

**Report of Director of Children’s Services**

**Report to Executive Board**

**Date: 18 December 2013**

**Subject: Consultation outcomes on school place expansions for 2015**



**Part A: Outcome of consultation on the proposal to expand Calverley C of E Primary School from September 2015.**

**Part B: Outcome of consultation on the proposal to open a specialist provision at Moor Allerton Hall Primary School for pupils who are deaf and hearing impaired from September 2014**

**Part C: Outcome of consultation on the proposal to expand Broomfield South SILC and West Oaks SEN Specialist School and College**

**Part D: Outcome of Statutory Notice on a proposal to expand Pudsey Primrose Hill Primary School from September 2015**

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Part A – Calverley and Farsley Part B – Beeston & Holbeck, Roundhay Part C – Middleton Park, Hyde Park and Woodhouse, Wetherby Part D – Calverley and Farsley		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:		

**Summary of main issues**

Our ambition is to be the best city in the country. As a vibrant and successful city we will attract new families to Leeds, and making sure that we have enough school places for the children is one of our top priorities. This report describes seeks permission to take the next steps in a series of proposals brought forward to meet that need, and to ensure that

children in Leeds will have the best possible start to their learning, and so deliver our vision of a child friendly city.

#### Part A

In July 2013 the Executive Board gave permission to consult on a proposal to expand Calverley C of E Primary School from a capacity of 315 pupils to 420 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 45 to 60 with effect from September 2015, and the expansion of primary provision in Farsley by the changing of the infant and junior schools into primary schools. Part A of this report presents the outcome of a statutory consultation on this proposal and seeks permission to publish a statutory notice in respect of Calverley C of E Primary School, and recommends that the outcome of the Farsley consultation goes back to January's Executive Board.

#### Part B

In September 2013 the Executive Board gave permission to consult on opening a specialist provision at Moor Allerton Hall Primary School for pupils who are deaf and hearing impaired from September 2014. Part B of this report presents the outcome of the statutory consultation on this proposal and seeks permission to publish a statutory notice in respect of specialist provision at Moor Allerton Hall Primary School.

#### Part C

In September 2013 the Executive Board gave permission to consult on proposals to expand two Leeds Special Inclusive Learning Centres (SILCs), the Broomfield South SILC and West Oaks SEN Specialist School and College, to provide additional places for children and young people with Special Educational Needs (SEN) from across the city. Part C of this report presents the outcome of the statutory consultation on these proposals and seeks permission to publish statutory notices in respect of specialist provision at Broomfield South SILC and West Oaks SEN Specialist School and College.

#### Part D

In September 2013 the Executive Board considered the outcome of a public consultation on a proposal to expand Pudsey Primrose Hill Primary School from a capacity of 315 pupils to 420 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 45 to 60 with effect from September 2015 and gave permission to publish a statutory notice.

This expansion proposal was brought forward as part of the Council's basic need programme, to meet the statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places in response to the growing pre-school population.

The notice in relation to Pudsey Primrose Hill Primary School was published on Friday 4 October and expired on Friday 1 November 2013. A final decision must be made within 2 months of the expiry of the notice, therefore by 1 January 2013. There were no responses to the notices, and therefore, part D of this report seeks a final decision from Executive Board on the proposal.

### **Recommendations**

Executive Board is asked to:

## **Part A**

- 1 Approve the publication of a statutory notice to expand Calverley C of E Primary School from a capacity of 315 pupils to 420 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 45 to 60 with effect from September 2015.
- 2 Note the officer responsible for implementation is the Capacity, Planning and Sufficiency Lead.
- 3 Note that a further report detailing the outcome of consultation in Farsley will be taken to January's Executive Board.

## **Part B**

- 4 Approve the publication of a statutory notice to open a specialist provision at Moor Allerton Hall Primary School for pupils who are deaf and hearing impaired from September 2014.
- 5 Note the officer responsible for implementation is the Sensory Service Lead.

## **Part C**

- 6 Approve the publication of a statutory notice to expand the Broomfield South SILC from a capacity of 200 to 250 pupils with effect from September 2015 using a site adjacent to the school, Broom Court (Broom Place, Leeds, LS10 3JP).
- 7 Approve the publication of a statutory notice to expand the West Oaks SEN Specialist School and College from a capacity of 200 to 350 pupils with effect from September 2015 by the creation of an additional site for 150 children and young people aged 2 to 16 on the former Blenheim Centre (Crowther Place, Leeds, West Yorkshire).
- 8 Note the officer responsible for implementation is the Best Practice Development Officer.

