the proposals.

To create additional capacity for primary aged children with a range of moderate learning difficulties and Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

Consultation

8. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—

- (a) a list of persons who were consulted;
- (b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
- (c) the views of the persons consulted;
- (d) a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and
- (e) copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

Formal consultation took place between 25 February 2019 and 25 March 2019. A letter was sent to consultees as detailed below and a drop-in session was held at the school on 13 March 2019. The proposal was also included on the County Council's consultation website. The website address was:
<http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx>

Letters were sent to;

- **Parents of children at the school (via the school)**
- **Local residents**
- **Headteacher**
- **Chair of Governors**
- **School staff**
- **Headteachers, Chairs of Governors at all schools within 2 miles.**
- **Local Councillors at Havant Borough Council**
- **Local dioceses**
- **Staff union representatives**
- **MP – Alan Mak MP**
- **HCC Elected member – Cllr Gary Hughes**

No particular objections or comments were received during the consultation.

All applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with.

Further documents regarding the consultation can be requested from Claire Campling on strategieplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Project costs

9. A statement of the estimated total capital cost of the proposals and the breakdown of the costs that are to be met by the governing body, the local education authority, and any other party.

The total estimated capital cost of the proposal is £400,000.

10. A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local education authority and the Learning and Skills Council for England (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

The local education authority will make these funds available through the SEND capital grant.

Extended services

11. If the proposed alterations affect the provision of the school's extended services, details of the current extended services the school is offering and details of any proposed change as a result of the alterations.

The proposals do not affect the provision of the school's extended services.

Need or demand for additional places

12. If the proposals involve adding places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the need or demand for the particular places in the area;

9.1. Hampshire County Council has a statutory duty to provide school places for all children including those who have special educational needs and or a disability. There is a gap in provision in the Havant area for Primary age children who have a range of moderate learning difficulties and Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

- (b) where the school has a religious character, a statement and supporting evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion or religious denomination;

Not applicable

- (c) where the school adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with the philosophy in question and any associated change to the admission arrangements for the school.

Not applicable

Expansion of successful and popular schools

25A. (1) Proposals must include a statement of whether the proposer considers that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply, and where the governing body consider the presumption applies, evidence to support this.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies to expansion proposals in respect of primary and secondary schools, (except for grammar schools), i.e. falling within:

APPENDIX 1 – COMPLETE PROPOSAL

(a) (for proposals published by the governing body) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 or paragraph 12 of Part 2 to Schedule 2;

(b) (for proposals published by the LA) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 4 or 18 of Part 4 to Schedule 4

of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended).

Not applicable to this proposal

APPENDIX 2 – CONSULTATION LETTER



*Children's Services Department
Elizabeth II Court North,
Winchester
Hampshire SO23 8UG*

**Telephone 01962 841841
Textphone 0845 603 5625**

Enquiries to Claire Campling

My reference

Direct Line 01962 832206

Your reference

Date 25 February 2019

E-mail strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dear Consultee

Proposal to increase the capacity of Riverside Community Special School, Waterlooville – Consultation

I am writing to invite your views in respect of Hampshire County Council's proposal to increase the capacity of Riverside Community Special School.

Riverside Community Special School is currently a 105 place special school for 3-11 year old pupils with ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder and MLD - Moderate Learning Difficulty. The County Council is proposing to increase the capacity of the school by adding an additional 12 places. This will give a final overall capacity of 117 places at Riverside Community Special School.

Riverside Community Special School is successfully meeting the needs of children with a range of ASD and MLD difficulties in a safe and secure environment.

To accommodate the increased number of places, it is proposed that an additional double modular building will be installed on site at Riverside Community Special School. The modular building will be used as teaching accommodation to enable more children to attend the school.

Reason for proposal

Hampshire County Council is committed to expanding successful provision where possible to meet demand. Currently there is an increased need to provide support for pupils with a range of ASD and MLD difficulties in this area of the county. This proposal will provide much needed specialist educational capacity to meet this increased need.

Where a Local Authority proposes to permanently enlarge a special school's capacity by 10% or more it must follow a procedure set out by the Department for Education. This information and some Frequently Asked Questions are available on the following website; <http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx>

*Director of Children's Services
Steve Crocker OBE*

APPENDIX 2 – CONSULTATION LETTER

The Consultation

The primary purpose of this consultation is to seek the view of consultees on the principle of increasing the school capacity to meet the demand for additional special school places in the local area.

This consultation will run from 25 February to 25 March 2019. Officers will then take into consideration all the consultation responses received before deciding whether the proposal should continue to the formal publication stage.

If so, a statutory Public Notice will be published, setting out Hampshire County Council's intent to increase the capacity of the school. It is anticipated that this will be published in April 2019.

After the date of publication there will be a four week period in which any representations can be made to the local authority. After the conclusion of this period the County Council will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal. It is anticipated that a decision will be made in May 2019.

Further Information

A drop-in session where you will be able to discuss the proposal with Hampshire County Council officers will take place on the 13 March 2019 between 3pm and 5pm at Riverside Community Special School, Waterlooville.

A website has also been set up with the details of the consultation which includes some 'Frequently Asked Questions' that may address any queries you have. To access this website please follow: <http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx>

If you are unable to attend this session or visit the above website and wish to make a comment then please write to Claire Campling, SEN Service Manager, Children's Services Department, Ell Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG or e-mail strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk by the 25 March 2019.

Yours sincerely,



Claire Campling
SEN Service Manager
Children's Services Department