

Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement

***Tuesday, 5 July 2011 at 12.15 pm
County Hall, New Road, Oxford***

Items for Decision

The items for decision under individual Cabinet Members' delegated powers are listed overleaf, with indicative timings, and the related reports are attached.

Copies of the reports are circulated (by e-mail) to all members of the County Council.

These proceedings are open to the public



Peter G. Clark
County Solicitor

June 2011

Contact Officer: **Deborah Miller**
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Note: *Date of next meeting: 6 September 2011*

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, but please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.

Items for Decision

1. Declarations of Interest

2. Questions from County Councillors

Any county councillor may, by giving notice to the Proper Officer by 9 am two working days before the meeting, ask a question on any matter in respect of the Cabinet Member's delegated powers.

The number of questions which may be asked by any councillor at any one meeting is limited to two (or one question with notice and a supplementary question at the meeting) and the time for questions will be limited to 30 minutes in total. As with questions at Council, any questions which remain unanswered at the end of this item will receive a written response.

Questions submitted prior to the agenda being despatched are shown below and will be the subject of a response from the appropriate Cabinet Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Cabinet Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting. Questions received after the despatch of the agenda, but before the deadline, will be shown on the Schedule of Addenda circulated at the meeting, together with any written response which is available at that time.

3. Petitions and Public Address

4. Charlton Primary School

Forward Plan Ref: 2011/077

Contact: Barbara Chillman, Principal Officer – School Organisation & Planning Tel: (01865) 816459

Report by Director for Children, Education & Families (**CMDSI4**).

At the meeting on 19 April 2011 the Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement agreed to the publication of formal proposals to expand Charlton Primary School from 1.5-form entry to 2-form entry. The statutory notice was published by the Authority in the Wantage Herald on 11 May 2011 and expired following 4 weeks of formal consultation on 08 June 2011.

The decision-making power in terms of determining the notice lies with the Cabinet or can be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement (if there have been no objections). In meeting as 'decision-maker' the Cabinet or Cabinet Member must have regard to government guidance and statutory timescales otherwise a decision can be referred to the independent Schools' Adjudicator for reconsideration. The Cabinet decision must be made within 2 months of the close of the notice period; as a consequence, it is necessary for the Chairman of the Council to determine that the decision cannot be subject to 'call-in' as this would, in most cases, prevent a decision being finalised within the required timescale and mean that the Cabinet's role would be negated by referral to the Schools' Adjudicator.

As no representations in relation to the proposal have been received the decision is referred to the Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement. The proposed implementation date for the proposal is 1 September 2012.

Note: As set out under Rule 17(a) of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, this decision is exempt from Call-In as it is deemed urgent and any delay would seriously prejudice the Council's interests, in that the Cabinet's role would be negated by referral to the Schools' Adjudicator if the decision was not taken within two months of the publication of the Statutory Notice, in this case being 18 January 2008.

The Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement is RECOMMENDED to either:

- (a) reject the proposals;***
 - (b) approve the proposals;***
 - (c) approve the proposals with a modification (e.g. the proposal implementation date); or***
 - (d) approve the proposals subject to them meeting a specific condition.***
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Division(s): Wantage & Grove

CABINET MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS IMPROVEMENT 05 JULY 2011

PROPOSED EXPANSION OF CHARLTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, WANTAGE

Report by Children, Education & Families

Introduction

1. At the meeting on 19 April 2011 the Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement agreed to the publication of formal proposals to expand Charlton Primary School from 1.5-form entry to 2-form entry. The report outlining the basis for this decision is attached at Annex 1.
2. The statutory notice (attached at Annex 2) was published by the Authority in the Wantage Herald on 11 May 2011 and expired following 4 weeks of formal consultation on 08 June 2011. In accordance with legislation the notice was also posted at the school gate, main entrances to the school, the co-located pre-school and the local library. A copy of the proposal (attached at Annex 3) and the notices were sent to the governing body and the Secretary of State and additionally made available on the Oxfordshire County Council website.
3. The decision-making power in terms of determining the notice lies with the Cabinet or can be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement (if there have been no objections). In meeting as 'decision-maker' the Cabinet or Cabinet Member must have regard to government guidance and statutory timescales otherwise a decision can be referred to the independent Schools' Adjudicator for reconsideration. The Cabinet decision must be made within 2 months of the close of the notice period; as a consequence, it is necessary for the Chairman of the Council to determine that the decision cannot be subject to 'call-in' as this would, in most cases, prevent a decision being finalised within the required timescale and mean that the Cabinet's role would be negated by referral to the Schools' Adjudicator.
4. As no representations in relation to the proposal have been received the decision is referred to the Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement. The proposed implementation date for the proposal is 1 September 2012.