## **Part D**

- 9 Approve the expansion of Pudsey Primrose Hill Primary School from a capacity of 315 pupils to 420 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 45 to 60 with effect from September 2015.
- 10 Note the officer responsible for implementation is the Capacity, Planning and Sufficiency Lead.

## 1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report contains details of proposals brought forward to meet the local authority's duty to ensure sufficiency of school places. The report is divided into four parts - Part A seeks permission to publish a statutory notice in relation to the expansion of Calverley C of E Primary School. Part B seeks permission to publish a statutory notice in relation to opening a specialist provision at Moor Allerton Hall Primary School for pupils who are deaf and hearing impaired from September 2014. Part C seeks permission to publish a statutory notice to expand Broomfield South SILC and West Oaks SEN Specialist School and College. Part D describes the outcome of a Statutory Notice in relation to expanding primary provision in Pudsey and seeks a final decision on this proposal.

## 2 Background information

- 2.1 At its meeting in July 2013, the Executive Board gave permission to consult on a proposal to expand Calverley C of E Primary School by an additional 15 reception places from September 2015. The board had also previously approved a proposal for the school to convert from voluntary controlled to voluntary aided status, at its July 2013 meeting. It also gave permission to consult on changes in Farsely designed to increased primary capacity.
- 2.2 At its meeting in September 2013, the Executive Board considered the outcome of public consultation on a proposal to create an additional 15 reception places from September 2015 at Pudsey Primrose Hill, and gave permission to publish a statutory notice.
- 2.3 It was also agreed that consultations could take place on proposals to increase SEN provision by 200 places over 2 sites.
- 2.4 These proposals were brought forward as part of a range of measures to ensure the Authority meets its statutory duty to ensure sufficiency of school places within primary, secondary, early years and specialist provision. This paper details further measures that are needed to address identified sufficiency issues.

## 3 Main issues

**Part A: Proposal 1. Outcome of the proposal to expand Calverley C of E Primary School** from 315 to 420 places, by increasing the admission number from 45 to 60 with effect from September 2015.

- 3.1.1 The consultation was conducted from 16 September to 25 October 2013. This is in line with government guidance and local practice, and ward members were consulted during the formal consultation period. Public meetings and a drop-in session were held, and information was distributed widely, including through the school, early years providers, local publications, websites, local churches and playgroups. A summary of the issues raised follows and the public meeting notes can be found at [www.leeds.gov.uk](http://www.leeds.gov.uk) or, along with the responses received, can be

requested from the Capacity Planning and Sufficiency Team at [educ.school.organisation@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:educ.school.organisation@leeds.gov.uk).

3.1.2 Rising demographics and housing across Calverley and surrounding areas has resulted in pressure for primary school places at both schools within the Calverley planning area. The school have admitted over their admission number in September 2013 by 15 places, and have also agreed to repeat this in September 2014 subject to this proposal being approved. During the consultation phase, 8 written responses were received, 6 in favour and 2 against. The governing body are in favour of the proposal, but have stated that this is subject to resolving the access issues and entrance to the school. The following issues were raised during the meetings and within the written responses:

3.1.3 **Concern:** There are new large housing developments planned in the area, is there enough provision for the children that will come from these developments and will those children be requesting Calverley schools.

**Response:** The proposal we are consulting on is for children that we know about now living within the Calverley area that will need a school place from 2015. This information is based on data we obtain annually from the NHS about births and children aged 1-5 living in Leeds. With regard to the housing development at the old Clariant site, we are currently looking at how we can establish additional school provision to manage the demand from children that may be living there. Some of the children from this development may have their closest school in Calverley, whilst for others it may be Horsforth. However, it is difficult to predict how parents will preference schools. It is felt that Horsforth, Calverley, Rawdon and Farsley schools may be impacted on once this site is complete and therefore a solution may be at a number of schools rather than expanding just one, and this is all part of our consideration when planning extra places.

3.1.4 **Concern:** More children at the school will exacerbate the already difficult access issues and will increase the levels of traffic.

