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Agenda Item No.6 (d)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

14 May 2020

Report of the Executive Director for Children's Services

**EXPANSION OF GLOSSOPDALE SCHOOL
(YOUNG PEOPLE)**

1. Purpose of Report

To report the outcome of the statutory consultation on the expansion of Glossopdale School and seek a decision on that expansion.

2. Information and Analysis

In September 2018, the new Glossopdale School was opened to all age groups from 11 – 18. The old school was split across three sites in Glossop and Hadfield however the new building is on a single site in Hadfield. The replacement school was designed to be delivered in two phases. The core facilities (sports hall, hall and dining) have been built to accommodate 1440 pupils however in the initial phase, the teaching accommodation was limited to supporting 1200 pupils. It had been intended to carry out the second phase of building at a later date to provide places generated by the housing development in the town and funded by the Section 106 contributions. Demand for places however has been very high, exacerbated by the large cohort of pupils moving from primary to secondary education at this time which is in line with many other areas of the Country.

Following a review of pupil numbers, current projections and the extent and speed of housing development in Glossop, consideration was given to bringing the second phase of the project forward. A non-statutory consultation took place between 14 October 2019 and 15 November 2019 to seek the views of interested parties. On 16

January 2020 (minute number 9/20) the outcome of that consultation was reported to Cabinet and a decision was made to publish a Statutory Notice for the expansion. There was a further period of consultation between 24 February and 20 March 2020.

Whilst the non-statutory consultation attracted 58 responses, the Statutory Notice has only generated 3 responses however given the overwhelming support expressed at the non-statutory phase, this is not unusual. All the responses supported the proposal with one feeling strongly that children should be able to attend their local school and that sufficient school places were necessary both for the young people and for the community of Glossop as a whole.

One response, whilst supporting the expansion felt that more needed to be done about the traffic at school drop off and pick up times as it was felt that it raised safety issues for car users but more specifically pupils crossing the road on their way to school. There are on-going discussions relating to pedestrian safety and that, together with traffic measures, will be considered as part of the planning application. The third response was received from High Peak Borough Council which outlined the need for the expansion plans to comply with the Local Plan. Although the planning application will be submitted to Derbyshire County Council, High Peak Borough Council will be a consultee and its points will be addressed as part of that process.

Whilst the consultation has taken place Cabinet has approved the funding for the expansion (see Financial Considerations below). As the school does not have an Ofsted category of Good or Outstanding, authority has been sought from the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) to expand the school under the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 and the Department for Education guidance publication - Making significant changes ('prescribed alteration') to maintained schools published in October 2018. The RSC has delegated that permission to the Authority. The design of the additional facilities has been progressed and submitted to planning in April 2020.

3. Financial Considerations

The cost of the expansion will be confirmed once the design has been agreed however it is expected to be in the region of £4M. On 23 January 2020 (minute 28/20), Cabinet approved £4M funding under the Prudential Code for the financial year 202/2021.

4. Legal Considerations

The proposal is subject to the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 and the Department for Education guidance publication - Making significant changes ('prescribed alteration') to maintained schools published in October 2018. Although there is no longer a prescribed 'pre-publication' consultation period for prescribed alterations, there is a strong expectation on schools and the Local Authority to consult interested parties in developing their proposal prior to publication as part of a duty under public law to act rationally and take into account all relevant considerations. The non-statutory consultation took place between 14 October 2019 and 15 November 2019 which was a 5 week period to take account of the 1 week half term break. The Statutory Notice was published on 23 February 2020 and statutory consultation took place from that date until 20 March 2020 which was a 4 week period.

5. Property Considerations

The Glossopdale School is owned by Derbyshire County Council. The works will be procured and carried out through County Property. If the school converts to an academy prior to the start of the project, the land and buildings will be leased to the MAT however the Authority will carry out the project on the MAT's behalf.

6. Social Value

The Authority has a statutory duty to provide sufficient places for the pupils in the County and this expansion will address the needs of the town of Glossopdale.

7. Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: Prevention of Crime & Disorder, Equality of Opportunity and Environmental, Health, Human Resources and Transport Considerations.

8. Background Papers

These are held on file in the Children's Services Development Section and County Property.

9. Key Decision

No.

- 10. Call-in.** Is it necessary for the call-in period to be waived in respect of the decisions being proposed in this report?

No.

11. Strategic Director's Recommendations

To approve the expansion of Glossopdale School subject to receiving planning permission for the project.