The Proposal

5. The proposal is to increase the admission number from 45 to 60 children, on a permanent basis from September 2012. This will eventually increase the school's total roll from 265 children in Years 1-6 (January 2011 pupil census) to a maximum of 360.

6. To accommodate this growth in pupil numbers, Charlton Primary School will be remodelled and extended to provide 12 classrooms for Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils, as well as a new Foundation Stage Unit block.

Representations

7. No representations have been received in relation to this notice during the statutory consultation process.

Legal Background

8. School expansions are subject to statutory procedures, as established by The Education and Inspections Act 2006 (EIA 2006) and The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 (as amended). Local authorities also have a duty to have regard to statutory guidance, in this particular case 'Expanding a Maintained Mainstream School by Enlargement or Adding a Sixth Form', ("the Guidance"). When reaching a decision, Cabinet must have regard to The Guidance. Cabinet is referred in particular to pages 19 to 40 of The Guidance.
9. In terms of reaching a decision all proposals should be considered on their merits but the following factors should be borne in mind but are not considered to be exhaustive. The Decision Maker should consider the views of all those affected by the proposals. The Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement, as Decision Maker, must be satisfied that the statutory consultation has been carried out prior to the publication of the notice. Details of the consultation should be included in the proposals. The Decision Maker must be satisfied that the consultation meets statutory requirements. If the requirements have not been met, the Decision Maker may judge the proposals to be invalid and should consider whether they can make a decision on the proposals. Alternatively the Decision Maker may take into account the sufficiency and quality of the consultation as part of their overall judgement of the proposals as a whole.
10. **The effect on standards, school improvement and diversity.** The government aims to create a dynamic system shaped by parents that delivers excellence and equality, closing weak schools, encouraging new providers and popular schools to expand. Decision Makers should be satisfied that the proposals will contribute to raising local standards of provision and improved attainment and consider the impact on choice and diversity. They should pay particular attention to the effect on groups that tend to under-perform including children from certain ethnic minorities and deprived backgrounds. The decision-maker should consider how the proposals will help deliver the 'Every Child Matters' principles.
11. **School characteristics.** The Decision Maker should consider whether there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues that arise and whether there is supporting evidence to support the extension and take into account the existence of capacity elsewhere. The Decision Maker needs to consider

the accessibility of the provision for disadvantaged groups as the provision should not unduly extend journey times or cost.

12. **Need for places.** The Decision Maker should consider whether there is a need for the expansion and should consider the evidence presented for the expansion. There is a strong presumption that proposals to expand popular and successful schools should be approved. If surplus capacity exists in neighbouring schools the Decision Maker should ask how it is planned to tackle any consequences for other schools.
13. **Funding and land.** The Decision Maker should be satisfied that any land, premises and capital required to implement the proposals will be available.

Financial and Staff Implications

14. 14. The financial implications of this report are linked to the capital works that will be carried out should the proposal be approved. The feasibility study carried out at the school has identified the need for additional classrooms, a new small hall and some internal remodelling. The estimated cost of providing the all of the additional spaces in permanent buildings is in the region of £2m. The feasibility study has identified the preferred solution, costs and options for a phased delivery. These capital works will be the subject of a separate detailed project approval, and a further paper for decision will follow in due course, subject to the capital policies and processes laid down
15. 15. Oxfordshire County Council capital funding forward plans include funds to assist with demographic issues on school places. Funding will be allocated from the relevant CE&F capital programmes from 2011/12 onwards, to reflect the phasing of building works identified during the detailed design stage. Funding will also be sought from developer contributions secured to provide education infrastructure.
16. The school will need to meet the costs of additional staffing, curriculum resources and maintenance costs from its delegated budget share. The funding formula on which the budget share is based will allocate additional resources based on increased pupil numbers and increased floor area. Due to increasing numbers of pupils across the county, the Dedicated Schools Grant is expected to include sufficient additional resources to fund the increased budget share for the school. It is anticipated that moving to 2 forms of entry will, over time, enable the school to achieve increased efficiency by amending its internal organisation.