**Response:** The Highways Department are involved with this proposal and have been commissioned to design a solution that will resolve these issues as far as is possible. Staff, governors, pupils and residents would be consulted on any plans if this proposal goes ahead and planning approval would be required before implementation.

Initial discussions have taken place with road safety and traffic officers. The initial view is to widen Thornhill Drive in order to allow a two way access from Thornhill Drive to the school. Some further discussion with Thornhill estates, who own Thornhill Drive, is required to explore possible options.

3.1.5 **Concern:** Disruption to children and staff caused by building work could impact on education.

**Response:** We would work closely with the school and the chosen contractor to ensure minimal disruption. Delivery times will be managed to avoid conflict at the beginning and end of the school day whilst children are being dropped off and picked up. Where possible, the most disruptive work will be planned during school holidays and where there is a requirement to build during term time we would ensure that the health and safety of children, staff and the public is a priority.

3.1.6 **Concern:** That there are already a number of classes split for lunch and events. How will the school environment be managed to accommodate the additional children.

**Response:** The decision to split classes for lunch and events is one made by the staff as they believe it to be the most effective way to manage those particular scenarios. The school are confident they can continue to manage the school environment effectively if the proposal were to proceed. Two form of entry schools are much easier to manage. It also allows for classes to move up key stages together rather than children moving between classes. The local authority works closely with the school to ensure that the built solution is one which allows them to manage pupils throughout the school day effectively. We cannot provide further details of the actual built solution at this stage, as design work is ongoing, but experience of other projects demonstrates that we work well with schools.

3.1.7 **Concern:** That the additional accommodation will be more portakabins and the buildings will impact on current play space.

**Response:** As with many schools in Leeds, the effective use of the site is a key driver to the design; and the retention of the maximum possible amount of external space is an important part of the design development. It is likely, to facilitate this requirement, that existing buildings will be consolidated via the removal of existing temporary buildings; as opposed to the installation of more stand-alone buildings which would be a much less efficient use of space. Whilst the final design solution has not been agreed, there are no current plans to increase the number of temporary units on site. The design solution will be agreed in consultation with the school and will be subject to a separate public consultation through the process of securing planning approval. A drop-in session will be arranged for local residents, parents and carers to view proposals before a planning application is submitted.

3.1.8 **Concern:** Will the highways issues be prioritised in the school build project.

**Response:** It is accepted that access to the school site is an important issue within this proposal, and consequently the resolution of existing issues is a priority for the design team. The technical solution to address these issues outside the school site will be developed in parallel with the design of the school building so each complements the other. Children's Services works closely with colleagues across Highways to ensure that all solutions are developed in partnership and are value for money, as well as specific to the circumstances of each site.

#### **Part A: Proposal 2. Outcome of the proposal to expand provision in Farsley.**

3.1.9 The consultation attracted considerable interest, including a counter proposal to consider retaining the infant school in the area, and changing Springbank Junior school to become a through primary school with a 1FE infant element and then continuing to admit the children of Westroyd in year 3 to create a 3FE Key Stage 2. The statutory notice period for the Farsley proposal prohibits a final decision being made prior to purdah, and so it is recommended that a report be taken to January's Executive Board on the outcome of this consultation. This will not impact on the final decision timeframe, but will allow for due consideration of all the issues raised during consultation.

## **Part B: Outcome of consultation on the proposal to open a specialist provision at Moor Allerton Hall Primary School for pupils who are deaf and hearing impaired from September 2014**

3.2.1 In line with government guidance and local practice, the Local Authority conducted a consultation regarding the above proposal over a six week period. The consultation ran between 16th September and 25th October 2013.

3.2.2 As part of the consultation process a booklet was produced detailing the proposal, answering potential queries and explaining the consultation process. The booklet contained a response form as well as information on other ways to respond. This booklet was distributed in hard copy or electronic format to:

- All LCC Councillors
- Members of Parliament for Leeds
- All families of children attending Moor Allerton Hall Primary School
- All staff and governors of Moor Allerton Hall Primary School
- Parents of children attending nursery or secondary resourced provision for deaf and hearing impaired children in Leeds as well as those who attended the previous provision at Cottingley Primary School.
- Head teachers of all schools in Leeds
- All Sensory Service Staff
- Other staff in the Complex Needs Service
- SEN officers in neighbouring local authorities
- Organisations who are part of the Children's Hearing Services Working Group; including health professionals, parents groups and the National Deaf Children's Society.
- Trade union representatives

