

***Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families - Monday, 9 March 2015***

***Statement of Decision***

**Present:**

Councillor Melinda Tilley, Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families

**Officers:**

Barbara Chillman and Dianne Cameron (Children, Education & Families) and Deborah Miller (Chief Executive's Office).

**Also in attendance:**

Other Members: Councillor Lynda Atkins for Agenda Item 5 (Home to School Transport for RAF Benson).

**Proposal to Close West Kidlington Nursery School and Extend the Age Range of West Kidlington Primary School to Effect a "Merger"**

**Documentation considered:**

Report Proposal to Close West Kidlington Nursery School and Extend the Age Range of West Kidlington Primary School to Effect a "Merger"

*A copy is attached to the signed copy of this decision.*

**Petitions and Public Address**

**Summary of representations in person:**

Mr David Rivers, Oxford Mail indicated that he had been in touch with the Headteacher at West Kidlington Primary School who had indicated that he was very unhappy with the report before the Cabinet Member today on the basis that the proposals would mean a loss of finance for the school budget.

Mrs Chillman and Mrs Cameron commented that the report had been through the correct processes and a formal consultation and that there had been no input from the Headteacher at any point.

**Cabinet Member's Comments**

The Cabinet Member agreed with the comments made by officers and further pointed out that the Headteacher had had every opportunity to put forward his point of view and that furthermore, he could have attended the meeting today.

## Decision

Having regard to the arguments and options set out in the documentation before me, the representations made to me and the further considerations set out above, I confirm my decisions on this matter as follows:

to approve the closure of West Kidlington Nursery School and the linked extension of age range of West Kidlington Primary School.

*As set out under Rule 17(a) of the Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules, this decision was exempt from Call-In as it was deemed urgent and any delay would seriously prejudice the Council's interests, in that the decision must be made within 2 months of the close of the notice period; as a consequence, it was 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 Member's role would be negated by referral to the Schools' Adjudicator.*

Signed .....  
Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families

Date .....

## Home to School Transport for RAF Benson

### Documentation considered:

Report Home to School Transport for RAF Benson

*A copy is attached to the signed copy of this decision.*

### Summary of representations in person

Councillor Lynda Atkins, Armed Forces Champion for RAF Benson spoke in support of the recommendations.

### Cabinet Member's Comments

I welcome the support from Councillor Atkins and am very pleased to agree the recommendations.

## Decision

Having regard to the arguments and options set out in the documentation before me, the representations made to me and the further considerations set out above, I confirm my decisions on this matter as follows:

- (a) to provide free travel for those of statutory school age from RAF Benson to Icknield Community College;
- (b) to review the need for this provision on an annual basis since it concerns capacity and likely demand.