Equality and Inclusion Implications

17. There are not considered to be any significant equality and inclusion implications arising from this proposal.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement is **RECOMMENDED** to either:

- (a) reject the proposals;
- (b) approve the proposals;
- (c) approve the proposals with a modification (e.g. the proposal implementation date); or
- (d) approve the proposals subject to them meeting a specific condition.

MEERA SPILLET

Director for Children, Education & Families

Background papers: Initial consultation document

Annexes: Annex 1: Cabinet Member report April 2011
Annex 2: Statutory notice
Annex 3: Statutory proposal

Contact Officer: Barbara Chillman, Principal Officer School Organisation,
School Organisation & Planning, 01865 816459

July 2011

CABINET – 19 April 2011

**PROPOSAL TO EXPAND 931-2573 CHARLTON PRIMARY SCHOOL,
WANTAGE**

Report by Children, Young People & Families

Introduction

1. In recent years the Wantage, Charlton and Grove area has experienced a significant and sustained rise in primary pupil numbers, due to both a rising birth rate and recent/current housing developments in Wantage. Numbers are expected to rise further over the next few years. To date the additional numbers have been accommodated by the primary schools within Wantage and the surrounding villages but we have reached a position where these schools are close to, or operating at, full capacity and we need to increase basic pupil place provision.
2. The proposal to expand Charlton Primary School is one part of the County Council's strategy to meet the need for primary school places in this area of Oxfordshire. The school has agreed to take more than its admission number in September 2011, accepting up to 60 children into the Reception (F1) class. A decision is now needed on whether to permanently expand the school to 2 forms of entry (with an admission number of 60) and to enlarge the physical capacity of the school.
3. Charlton Primary School is a primary school for 4-11 year-olds on the eastern edge of Wantage, serving Charlton village and close surrounds. For September 2010 the school had a published admission number of 40, and 42 parents chose the school as their first preference. For September 2011 an admission number of 45 was published, but the school has now agreed to take up to 60 children to respond to local need. The current number of children (January 2011 pupil census) in Years 1-6 is 265, and in Years F1-6 is 310, as shown below:

Reception F1	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
45	43	44	44	40	44	50

4. There are five statutory stages for a proposal to expand a school:
 - i. consultation;
 - ii. publication of a statutory notice;

- iii. representation;
- iv. decision;
- v. implementation.

This proposal has completed the first consultation stage, and a decision is now sought as to whether to proceed to publication of a statutory notice and representation.

The Proposal

- 5. The proposal is to increase the formal published admission number from 45 to 60 children on a permanent basis from September 2012. This will eventually increase the school's total capacity from its current 270 places in Years 1-6 to a maximum of 360.
- 6. To accommodate this growth in pupil numbers, there will be some extension of the school's buildings plus a new Foundation Stage unit, and a feasibility study is underway as to how this can best be provided.
- 7. The school's governing body supports this proposal, and have been actively engaged in planning for the building extension.

Representations

- 8. During the informal consultation phase (17 January 2011 – 7 March 2011) a meeting was held at the school for parents to discuss their concerns with a county council officer and a consultation document (Annex 1) was sent to parents of children at Charlton Primary School, as well as to local Councillors, other schools and early years providers in the area; it was also available on the OCC website. A total of 25 responses were received. 7 [28%] respondents were in favour of the proposal (3 unconditionally) or supported it in principal (with some concerns); 18 [72%] respondents either were against the proposal or raised only concerns without expressing support. A breakdown of their comments are as follows:
- 9. Reasons given for supporting the proposal specifically acknowledged that:
 - o The expansion will provide school places for local children (1)
 - o Charlton is a good school (1)
 - o Local MOD families will have more choice of school (1).
- 9. The following concerns were raised by respondents:
 - o Road traffic congestion at the start and finish of the school day, and the need for additional on-site parking. (20 comments).
See paragraph 10 below.
 - o Concern about sufficient permanent accommodation (core and small group activity) being guaranteed (12 comments).
See paragraph 11 below.

