

Notice of KEY Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	Implementation of the Expansion Proposals for Crownfield Infants and Crownfield Junior schools whether to proceed
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Robert Benham Cabinet Member for Children & Learning
CMT Lead:	Tim Aldridge, Director of Children's Services
Report Author and contact details:	Pooneeta Mahadeo School Organisation Manager pooneeta.mahadeo@havering.gov.uk 01708 431092
Policy context:	The proposed school expansions cost over £ 500,000.
Financial summary:	Costs for the building works required for expanding Crownfield Infants and Crownfield Junior Schools is estimated at £3.1m funded from the school expansion capital programme Revenue implications for the schools will be funded from the DSG.
Reason decision is Key	The proposed expansions will cost £500,000 or more and will have significant effect on two or more wards.
Date notice given of intended decision:	13/02/2017

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Relevant OSC:	Children's services
Is it an urgent decision?	No
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	No

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Havering will be clean and its environment will be cared for
People will be safe, in their homes and in the community
Residents will be proud to live in Havering

Place an X in the [] as appropriate

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Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION					
<ul style="list-style-type: none">To approve the statutory proposal to expand the capacity of the following schools :					
School	Current Capacity	Proposed Capacity as from	Number on roll as at Jan 2017	Current Published Admission Number	Proposed Admission Number
Crownfield Infants School	270	360 from 1 Sept 2017	266	90	120 from 1 Sept 2017
Crownfield Junior School	360	480 from 1 Sept 2020	346	90	120 from 1 Sept 2017
Recommendation					
To make a decision on the expansion proposals as set out in the Decision –maker guidance – Appendix 1					
<ul style="list-style-type: none">To permanently expand Crownfield Infants School from 3FE to 4FE from 1 September 2017To permanently expand Crownfield Junior School from 3FE to 4FE from 1 September 2020					

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

Cabinet agreed, at its meeting on 12 October 2016, to delegate the power to take further decisions regarding the approval of which settings/schools should be expanded (subject to the appropriate statutory processes) for Phase 4 of the Expansion Programme to the Lead Member for Children & Learning.

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Each of the schools needs to expand to ensure the Council can fulfil its statutory duty to provide sufficient schools in the area, in the case of the two primary schools because of continuing increases in school rolls and the birth rate. These two have been selected following detailed analysis of the options set out below:

- They can be expanded as there is scope to create additional accommodation on site.
- They are located accessibly to where there is increased pressure on places.
- They are sufficiently educationally secure and resilient to have the capacity to

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manage a significant increase in size without adverse impacts on standards

- There is a clear aspiration on the part of the school to manage the expansion
- The expansion should provide good value for money.

In its meeting on the 4th November 2015, Cabinet agreed the permanent expansion of Crownfield Infant and Junior Schools subject to consultation and statutory processes, including planning processes.

Consultation on the expansion proposals for Crownfield Infants and Junior Schools took place from 30th November to 15 January 2016.

Following the informal consultation process above, the Cabinet Member for Children & Learning signed the (Non Key) Executive Decision on 31/03/2016 to proceed to the representation stage.

The representation stage, from 6 January to 3 February 2017, complied with statutory requirements by inviting representations from all interested parties on the proposals.

A Statutory Notice, that included details of the proposals, was published in the Romford Recorder on 6 January 2017; notices were also fixed to the entrance gates of each school and circulated to all interested parties, including all Havering schools, neighbouring boroughs, the Diocese of Chelmsford and Diocese of Brentwood and the DfE as required by legislation. A Notice was also published on the Council's website with a link to further information about the proposals.

During the representation period, no responses were received relating to the expansion of Crownfield Infant and Crownfield Junior schools.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Do Nothing - This is not practical due to the legal and statutory obligation placed on the Council to provide sufficient school places and the pressures currently faced across the Borough.

This proposal has the support of each School's Governing Body and local community and forms part of the wider development of the Schools for which funding has been made available within the Capital Programme.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

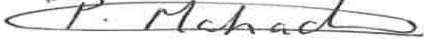
No responses were received within the 4 weeks representation period of the publication of the statutory notice.

NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER

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Name: Pooneeta Mahadeo

Designation: School Organisation Manager

Signature: 

Date: 21/03/2017

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Council has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient primary and secondary education is available to meet the needs of the population of their area (Section 13 Education Act 1996). It is clear that without a strategy to increase the provision within the Borough over the next few years the Council may fall into breach of its statutory duty.

Under Regulation 5 of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013/3110 an enlargement of the school premises which increases capacity by either (a) more than 30 pupils; or (b) by 25% or 200 pupils (whichever is the lesser), needs to go through the statutory notice procedure. In this case the proposals require publication as each of the schools will increase capacity by 25% or more.

The proposals appear prudent in order to meet the Council's statutory duties. The decision maker must conscientiously take into consideration the views and representations made by the consultees before arriving at a decision. No representations were received for the proposal to expand Crownfield Infant and Junior Schools.

The decision can be to approve, reject or modify the proposals in the light of the statutory consultation responses.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

CAPITAL

Work to physically expand the schools to accommodate additional pupils will be needed. Latest cost estimates are as follows:

Estimated Costs

Crownfield Infant School	£1,600,000
Crownfield Junior School	£1,500,000
Total	£3,100,000

Funded by:

School Expansion Programme re Crownfield	£3,000,00
School Expansion Programme Contingency	£100,000
Total Funding	£3,100,000

Revenue Implications for schools

The revenue implications for primary schools are that, in creating additional classes

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from September 2017, additional resources will be incurred particularly for teaching and support staff. Schools' pupil-related funding is calculated each year based on the number of pupils on roll at the previous October census. As the expansions move through the schools' year groups, an additional class will be required in the school each year but the additional pupils arriving in September will not have been included in the previous October census for funding purposes. For the period September to March additional resources will need to be provided to meet the schools' additional staffing costs. The additional revenue funding allocated to schools will be met from a Pupil Growth Contingency held within the Schools Budget (funded by the Dedicated Schools Grant) as agreed by the Schools Funding Forum.

The Government is currently consulting on a national funding formula which is to include a factor for pupil growth. Details are awaited on the funding that this will allocate to expanding schools.

Revenue Implications for local authorities

It should be noted that an increase in school admissions across the Borough may also have a 'knock-on effect' on other LA budgets such as Special Educational Needs, home to school transport, etc. Any pressures arising will be addressed through the appropriate channels.

Risks

As with most capital schemes, there is a risk that the schemes could overspend due to issues arising during the build process, however given the size of the works any significant overspend is unlikely. Any small issues arising can be funded from the remaining budget within the school expansion programme.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS (AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)

The human resources implications for the schools to be proposed for expansion will be managed by the schools themselves. There is likely to be a need to recruit additional teaching and support staff and the relevant schools will undertake the recruitment and selection process in accordance with the appropriate policies and procedures. There are growing difficulties in recruiting to teaching posts and therefore schools will need to consider that additional resources and a longer recruitment timescale may be required to fill vacancies. The Havering Education HR service will provide support as appropriate and required to all schools, academies or free schools that purchase relevant services.

EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been carried out for Phase 3 expansions. The proposals in this report are assessed as having a positive impact on groups with a protected characteristic. This arises from providing additional local school provision which will be compliant with the latest regulations which promote accessibility and other inclusive measures. The EIA is included as **Appendix 2** in the background paper.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

None that is not available publicly.

Appendix

1. Decision-maker guidance for the proposals
2. EIA for Phase 3 primary expansion

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Part C – Record of decision

I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Decision

Proposal agreed

Delete as applicable

Proposal NOT agreed because

Details of decision maker

Signed

Name:

Cabinet Portfolio held:

CMT Member title:

Head of Service title

Other manager title:

Date:

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to the proper officer, Andrew Beesley, Committee Administration & Interim Member Support Manager in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on _____

Signed _____