

**CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES Cllr Laura Mayes**

**SERVICE AREA CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

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**REFERENCE: CS-02-18**

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**Statutory Notice for the enlargement of Lyneham Primary School, Preston Lane,  
Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 4QJ**

**1. Purpose of Report**

To ask the Cabinet Member to approve the statutory proposal published by Wiltshire Council and the governing body of Lyneham Primary School on 1 February 2018. The notice proposes the enlargement of the school to provide a 3 Form of Entry (3FE), 630 place primary school. It is proposed to permanently increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 1 September 2019 (subject to planning approval) when an increase of 30 additional pupils will be admitted into the Reception Year. Up to 90 Reception age pupils will be admitted in each subsequent year.

**2. Relevance to the Council's Business Plan**

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure effective school organisation and sufficient school places are provided across the Council area.

**3. Main Considerations for the Council**

The LA has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places across Wiltshire and projections indicate a need for an additional 1 Form of Entry (up to 210 places) in the Lyneham locality. The additional places are required in September 2019. Work has been undertaken to establish the best way of providing the additional places without adversely impacting on the sustainability or viability of other schools in the locality.

**4. Background**

In January 2017, the Council was advised by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) that an Army Battalion (REME) is to be relocated to MOD Lyneham in Spring 2019. This will mean that approximately 450-500 armed forces personnel and their families will be accommodated at MOD Lyneham or in the immediate surrounding area. Alongside this, the MOD is leasing out up to 100 empty service family houses at MOD Lyneham for private rental. The combined impact will be the need to provide an additional 5/6 primary classes. Additional housing development is also expected in the Lyneham area. It is therefore proposed that an additional 1FE (210 place) expansion is provided at Lyneham Primary, to be delivered in part by Easter 2019. The estimated cost of providing an additional 1FE is £3.6m.

There are no other primary schools in the Lyneham locality that can be expanded.

## Consultation

Wiltshire Council and Lyneham Primary School have consulted widely on the proposal to expand Lyneham Primary School to provide 3 forms of entry (630 places). The consultation took place between March 2017 and November 2017 with the following interested parties:

- Parents and carers of children at the school
- Teachers and support staff at the school
- Governors at the school
- MOD and Military connections with Army Basing & 2020 Refresh
- Local Councillor Allison Bucknell
- Lyneham & Bradenstoke Parish Council
- St. Michael's Church, Lyneham, Reverend Richard Selby-Boothroyd
- Early Years Team and Pre-School providers in the vicinity of the school
- Wiltshire Council's Lead Member for Children's Services: Councillor Laura Mayes and portfolio holder for Education: Councillor Phillip Whalley
- Head teachers of schools in Wiltshire
- Wiltshire Council Highways Department

A meeting to share the proposals with the public was held at the school on 22 November 2017, where the only concerns raised related to traffic & highway issues. These will be addressed as part of the usual planning process.

A formal Statutory Notice was published on 1 February 2018 and closed 4 weeks later on 1 March 2018. No responses were received.

### **5. Overview & Scrutiny Engagement**

Not applicable

### **6. Safeguarding Implications**

All school projects are designed to ensure that schools provide safe and secure places for children and young people in the local community. If a decision was taken not to extend a school to meet demand in a local area then there is a risk that young people would need to be transported to schools a long distance from their locality leaving the more vulnerable due to the distance they are from home.

### **7. Public Health Implications**

The development of quality school accommodation and improved site infrastructure at Lyneham Primary School will provide improved sports facilities for pupils, staff and the local community including a primary activity hall, hard games courts and a grass sports pitch. The investment in school sites provides the opportunity for young people in the community to participate in sports and thereby promotes healthy behaviours and practices in the population.

### **8. Procurement Implications**

Responsibility for commissioning approved capital building projects rests with the Council's Property Services Team. Responsibility for approving related procurement

activity rests with the Corporate Procurement and Commissioning Board (the Board). This decision will require the procurement of a works contract to deliver the additional school place capacity required.

## **9. Equalities Impact of the Proposal**

Through detailed planning and effective design, officers continue to ensure that all accommodation improvements promote and deliver equality of opportunity and access to facilities.

The Equalities Act 2010 states that reasonable adjustments must be taken into consideration in design. By adopting compliant design principles, and ensuring all schemes meet Building Regulations it should be possible to eradicate disability access difficulties and discrimination in the new extension and rationalisation of existing school buildings.

The Local Authority has a duty and responsibility to provide sufficient mainstream school places to meet demand arising from all areas of the community.

## **10. Environmental and Climate Change Considerations**

In all education-related capital investment schemes, officers continue to work with establishments to develop and enhance the learning environment taking account of sustainability and environmental impact, including the move towards reducing carbon emissions from schools for the benefit of pupils, staff and the community.