- Concern that the school would lose the “small school” ethos and caring atmosphere. (14 comments).
2 form entry is one of the preferred models of school organisation within Oxfordshire
 - Concern over the loss of the school swimming pool. (6 comments)
See paragraph 12 below.
 - Concern about the disruption of building works and safety of children. (3 comments).
 - That there is no detrimental effect on Catholic schools in the area. (1 comment)
This proposal is not expected to have an impact on Catholic schools in the area.
10. With respect to significant concerns about traffic management the draft scheme seeks to improve the school’s car park and the County Council Development Control team are being consulted on highway matters as part of the feasibility study. The school will also be required to update its travel plan to reflect the increased pupil numbers and will seek to further encourage children and their families to walk to school if they live in appropriate proximity to the school.
11. With respect to the accommodation, the feasibility study will identify how the required additional spaces can be provided to best meet the statutory Building Bulletin 99 requirements for a 2 form entry school. The brief for this feasibility study has been agreed by the school’s governors, and includes additional Foundation and Key Stage 1 and 2 classrooms, an additional small hall and potential space for the desired eventual provision of a school kitchen.
- The school has successfully trialled, in line with approved OCC IT policy, the use of wirelessly networked laptops/tablets within its classrooms and in common with other schools has found these arrangements to be a successful alternative to the retention of a formal IT suite.
- The existing temporary classroom will be removed on completion of the first phase of the building works as the school will then have appropriate space for the existing cohort of students and its removal will allow work to commence of the new build Foundation Stage unit.
12. The closure of the swimming pool leaves a ‘footprint’ which enables the appropriate location of the new Foundation Stage unit. The removal of the school’s swimming pool is a sensitive local issue but the school and Governors have confirmed that the facility is close to failing with significant refurbishment and maintenance required to provide a safe functional environment. The school has identified that capital and on-going costs could be better spent on alternative curriculum enrichment, and would have planned to close the pool facility even without this extension proposal.
13. As concerns in relation to the proposal have been raised, the decision on whether to publish a formal statutory proposal is referred to the Cabinet rather than the Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement.

Making a Decision

13. Sections 18 to 24 of the Education & Inspections Act 2006 and The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) ["the Prescribed Alterations Regulations"] establish the procedures that must be followed when enlarging school premises. Local authorities also have a duty to have regard to statutory guidance, in this particular case 'Expanding a Maintained Mainstream School by Enlargement or Adding a Sixth Form: A Guide for Local Authorities and Governing Bodies ("the Guidance")'.
14. The Prescribed Alterations Regulations require proposers to consult interested parties and the Guidance lists these at paragraph 1.3. The Cabinet must be satisfied that the statutory consultation has been properly carried out prior to the publication of the notice. Annex 2 provides details of the County Council's consultation with interested parties that are required to be consulted with under the Prescribed Alterations Regulations. The period of consultation is not prescribed by legislation, although the Guidance recommends a minimum of 4 weeks. The consultation period was in line with the Guidance having run from 17th January 2011 to 7th March 2011, thereby meeting the four week minimum requirement. The consultation was therefore carried out in accordance with the Prescribed Alterations Regulations.
15. A decision is now required as to whether to publish formal proposals for this expansion. If approved, a statutory notice would be published, followed by a formal representation (Stage 3) period of four weeks. The decision-making power in terms of determining the notice will lie with the Cabinet, and a report will be put to the Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement if no representations are received, or to Cabinet if representations are received, for a final decision in due course.

Equality and Inclusion Implications

16. There are not considered to be any equality and inclusion implications arising from this proposal.

Financial and Staff Implications

17. The direct financial implication of this report is the cost of the statutory process recommended, which is planned for and met within the normal CYP&F budget provision. There are no significant financial implications or risks at this stage.
18. If the proposal proceeds, following the 4 week statutory representation period, there would be another report to Cabinet in due course seeking a final decision on whether to expand the school. The longer term financial implications of the current report are linked to the capital works that will be carried out should the proposals be approved, and these will be the subject of

a separate detailed project approval. There will also be on-costs for the school for additional staff and increased maintenance requirements.

19. The decision to proceed with the statutory process to expand the school is normally done prior to detailed project and funding appraisal, particularly where there is a demonstrable need as with this school. Capital funding forward plans include funds to assist with demographic issues on school places. A further paper for decision will follow the statutory process as normal where capital works are required, and subject to the capital policies and processes laid down.
20. Publication of a statutory proposal to expand the school requires confirmation from the local authority that funds will be made available for the necessary capital costs.

RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to approve the publication of a statutory notice for the expansion of Charlton Primary School.

MEERA SPILLETT
Director for Children, Young People & Families

Contact Officer: Barbara Chillman, Principal Officer School Organisation,
01865 816459

April 2011

Annex 2: Consultation with interested parties

The Prescribed Alterations Regulations require proposers to consult interested parties and the Guidance lists these at paragraph 1.3. This annex provides details of the County Council's consultation with interested parties that are required to be consulted with under the Prescribed Alterations Regulations.