3.2.3 The following specific consultation meetings were held:

- A public meeting attended by families of children at Moor Allerton Hall, parents of deaf children from other schools and a local councillor
- A meeting with parents of children attending nursery or secondary resourced provision for deaf and hearing impaired children in Leeds as well as those who attended the previous provision at Cottingley Primary School. Two deaf children also attended.
- Meetings with teaching and support staff of Moor Allerton Hall Primary School
- A meeting with governors of Moor Allerton Hall Primary School
- A meeting with the School Pupil Council of Moor Allerton Hall Primary School
- In addition the proposal was discussed at the Children's Hearing Services Working Group which included health professionals, parents of deaf children and the National Deaf Children's Society.

3.2.4 The meetings were very positive. There were questions about the provision and exactly how it would work. There was unanimous support for the proposal at every meeting. The pupils in the school Council were keen to welcome deaf pupils into their school as soon as possible and to learn sign language to assist in their communication with them.

- 3.2.5 No specific concerns were raised other than through questions. Details of the discussions at the above meetings can be found at [www.leeds.gov.uk](http://www.leeds.gov.uk) or are available from upon request from [tony.bowyer@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:tony.bowyer@leeds.gov.uk)
- 3.2.6 The parents of children who had attended the specialist provision at Cottingley were keen for reassurance that the new provision would be successful and that the school and the sensory service would be able to work closely together for the benefit of the deaf children in the proposed provision. The Head of Moor Allerton School and the Sensory Service Lead gave reassurances that there would be strong partnership working with clear service agreements and good monitoring and management systems in place.
- 3.2.7 There were 16 written responses to the consultation. All written responses supported the proposal to open the provision at Moor Allerton Hall very clearly. The written responses came from the following sources (numbers of responses from each group in brackets):
- Parents of children in Moor Allerton Hall (6)
  - Chair of Governors of Moor Allerton Hall (1)
  - Head teacher of Moor Allerton Hall (1)
  - Other staff of Moor Allerton Hall (2)
  - Special Needs Coordinator from another school (1)
  - Sensory Service Staff (2)
  - Members of Parliament (2)
  - National Deaf Children's Society (1)
- 3.2.8 The parents of children at Moor Allerton Hall recognised in their responses that the provision would enhance the educational experience and awareness of all children in the school and would be beneficial to the school community as a whole.
- 3.2.9 The head teacher of Moor Allerton Hall wrote that "the staff and children of Moor Allerton Hall are very excited about welcoming the DAHIT [deaf] children to our school".
- 3.2.10 The Chair of Governors wrote that after listening to the views of staff, children and parents the governing body "were unanimous in our support for the development". She also wrote that "we believe that the benefits to our children and the school will be enormous."
- 3.2.11 National Deaf Children Society offered a number of very useful ideas and points to support the proposal. They concluded that "overall, NDCS is delighted that Leeds has taken this step to open a new primary resource provision".

### **Part C: Outcome of consultation on proposals for the expansion of the Broomfield South SILC and the West Oaks SEN Specialist School and College**

- 3.3.1 The consultation was conducted from 16th September 2013 to 25th October 2013. The consultation was undertaken in line with government guidance and local practice, and ward members were consulted during the formal consultation period. Public meetings and a drop-in session were held, and information and meeting dates were distributed widely via schools, post offices, local shops, libraries,



doctors' surgeries and area management officers. Information about the consultation was sent directly to all specialist schools offering similar provision in Leeds for their information and response. Information was also shared with voluntary parent and carer groups with an interest in special educational needs and disabilities, and with colleagues in health services. A summary of the issues raised follows and the public meeting notes can be found at [www.leeds.gov.uk](http://www.leeds.gov.uk) or can be requested from the complex needs service best practice team by e-mailing [bpteam@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:bpteam@leeds.gov.uk)