Although schools are no longer subject to the Carbon Reduction Commitment (carbon tax payable by large energy consumers), with ever increasing energy prices, every effort will be made through the design process to reduce lifetime running costs of new buildings.

## **11. Risk Assessment**

### **Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is not taken**

- (a) If the decision is not taken, then there will be a short fall of primary school places in the Lyneham locality from September 2019 and an increasing number of parents/carers will not be able to secure a place for their child in a local school.
- (b) An urgent temporary solution would be required to provide additional places to meet the demand from children arising from the army relocation and those moving into 100 empty service family houses at MOD Lyneham which the MOD is leasing out for private rental.

### **Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks**

- (a) There is a financial risk that capital costs could increase and exceed the funding envelope agreed. To mitigate this, the project brief and specification will be in line with policy and the project management and design teams will ensure that where possible, value engineering exercises are undertaken to reduce costs and keep within budget.

- (b) There is a risk that the project could be delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. The phasing and timelines will be closely monitored monthly, to avoid slippage where at all possible.

## **12. Financial Implications**

The provision of an additional 1FE (up to 210 additional places) for Lyneham Primary School was approved in the School Capital Programme Report presented to Cabinet Capital Assets Committee in July 2017.

A provisional capital budget of £2.211m has been agreed for the delivery of Phase 1 of the works required to provide the additional primary places. This funding is being met entirely from the Council's schools basic need allocation.

## **13. Legal Implications**

The Council has a duty to secure that sufficient school places are available in their area. These proposals will contribute to meeting that duty. There is a prescribed process that must be followed where it is proposed to increase the size of a school by more than a specified number of pupils. These proposals fall within those requirements and the relevant public notice has been given. The Council has a duty to consider any representations received as a result of that notice, before making a determination to approve or reject the proposal. Any approval may be made conditional on the grant of planning permission or other prescribed matters.

## **14. Options Considered**

There are no other primary schools in the Lyneham locality that can be expanded and therefore the only option is to expand Lyneham Primary School on its existing site.

## **15. Reason for Proposal**

The LA has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places across Wiltshire and projections indicate a need for an additional 1 Form of Entry (up to 210 places) in the Lyneham area. The expansion of Lyneham Primary School on its existing site is the most appropriate solution to providing the required places in a timely way.

## **16. Proposal**

To approve the statutory proposal published by Wiltshire Council and the governing body of Lyneham Primary School on 1 February 2018. The notice proposes the enlargement of the school to provide a 3 Form of Entry (1FE), 630 place primary school and to permanently increase the Planned Admission Number (PAN) to 90 with effect from September 2019 (subject to planning approval).

Appendix A – Statutory Notice

Appendix B – Informal Consultation Responses (summary)

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The following documents are available from the officer named above:

Feasibility Study - Expansion of Lyneham Primary School

## Appendix A

### STATUTORY NOTICE

#### **Wiltshire Council Statutory Notice for a proposed enlargement to Lyneham Primary School, Preston Lane, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 4QJ.**

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Wiltshire Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to Lyneham Primary School, Preston Lane, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 4QJ from 1st September 2019.

Wiltshire Council proposes to enlarge the premises of Lyneham Primary School by admitting an additional 30 pupils into the Reception year from September 2019. This will be accommodated through phased building works to provide purpose built new accommodation (subject to planning permission).

The current capacity of the school is 420 and the proposed capacity will be 630, an increase of 210 places/1 Form of Entry (FE) in two phases. The April 2017 School Census gave the number of pupils aged 4 to 11 registered at the school as 333. The current admission number for the school is 60 and the proposed admission number will be 90.

It is proposed to permanently increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 1 September 2019, when an increase of 30 additional pupils will be admitted into the Reception Year. Up to 90 Reception age pupils will be admitted in each subsequent year. Building work will be undertaken in two phases (subject to receipt of planning permission) and the new facilities implemented by Wiltshire Council as part of the Capital Programme.

#### **Access to copies of the full proposals**

This Notice is a brief extract of the full related proposals, which are available to view on the Lyneham Primary School website at [www.lynehamprimary.co.uk](http://www.lynehamprimary.co.uk) Paper copies of the full proposals can also be obtained upon request from School Buildings and Places Team (ref: Lyneham) Wiltshire Council, County Hall, Trowbridge, BA14 8JN.

#### **Comments on, or objections to, the proposals**

Any person or organisation may object to, or comment on, the above related proposals by sending them to School Buildings and Places Team, Wiltshire Council (ref: Lyneham), County Hall, Trowbridge, BA14 8JN **within 4 weeks** of the date of publication of this Notice, namely **by 1 March 2018**.

All statutory consultation requirements relating to these proposals have been complied with.

**Signed: I R Gibbons**  
**Solicitor to the Council**

**PUBLICATION DATE: 1 February 2018**