The governing body of any school which is the subject of proposals (if the LA are publishing proposals)	Consulted through distribution of consultation leaflets (17 January 2011 – 7 March 2011).
The LA that maintains the school (if the governing body is publishing the proposals).	n/a
Families of pupils, teachers and other staff at the school.	Through distribution of consultation leaflets (to families via children) (17 January 2011 – 7 March 2011), and invitation to a meeting for parents (3 February 2011).
Any LA likely to be affected by the proposals, in particular neighbouring authorities where there may be significant cross-border movement of pupils.	The proposals are not judged to affect other local authorities.
The governing bodies, teachers and other staff of any other school that may be affected.	Other Oxfordshire schools consulted through online consultation (17 January 2011 – 7 March 2011). Local primary and secondary schools, and early years providers were sent consultation leaflets.
Families of any pupils at any other school that may be affected.	Consulted through online consultation (17 January 2011 – 7 March 2011).
Any trade unions who represent staff at the school; and representatives of any trade union of any other staff at schools who may be affected by the proposals.	Consulted through online consultation (17 January 2011 – 7 March 2011).
(If proposals involve, or are likely to affect a school which has a particular religious character) the appropriate diocesan authorities or the relevant faith group in relation to the school.	Oxford CE diocese and Birmingham and Portsmouth RC dioceses consulted through online consultation and distribution of consultation leaflets (17 January 2011 – 7 March 2011).
The trustees of the school (if any).	n/a
(If the proposals affect the provision of full-time 14-19 education) the Learning and Skills Council	n/a
MPs whose constituencies include the schools that are the subject of the proposals or whose constituents are likely to be affected by the proposals.	Local MP sent a copy of the consultation leaflet.

<p>The local district or parish council where the school that is the subject of the proposals is situated.</p>	<p>Local district and county councillors consulted through distribution of consultation leaflets and online consultation, and South Oxfordshire District Council sent consultation leaflet.</p>
<p>Any other interested party, for example, the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (or any local partnership that exists in place of an EYDCP) where proposals affect early years provision, or those who benefit from a contractual arrangement giving them the use of the premises.</p>	<p>Members of the School Organisation Stakeholder Group consulted through online consultation and meetings.</p>

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Proposal to expand Charlton Primary School

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Oxfordshire County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to Charlton (Community) Primary School, Charlton Village Road Wantage OX12 7HG from 01 September 2012.

The proposal is to increase Charlton Primary School to 2 form entry.

The current capacity of the school is 270 and the proposed capacity will be 420. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 310. The current admission number for the school is 45 and the proposed admission number will be 60.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consultation, or by contacting Peter Gilkes, School Organisation & Planning, FREEPOST OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL. Tel: 01865 816453 / Email: SchoolOrgPlan@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to the local authority online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consultation; by post to Peter Gilkes, School Organisation & Planning, FREEPOST OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL; or by emailing Charlton2011Representation-manager@myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk.

Signed: Meera Spillett, Director for Children, Young People & Families

Publication Date: Thursday 12 May 2011

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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 a Governing Body Proposal: School and governing body's details

1. The name, address and category of the school for which the governing body are publishing the proposals.

Not Applicable

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

1. The name, address and category of the school.

Charlton (Community) Primary School
Charlton Village Road, Wantage, OX12 7HG

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

2. 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.

01 September 2012

Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —
- 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
 - the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consultation; by post to Peter Gilkes, School Organisation & Planning, FREEPOST OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL; or by emailing:

Charlton2011Representation-manager@myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk

Representations should be submitted by 9 June 2011.

Alteration description

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

In 2010 Charlton Primary School, Wantage had a published admission number of 40 and for 2011 this has increased to 45. Oxfordshire County Council is now proposing to increase the admission number to 60, on a permanent basis from September 2012. To accommodate this growth in pupil numbers, there will be some extension of the school's buildings to create a total capacity of 420 places in years Reception – Year 6.

School capacity

5.—(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;

For the academic year 2010/11 capacity of the school is 280 (Year R-Year 6) and the proposed capacity will be 420.

(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 admitted in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will have been implemented;

The published admission number for the academic year 2011/12 was increased from 40 to 45, but in Years 1 and above the admission number is 40; the proposed admission number will be 60.

- (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.

For the academic year 2010/11 the indicated admission number is 40. All year groups are now at or above this number.