- 3.3.2 **Proposal one:** expansion of the Broomfield South SILC from a capacity of 200 to 250 pupils using a site adjacent to the school, Broom Court, with effect from September 2015. This is in response to the rising birth rate in the area, which in turn has led to an increased number of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in the local area requiring specialist educational provision. The South SILC has been operating at full capacity in recent years and cannot cater for more pupils without expansion.
- 3.3.3 The governing body has given their full support for this proposal.
- 3.3.4 Written consultation responses were sought from the public within the same form for both the proposal to expand the South SILC and the proposal to expand the West Oaks SEN Specialist School and College, as both proposals respond to a shortage of appropriate specialist provision in Leeds for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. 18 responses were received and all of them were positive in their response to the question: "Do you agree with the proposal to expand the South SILC?"
- 3.3.5 Meetings were also held as part of the consultation process and were publicised widely. Meetings included a drop-in attended by 4 people, a public meeting attended by 3 people, and a meeting with the whole staff team. The School Council meeting was also attended to ask young people their views.
- 3.3.6 Comments made and concerns raised and responded to at meetings were as follows:
- 3.3.7 **Comment:** 'As the parent of a young man with severe special needs, I am delighted that Leeds City Council is (proposing to) offer more choice. I have spoken to families who have children with special needs (I am part of a support group) and they desperately want their children to attend a SILC but they cannot because of a lack of places. These proposals are a really good move forward.'
- 3.3.8 **Comment:** 'The need for specially designed provision for SEN in Leeds is well overdue (sic). Quality provision for SEN is essential and should be a priority for our most vulnerable children and young people in the city.'
- 3.3.9 **Comment:** 'This will benefit pupils who live in Leeds so they will not have to travel (to access provision outside of Leeds) which causes some pupils stress.'
- 3.3.10 **Concern:** 'I see this is a positive move for SEN children in Leeds. My only concern is that children with autism need small, calm areas to learn.'

**Response:** The increasing number of children and young people with autism spectrum conditions in Leeds was one of the key factors instigating these proposals, as these conditions appear to be increasing in prevalence more significantly than other types of condition. Should the expansions proceed as proposed, the building planning process would give regard to best practice in building design for the needs of learners with these specific conditions.

3.3.11 **Concern:** That increased numbers of children and young people accessing the school would have a negative impact on traffic in the local area.

**Response:** An additional 50 places could mean an increase in traffic to transport these children to and from school, although it is worth noting that some of the minibuses currently transporting children do not run at full capacity and some of the additional children may use those minibuses. If the proposal progresses, there would be a need to liaise further with the Planning and Highways team regarding any measures required to manage these issues effectively. This liaison has commenced, at risk, in order to ensure issues are mitigated effectively.

3.3.12 **Concern:** That any changes to the building could affect the public footpath next to the building. The footpath is very well used for access to local shops.

**Response:** As the footpath is a public right of way, it will be necessary, if these proposals go ahead, to work with the Planning and Highways team to discuss what is and is not possible in terms of how the new building interacts with the footpath. It may be possible to avoid any changes to the footpath. Any changes to a public right of way would need to go through a full statutory process of consultation so that members of the local community have an opportunity to put their views forward.

3.3.13 **Proposal two:** expansion of the West Oaks SEN Specialist School and College from a capacity of 200 to 350 pupils by the creation of an additional site for 150 children and young people aged 2 to 16 on the former Blenheim Centre, with effect from September 2015. This is in response to the rising birth rate in the centre of Leeds, which in turn has led to increased number of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in that area requiring specialist educational provision.

3.3.14 The governing body has given their full support for this proposal.

3.3.15 Written consultation responses were sought within the same form for both the proposal to expand the South SILC, and the proposal to expand the West Oaks SEN Specialist School and College, as both proposals respond to a shortage of appropriate specialist provision in Leeds for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. 18 responses were received and all of them were positive in their response to the question "Do you agree with the proposal to expand the West Oaks SEN Specialist School and College?"

3.3.16 Meetings were also held as part of the consultation process and were publicised widely. Meetings included a drop-in which was attended by 4 people, a public meeting which was not attended by any members of the public, and a meeting with the whole staff team. The School Council meeting was also attended to ask young people their views.

