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## Report of Chief Executive, Education Leeds

Meeting: East ( Inner) Area Committee

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009

Subject: Consultation on expansion of Primary provision in the Inner East

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**Electoral Wards Affected:**  
Burmantofts and Richmond Hill

Ward Members consulted  
(referred to in report)

**Specific Implications For:**

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council  
Function

Delegated Executive  
Function available  
for Call In

Delegated Executive  
Function not available for  
Call In Details set out in the  
report

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the Area Committee with the consultation documents on proposals for the expansion of primary provision in the inner east, including Richmond Hill Primary School, Victoria Primary School, Ebor Gardens Primary School

The consultation documents appended form the basis of the report. Members of the Area Committee are asked to consider this and comment on the expansion proposals.

### Purpose of This Report

1. The consultation document appended forms the basis of this report.
2. The consultation document asks for comments on proposals to permanently expand Victoria Primary School from 50 to 60 per year group and Ebor Gardens from 30 to 60 per year group in 2010, and Richmond Hill Primary School from 60 to 90 per year group with effect from September 2012.
3. **Background Information**  
Leeds City Council has a legal duty to provide school places for every child in the city taking into account where those children live and may want to attend school. Pupil projections for the area are contained in the consultation documents.

4. The consultation period for both sets of proposals (2010 and 2012 changes) runs from Monday 2 November 2009 to Friday 11 December 2009. Education Leeds are holding meetings to gather the views of schools, families, young people, governors, and the general public to create opportunities to debate the proposals and ask questions. The findings from the consultation will be presented to the council's Executive Board.

5. **Main Issues**

All the issues are described in full in the consultation document. In addition, the following points should be noted:

6. Detailed plans for the schemes are not yet available. Education Leeds is in the process of procuring a framework to deliver the design and build of the accommodation necessary to realise these expansions, and has to wait until the proposals have been approved before committing to the delivery of those schemes. Any schemes involving building works will be subject to the normal planning permission process, allowing any interested parties to comment, and schools are fully involved in the design of the schemes. At present it is anticipated that the schemes will involve:

**Victoria:** removal of the existing three-classroom modular unit to be replaced by a two-storey, five-classroom block.

**Ebor Gardens:** provision of a seven-classroom block

**Richmond Hill:** the new school being built under the Primary Capital Programme to be designed and built as a three form of entry (90 children across three classes in reception) school.

7. The demographic data suggests further provision is needed beyond these proposals, and this is unlikely to be solved purely through the traditional approach of expanding existing schools. Long-term planning for the area is ongoing, and whilst some options are still at an exploratory stage, this includes
- option appraisal on the expansion of Cross Gates Primary school from 30 per year group to 60 per year group, with a view to consulting on proposals for expansion in 2011.
  - working with the EASEL team to consider the impact of new housing.
  - identifying sites / other buildings and interested parties to run new schools or split site / federated schools.
  - collaboration with all primary, Early Years and secondary providers to optimise overall use of space.
  - secondary planning for when the increased numbers work through to high school – this needs to be linked for changes to the 14-19 provision, and BSF plans.

We are establishing a new process for working with all schools and other stakeholders on an area-by-area basis to respond to trends and to plan and deliver a place at a local school for every child in the city. We consider engaging Area Committees and ward members as essential to this process.

8. **Implications For Council Policy and Governance**

All the issues are described in the Executive Board reports considered in October 2009, which gave permission to consult on the proposals. The local authority has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places. In planning that capacity, they need to take into account where those children live and where they might want to attend school.

9. **Legal and Resource Implications**

All the issues are described in the Executive Board reports considered in October 2009, which gave permission to consult on the proposals.

10. **Recommendations**

The Area Committee is requested to

- Note and consider the report appended
- Consider any response they wish to make as a part of the consultation

**Background Papers**

Executive Board Report 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Proposal for statutory consultation for the expansion of primary provision for September 2010, and Proposal for the expansion of Richmond Hill Primary School for September 2012.