(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 current number of pupils (Reception -Year 6) registered at the school is 310 (as at January 2011 pupil census).

Implementation

6. 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

7. (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 new or 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.

Changes in boarding arrangements

8.—(1) Where the proposals are for the introduction or removal of boarding provision, or the alteration of existing boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

- (a) the number of pupils for whom it is intended that boarding provision will be made if the proposals are approved;

Not applicable.

- (b) the arrangements for safeguarding the welfare of children at the school;

Not applicable.

- (c) the current number of pupils for whom boarding provision can be made and a description of the boarding provision; and

Not applicable.

- (d) except where the proposals are to introduce boarding provision, a description of the existing boarding provision.

Not applicable.

(2) Where the proposals are for the removal of boarding provisions or an alteration to reduce boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

- (a) the number of pupils for whom boarding provision will be removed if the proposals are approved; and

Not applicable.

- (b) a statement as to the use to which the former boarding accommodation will be put if the proposals are approved.

Not applicable.

Transfer to new site

9. Where the proposals are to transfer a school to a new site the following information—

- (a) the location of the proposed site (including details of whether the school is to occupy a single or split site), and including where appropriate the postal address;

Not applicable.

- (b) the distance between the proposed and current site;

Not applicable.

- (c) the reason for the choice of proposed site;

Not applicable.

- (d) the accessibility of the proposed site or sites;

Not applicable.

- (e) the proposed arrangements for transport of pupils to the school on its new site; and

Not applicable.

- (f) a statement about other sustainable transport alternatives where pupils are not using transport provided, and how car use in the school area will be discouraged.

Not applicable.

Objectives

10. The objectives of the proposals.

This proposal will create sufficient primary school places within Wantage to meet current and expected demand from the current population and recent housing development within the town. Demographic data shows that a permanent increase in the number of primary school places in the Wantage/Charlton area is needed. An extension to Wantage is being considered through the District Council's Core Strategy but if approved this would include a new Primary School.

Consultation

11. 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.

- a) Consultation was carried out with staff, governors and parents at Charlton Primary School and the other primary schools and secondary school in the local partnership; local early years providers; local residents; local councillors (parish, district and county) and MP; trade unions representing staff at the school; other Oxfordshire schools; CE and RC dioceses; and other interested parties.
- b) An informal meeting was held for parents to discuss their concerns with the headteacher, school governors and County Council officer. Points raised included: local population changes; increased traffic and on site parking; the need to protect facilities for sport, sufficient playground and hall space per child; whether increased pupil numbers would be detrimental to existing children; retention of the ethos of the current school; community loss of the aged deteriorating Swimming Pool; how building work would be managed and funded; sufficient permanent build remodel.
- c) A consultation was carried out in Wantage and Charlton (17 January - 07 March 2011) to gather views on whether Charlton Primary School should be permanently expanded. 25 written responses were received, mostly from parents of children at the school. 36% were concerned that that the school should be remodelled in permanent build; 24% over the increase in size and 32% the potential to

compromise the school's positive atmosphere, ethos and standards; 60% expressed concern over increased traffic and management of 'drop-off' and provision of on-site parking; others were concerned that playground and sports facilities were not compromised which included 24% expressing concern over the loss of the aged and terminal Swimming Pool. The Catholic Diocese responded that the increase should have no detrimental effect on the admissions of Catholic schools in the area, but that they would be concerned if the funding of new accommodation was to disadvantage financially any Catholic schools in Oxfordshire.

- d) All applicable statutory requirements to consult have been complied with.
- e) The consultation leaflet is attached as Appendix 1. These were sent via the school to parents. Consultation leaflets were also sent to local early years providers, other local Primary Schools, the secondary school, local councillors and MP, and other stakeholders. The leaflet was also available on the county council's website.

Project costs

12. 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.

A feasibility study has identified the need for additional classrooms, a new small hall and some internal remodelling. The estimated cost of providing the all of additional spaces in permanent buildings is in the region of £2m. The feasibility study has identified the preferred solution, costs and options for a phased delivery. Funding will be allocated from within the County Councils Capital Programme 2011/12 onwards and secured developer contributions to infrastructure; other developer contributions may be secured retrospectively.

13. 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).

Oxfordshire County Council capital funding forward plans include funds to assist with demographic issues on school places. Funding will be allocated from the relevant CYP&F capital programmes from 2011/12 onwards, to reflect the phasing of building works identified during the detailed design stage. Funding will also be sought from developer contributions secured to provide education infrastructure.