Jane Parfremment, Executive Director for Children's Services

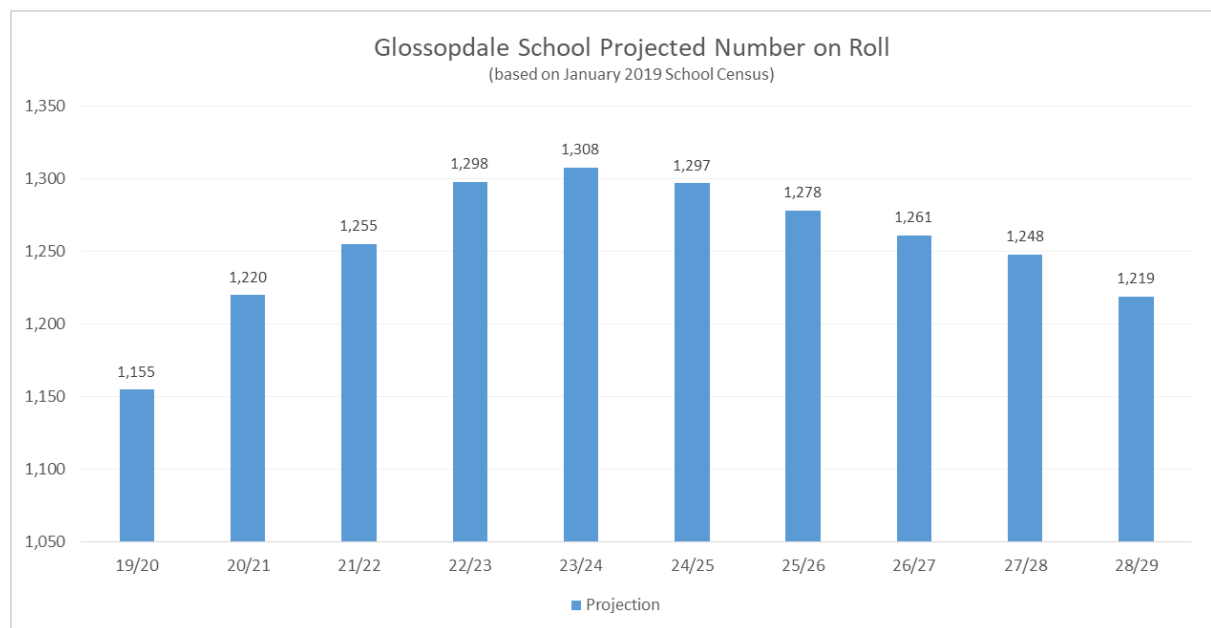
Appendix A

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION ON THE EXPANSION OF GLOSSOPDALE SCHOOL

Derbyshire County Council is considering the expansion of Glossopdale School and would welcome the views of interested parties.

In 2018, the new building at Glossopdale School was opened on the Hadfield site. The school was designed to accommodate 1000 pupils in the age range 11–16 and 200 post 16 students. The core facilities (hall, sports hall and dining) however were built to accommodate 1440 pupils comprising 1200 pupils 11-16 and 240 post 16 students to allow for expansion to meet the need created by housing growth in the area. The layout of the school has been designed to allow for an additional wing of teaching accommodation. In planning the new school, there was a recognition that there was a large cohort of pupils moving from primary to secondary education at present and throughout the UK there is pressure on secondary places. Although the net capacity is specified, there is an element of flexibility taking the capacity up to 1316 as the top of the range and this, together with the larger core facilities, has enabled the school to exceed its planned admission number of 200 over the past 2 years.

The table below shows the projections for the next 5 years



The graph shows a peak in 2023/2024 before a decline in numbers which reflects the reduced birth rates seen across the Country.

The projections however do not take into account the housing planned and under construction in the area. At present there are 660 dwellings with planning approval and a further 242 with pending applications. The High Peak Borough Council Local Plan identifies further sites with the potential to deliver an additional 273 dwellings over the next 5 years. Not all new houses will

necessarily generate additional pupils however in a worst case scenario, the total housing could generate up to 239 secondary pupils over the next 5 years. Historically a percentage of pupils have taken places at schools outside the town however over recent years this number has reduced significantly. Using the current percentage of 85% remaining in Glossop, the likely level of demand created by new housing could be up to 203 pupils by 2024. That number added to the projections would result in a peak beyond the revised net capacity of 1440 however, using the flexibility referred to earlier, it would fall below the top of net capacity range.

On the basis of the information provided, the Authority believes that there is a strong case to expand the school however it is seeking the views of interested parties about the expansion and the provision of an additional 240 pupil places. Any decision to proceed with the expansion plans would be subject to statutory consultation, funding and planning permission for the new wing. The outcome of this consultation will be reported to Cabinet at Derbyshire County Council in January 2020 where a decision will be taken concerning the issue of a statutory notice.

This consultation will take place from 14 October 2019 to 15 November 2019. Any comments should be forwarded to Sue Pegg, Head of Development at sue.pegg@derbyshire.gov.uk or addressed to:
Block C, Chatsworth Hall, Chesterfield Road, Matlock, Derbyshire. DE4 3FW

Appendix B

Statutory Notice for the Proposal by Derbyshire County Council for the Expansion of Glossopdale School

Notice is given in accordance with the School Organisation (Prescribed Alteration to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulation 2013 that Derbyshire County Council, Smedley Street, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3AG intends to make a prescribed alteration to Glossopdale School located at Newshaw Lane, Hadfield, Glossop, Derbyshire SK13 2DA.

It is proposed that the net capacity of Glossopdale School be changed from 1200 to 1440

The current net capacity is 1200 comprising of 1000 pupils in the age range 11 – 16 and 200 post 16 students. Since the new school opened the school has been over-subscribed. Due to that demand for places and the housing growth in the town, the proposal is to increase the net capacity to 1440 comprising of 1200 pupils in the age range 11 – 16 and 240 post 16 students. The school opened in 2018 and the core facilities (sports hall, hall and dining) have already been provided for 1440. The additional accommodation therefore will be general teaching rooms.

S106 developer contributions will be sought to fund additional accommodation generated by the new housing but in the interim, funding from Derbyshire County Council is being sought to allow the expansion to take place as the demand is considered urgent.

The consultation on this proposal will be from 24 February 2020 to 20 March 2020.

The consultation document is available on the Derbyshire County Council website at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/have-your-say or by request from Sue Pegg on Tel: 01629 536040 or by e-mail to sue.pegg@derbyshire.gov.uk. Within four weeks of the publication of this notice, any person may object to or comment on the proposal by writing to the address or by sending an e-mail to the contact details below.

Sue Pegg, Head of Development, Block C, Chatsworth Hall, Chesterfield Road, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3FW or sue.pegg@derbyshire.gov.uk

The deadline for receiving responses is Friday 20 March 2020.

Head of Development

Date of Publication