- 3.3.17 Comments made and concerns raised and responded to at meetings were as follows:
- 3.3.18 **Comment:** 'I think (the proposed expansion will benefit the SEN provision in Leeds) it will be a good thing for the local community.'
- 3.3.19 **Comment:** 'The expansion (of the West Oaks SEN Specialist School and College) sounds very promising...the number of pupils needing specialist provision is increasing and these proposals provide a way of handling that growth.'
- 3.3.20 **Concern:** some parents may be concerned that the number of pupils (on roll at the school) will go from 200 to 350.  
**Response:** it should be emphasised that the additional places would be on the new site at the Blenheim centre, not at the existing site which would not be affected by these proposals.
- 3.3.21 **Concern:** there was some concern that the proposals might mean that the current West Oaks site is going to close, or might be interpreted in that way.  
**Response:** There are no intentions to close the current West Oaks site. The proposals are for an additional site, not a replacement, as more places are needed across the city than there is current capacity for in all the existing SILCs. The new site would provide new places for people who live in or near the centre of the city.
- 3.3.22 **Concern:** Discussion took place on whether the new building on the Blenheim site would be limited by the amount of funding received from the EFA.  
**Response:** We have been able to bring forward the expansion proposal and the project to deliver the physical solution because we have received grant funding from the EFA; however it is already known that the grant alone cannot deliver a suitable building solution without additional funding being provided by LCC. The design process for the building and site are underway; and whilst it is recognised that there are a number of constraints that will limit the development; including the size of the area of site within LCC ownership; it is considered that the project can be delivered to meet the needs of the pupils. There may be potential for future phases of work that are not directly linked to grant funding with timescales for expenditure to be brought forward by the school in collaboration with the relevant LCC departments.
- 3.3.23 **Concern:** concern was raised by the governors of another specialist school, the West Leeds SILC, regarding sustainability of their school longer term given that the proposed expansion at the Blenheim site is geographically close to the West SILC.  
**Response:** Currently the birth rate continues to rise and has done for the past 10 years. Therefore we are not expecting a reduction in current levels of demand for several years. Unfortunately we are not able to predict birth rates in the next decade but we know that we must cater for the forthcoming cohorts of children born in recent years who are yet to enter the school system. We expect there to be a significant rise in demand for places at all of the Leeds SILCs for several years, given that all are currently operating at full capacity and demand continues to rise

for places across the city based upon the increased percentage of a growing child population that has SEN..

3.3.24 **Concern:** concern was also raised by the governors of the West Leeds SILC that the proposed Blenheim site could become specialised in its practice and that this would impact the other SILCs and their provision.

**Response:** We know we have rising demand for provision across many different needs due to the higher levels of SEN in the population, and the rising birth rate. The current proposal is for provision that meets generic needs, to meet that demand. It supports the current strategy for Leeds is to provide generic provision within Leeds SILCs.

3.3.25 **Concern:** concern was also raised by the governors of the West Leeds SILC that there could be an impact on (their) school's budget through changing pupil numbers (i.e. if the number of pupils attending the West SILC reduced due to the expansions) – everything is very unknown at the moment.

**Response:** As previously described, the proposal is brought forward because there is a rising demand for places, arising due to both increasing proportions of children with SEN, and also a rising population. This change is brought forward because extra capacity is needed to meet long term demand for places in all the SILCs across the city, and is not to redistribute provision.

3.3.26 We cannot meet this demand through our existing SILCs so are proposing to expand some of our SILC provision to meet rising demands. We expect any new places provided to be additional to, not an alternative to, our existing available places in SILCs. We do not expect there to be major changes to the numbers of pupils at other SILCs, including the West SILC, as a result of these proposals. Therefore we would not expect major changes to funding linked to pupil numbers.

3.3.27 We will continue to communicate with all specialist education providers as we develop our strategy to meet the significant demands of our rising population.

#### **Part D: Outcome of Statutory Notice on a proposal to expand Pudsey Primrose Hill Primary School from September 2015**

3.4.1 The statutory notice is the final step of the statutory process. The notice in relation to expanding Pudsey Primrose Hill Primary School was published on Friday 4 October 2013. The notice expired on Friday 1 November 2013. A final decision must be made within 2 months of the expiry of the notices, i.e. by 1 January 2014, and this report seeks a final decision on the proposals.

3.4.2 The public consultation ran from 3 June to 12 July 2013 and the report to the Executive Board in September 2013 considered the responses received and approved the publication of the statutory notice.

3.4.3 A total of 11 responses were received during the public consultation and all were in favour of the proposal. Some concerns were raised during the consultation meetings regarding internal and external space issues, as well as potential disruption during building works. The previous report to Executive Board stated how these concerns may be addressed and there was confidence that the issues

raised could be addressed and therefore approval to publish a statutory notice was given.