Age range

14. Where the proposals relate to a change in age range, the current age range for the school.

Not applicable

Early years provision

15. Where the proposals are to alter the lower age limit of a mainstream school so that it provides for pupils aged between 2 and 5—

- (a) details of the early years provision, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;

Not applicable

- (b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services and how the proposals are consistent with the integration of early years provision for childcare;

Not applicable

- (c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early years provision;

Not applicable

- (d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools and in establishments other than schools who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school; and

Not applicable

- (e) reasons why such schools and establishments who have spare capacity cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the number of such provision.

Not applicable

Changes to sixth form provision

16. (a) Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school provides sixth form education or additional sixth form education, a statement of how the proposals will—

- (i) improve the educational or training achievements;
- (ii) increase participation in education or training; and
- (iii) expand the range of educational or training opportunities for 16-19 year olds in the area;

Not applicable

(b) A statement as to how the new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area;

Not applicable

(c) Evidence —

- (i) of the local collaboration in drawing up the proposals; and
- (ii) that the proposals are likely to lead to higher standards and better progression at the school;

Not applicable

(d) The proposed number of sixth form places to be provided.

Not applicable

17. Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school ceases to provide sixth form education, a statement of the effect on the supply of 16-19 places in the area.

Not applicable

Special educational needs

18. Where the proposals are to establish or change provision for special educational needs—

- (a) a description of the proposed types of learning difficulties in respect of which education will be provided and, where provision for special educational needs already exists, the current type of provision;

Not applicable

- (b) any additional specialist features will be provided;

Not applicable

- (c) the proposed numbers of pupils for which the provision is to be made;

Not applicable

- (d) details of how the provision will be funded;

Not applicable

- (e) a statement as to whether the education will be provided for children with special educational needs who are not registered pupils at the school to which the proposals relate;

Not applicable

- (f) a statement as to whether the expenses of the provision will be met from the school's delegated budget;

Not applicable

- (g) the location of the provision if it is not to be established on the existing site of the school;

Not applicable

- (h) where the provision will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs, a statement as to how the local education authority believes that the new provision is likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children; and

Not applicable

- (i) the number of places reserved for children with special educational needs, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of such places.

Not applicable

19. Where the proposals are to discontinue provision for special educational needs—

- (a) details of alternative provision for pupils for whom the provision is currently made;

Not applicable

- (b) details of the number of pupils for whom provision is made that is recognised by the local education authority as reserved for children with special educational needs during each of the 4 school years preceding the current school year;

Not applicable

- (c) details of provision made outside the area of the local education authority for pupils whose needs will not be able to be met in the area of the authority as a result of the discontinuance of the provision; and

Not applicable

- (d) a statement as to how the proposer believes that the proposals are likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children.

Not applicable

20. Where the proposals will lead to alternative provision for children with special educational needs, as a result of the establishment, alteration or discontinuance of existing provision, the specific educational benefits that will flow from the proposals in terms of—

- (a) improved access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local education authority's Accessibility Strategy;
- (b) improved access to specialist staff, both educational and other professionals, including any external support and outreach services;
- (c) improved access to suitable accommodation; and
- (d) improved supply of suitable places.

Not applicable

Sex of pupils

21. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of one sex only becomes an establishment which admits pupils of both sexes—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single sex-education in the area;

Not applicable

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education; and

Not applicable

- (c) details of any transitional period which the body making the proposals wishes specified in a transitional exemption order (within the meaning of section 27 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975).

Not applicable

22. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to a school to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of both sexes becomes an establishment which admits pupils of one sex only—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single-sex education in the area; and

Not applicable

(b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education.

Not applicable

Extended services

23. 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.

Not applicable

Need or demand for additional places

24. If the proposals involve adding places—

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

The number of 4-year-olds needing school places has risen over the last few years, and is forecast to continue rising until at least 2013. This has led to increasing pressure on primary school places both across the town and in local villages.

For September 2010 the three primary schools within and local to Wantage received 150 first preference applications for 130 reception places. Because the town's schools couldn't accommodate all the children seeking places children were allocated places in local village schools. For September 2011 148 first preference applications had been received by the deadline.

(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.

25. If the proposals involve removing places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the reasons for the removal, including an assessment of the impact on parental choice; and

Not applicable

- (b) a statement on the local capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

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:

(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).

The presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools does not apply in this case.