3.4.4 There have been no representations received in response to the statutory notice.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

4.1.1 The consultations in relation to Part A, B and C have been managed in accordance with all relevant legislation and local practice. The proposals were advertised widely. The statutory notice described in Part D of the report was published in the newspaper, notices placed on the school gate as well as being advertised in the community. Information was also placed on the Leeds City Council website.

4.1.2 Ward members in all wards city wide were formally consulted during the public consultation stage, both individually, and through area committees, where appropriate, to ensure awareness of all proposals city wide and improved understanding of the impact of proposals in neighbouring areas.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

#### **Part A**

4.2.1 The screening form for the Calverley C of E Primary expansion proposal has previously been published as part of a report to the Executive Board in July 2013. It is therefore not attached to this report.

#### **Part B**

4.2.2 The proposal to open specialist provision at Moor Allerton Hall Primary School for pupils who are deaf and hearing impaired would bring about greater continuity in education, social groupings and service provision for deaf and hearing impaired children. It is expected that this will improve their outcomes both academically and socially.

4.2.3 There is no perceived negative effect on deaf and hearing impaired children or their families.

4.2.4 There are no equality implications for staff. The specialist staff deployed in resourced provisions for deaf and hearing impaired children in Leeds are employed directly by the Sensory Service within Complex Needs. Staff move between one area of the service and another to meet children's needs. There will be no enforced staffing changes emanating from this proposal.

4.2.5 The EDCI impact assessment screening tool has been completed and was attached as an Appendix to the original Executive Board report of 4th September 2013.

#### **Part C**

- 4.2.6 The SILC expansions will create better cohesion and integration of children and young people with SEN with their local communities. It will also reduce the current rising numbers of children and young people with SEN accessing school places outside of Leeds and away from their home communities, due to lack of adequate places in provision that would meet their needs in Leeds.
- 4.2.7 The screening form for the SILC expansion proposal has previously been published as part of a report to the Executive Board in September 2013. It is therefore not attached to this report.
- 4.2.8 There is no identified negative impact on equality, diversity, cohesion or integration for pupils, staff or residents.

#### **Part D**

- 4.2.9 The screening form for the Pudsey Primrose Hill proposal has been completed and was submitted as part of the report to May 2013 Executive Board. It is therefore not attached to this report.

#### **4.3 Council policies and City Priorities**

- 4.3.1 The proposals are being brought forward to meet the Council's statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient school places. Providing places close to where children live allows improved accessibility to local and desirable school places, and thus reduces the risk of non-attendance.

#### **4.4 Resources and value for money**

- 4.4.1 The total estimated cost of all four projects is approximately £15.5m. Each project has progressed through early design stages and detailed design will commence if Executive Board approve the publication of the statutory notices. Planning applications and requests for the Authority to spend will follow for each project at the appropriate time.

#### **4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

- 4.5.1 The changes described constitute prescribed changes under the Education and Inspections Act 2006. The consultations have been, and will be, managed in accordance with that legislation and with local practice.
- 4.5.2 This report is subject to call in.

#### **4.6 Risk Management**

- 4.6.1 Parts A, B and C. It is necessary to progress feasibility design work at risk during the public consultation stage; however the decision to proceed to detailed design stages will be dependent on approval to progress to the latter stages of the statutory process. Therefore any delay to the statutory process will increase the risk of delayed delivery of the building solution or financial risk of abortive design fees being incurred. A proportion of the total expected cost of the projects to

expand the South and North East SILC is Targeted Basic Need Grant funding allocated by the EFA for these specific proposals. Any delay to the statutory or design process for these two proposals would increase the risk of this grant funding being reduced or withdrawn. The total amount of grant funding allocated to these projects is approximately £5.6m. Without this additional funding, the projects may not be viable when balanced against other pupil place pressure across the city.

4.6.2 Part C – West Oaks. There are some areas of land within the vicinity of the development that are not within LCC ownership, including an area of the car park to the former Blenheim Centre. It is therefore necessary for officers in Children’s Services, City Development and Asset Management to work closely together to ensure that the project can be delivered within the constraints of the site that is presently within the ownership of the Council. Whilst discussions with adjacent land owners have commenced; as the site layout would be made more logical by the acquisition of additional land; they may not conclude in time to ensure that the terms of the grant funding can be met. It may also not be possible to fund land acquisition costs, as the grant funding allocated cannot be used for this purpose. It is also necessary to ensure that the development does not adversely impact on the public open space that is immediately adjacent to the site; and to achieve this the building footprint is likely to be constrained to the area of the existing Blenheim Centre building.

4.6.3 Part D. There is a statutory time limit for a final decision on these proposals of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014. The proposal has been brought forward in time to allow places to be delivered for 2015. A decision not to proceed at this stage would mean fresh consultation on new proposals, and would mean places could not be delivered in time. The authority’s ability to meet its statutory duty for sufficiency of school places in the short term may also be at risk.

## **5 Conclusions**

5.1 Our ambition is to be the best city in the country. As a vibrant and successful city we will attract new families to Leeds, and making sure that we have enough school places for the children is one of our top priorities. These proposals have been brought forward to meet that need, and following the appropriate consultation we now seek to move them to the next stage. They will ensure that children in Leeds will have the best possible start to their learning, and so deliver our vision of a child friendly city.

### **Part A**

5.2 The issues raised in consultation have been considered, and on balance, the proposal for the expansion of Calverley C of E Primary School from September 2015 remains strong, and addresses sufficiency needs in the immediate area. The issues raised regarding the detailed design have been noted and commented upon in the report and would be addressed further should the proposals be progressed at detailed stage through the planning process. Publication of a statutory notice now could potentially allow a final decision in March 2014, impacting favourably on the delivery of the scheme.

- 5.3 The proposal for changes in Farsley will require a longer statutory notice period, and will not allow for a final decision prior to the period of purdah. In consideration of this, it is therefore proposed the outcome of the Farsley consultation be reported to January's Executive Board meeting. This will also allow more detailed consideration of the counter proposal received.

#### **Part B**

- 5.4 Having received overwhelming backing for the proposal through the consultation process, Children's Services requests permission to move to statutory notice regarding the proposal to open a specialist provision at Moor Allerton Hall Primary School for pupils who are deaf and hearing impaired from September 2014.

#### **Part C**

- 5.5 All feedback received via written responses has been positive and in favour of the proposed expansions, strongly so in many cases. Concerns raised in meetings appear to have been satisfied by responses provided. Therefore it is recommended to proceed with the next steps in the statutory consultation process and publish a statutory notice in respect of each proposal.

#### **Part D**

- 5.6 As detailed in previous reports, support for the proposal to expand Pudsey Primrose Hill Primary School throughout the consultation process was compelling and this is consolidated by the fact that no representations were received during the statutory notice period.

### **6 Recommendations**

Executive Board is asked to:

#### **Part A**

- 6.1 Approve the publication of a statutory notice to expand Calverley C of E Primary School from a capacity of 315 pupils to 420 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 45 to 60 with effect from September 2015.
- 6.2 Note the officer responsible for implementation is the Capacity, Planning and Sufficiency Lead.
- 6.3 Note that a further report detailing the outcome of consultation in Farsley will be taken to January's Executive Board.

#### **Part B**

- 6.4 Approve the publication of a statutory notice to open a specialist provision at Moor Allerton Hall Primary School for pupils who are deaf and hearing impaired from September 2014.



6.5 Note the officer responsible for implementation is the Sensory Service Lead.

### **Part C**

6.6 Approve the publication of a statutory notice to expand the Broomfield South SILC from a capacity of 200 to 250 pupils with effect from September 2015 using a site adjacent to the school, Broom Court (Broom Place, Leeds, LS10 3JP).

6.7 Approve the publication of a statutory notice to expand the West Oaks SEN Specialist School and College from a capacity of 200 to 350 pupils with effect from September 2015 by the creation of an additional site for 150 children and young people aged 2 to 16 on the former Blenheim Centre (Crowther Place, Leeds, West Yorkshire).

6.8 Note the officer responsible for implementation is the Best Practice Development Officer.

### **Part D**

6.9 Approve the expansion of Pudsey Primrose Hill Primary School from a capacity of 315 pupils to 420 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 45 to 60 with effect from September 2015.

6.10 Note the officer responsible for implementation is the Capacity, Planning and Sufficiency Lead.

## **7 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

7.1 7.1 There are no background papers to this report.

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.