

# PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS: Information to be included in a complete proposal

## The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013:

### In respect of an LA Proposal: School and local authority details

1. The name, address and category of the school and a contact address for the local authority who are publishing the proposals.

The proposal to expand the school by extending the age range from 3 – 7 years to 3 – 11 years, increasing the capacity of the school from 270 primary aged pupils to 630 pupils at Deepdale Community Infant School, St Stephen's Rd, Preston, PR1 6TD from 1 January 2015 is published by Lancashire County Council, the relevant local authority. The authority can be contacted at the following address: Directorate for Children and Young People, Provision Planning Team, Room B34, PO Box 61, County Hall, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 8RJ.

### 2. Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

- (a) 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.
- (b) 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 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

The implementation date for this proposal is 1 January 2015.

### Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —
  - (a) the date prescribed by which objections or comments should be sent to the local authority; and
  - (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

These proposals have been prepared following discussions with a wide range of partners and other stakeholders. Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals any person may object to, or comment on the proposals by sending their representations to the Directorate of Children and Young People, Provision Planning Team, Room B34, PO Box 61, County Hall, Preston PR1 8RJ. Responses can also be emailed to [cyp.schoolreviews@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:cyp.schoolreviews@lancashire.gov.uk) to be considered as part of the decision making process to determine the outcome of the proposals, responses must be received no later than Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

### 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.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014, the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools approved the commencement of informal consultation on a proposal to expand Deepdale Infant School by extending the age range and forming a primary school, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

If the proposal is approved, the age range of Deepdale Infant School will be extended from 3 – 7 years to 3 – 11 years to become a primary school with a capacity for 630 pupils. The primary school will be accommodated in the existing infant school building and the building of Deepdale Junior School which it is proposed will close with effect from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014. All pupils currently on roll at either school will automatically be transferred on to the roll of the new primary school.

These proposals are linked and must be considered in conjunction with one another.

### School capacity

5. The proposals should 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;

The current capacity of the infant school is 270 and the proposed capacity will be 630.

- (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 current published admission number for the school is 90. The proposed admission number for the enlarged school will be 90.

- (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;

N/A

- (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.

N/A

- (e) a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

In June 2014, the number of pupils on roll at the infant school was 268.

### Additional site

6. (a) 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.

The current existing junior school building will become part of the proposed primary school.

(b) 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.

N/A

## Objectives

7. The objectives of the proposals.

There are a number of concerns in relation to Deepdale Junior School that now require the local authority to consider its future. Lancashire County Council's 'Strategy for School Places and School's Capital Investment 2014/15 to 2016/17' identifies concerns around educational and financial viability as being reasons for making a closure proposal and the school's most recent Ofsted inspection places some urgency around the consideration of the school's future.

Recently Deepdale Junior School has been experiencing difficulties in terms of its educational performance.

Deepdale Junior School currently has a published admission number of 90. The capacity of the school is 347 and there are currently 338 pupils on roll.

After discussions with local authority officers, the Governing Body of Deepdale Infant School is proposing to extend the age range of Deepdale Infant School from 3 – 7 years to 3 – 11 years and to expand the capacity of the school from 270 pupils to 630 pupils, by utilising the current Junior School building, with effect from 1 January 2015. The proposal is being made in conjunction with the proposal made by the Governing Body of Deepdale Junior School, in order to provide alternative local provision, should the proposal to close Deepdale Junior School be approved. This is a school led proposal and the proposal has the full support of the head teacher and Governing Body.

## Expansion of successful and popular schools

8. (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 paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

Since 2001 Deepdale Infant School has been inspected by Ofsted on 4 occasions, with the last inspection conducted in November 2013. In each of these Ofsted inspections the school has received an overall effectiveness rating of 'good', with achievement of pupils; quality of teaching; behaviour and safety of pupils; and leadership and management all receiving a 'good' rating.

## Consultation

9. 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.

The consultation document was widely circulated to staff, governors, parents/guardians and pupils of the school subject to the proposals. Head teachers and governors of other local schools in Lancashire were all consulted as were members of local city council. A full list of consultees is detailed on page 8 of the consultation document which forms an integral element to these complete proposals.

An appointment led event, rather than a public meeting, was held between 3pm and 7.30pm on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at Deepdale Infant School. This format of meeting is preferred as it allows the authority to manage the process effectively, minimise waiting times and ensure that appropriate officers are available to offer any interested parties, either individually or in small groups, advice and guidance to enable them to gain a better understanding on all of the aspects of the proposals.

A children's consultation was also distributed via the school in which pupils of the school were asked to express their opinion on the proposal.

The views from the meeting and the written responses to the consultation are detailed and analysed in the report to the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools that was considered on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2014 and forms an integral element to these complete proposals.

Consultation documents were widely circulated in hard copy and were made available on the following website: [www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolorganisationreviews](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolorganisationreviews)

This website has been updated and now allows access to the public notice and complete proposal documentation for these proposals.

The local authority ensured that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with.

## Project costs

**10.** 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 authority, and any other party.

There will be requirement for some remodelling of the accommodation to bring the adjoining sites together and establish the newly phased primary school. The relevant budget holds sufficient funds to meet these costs.

**11.** A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local education authority and the Education Funding Agency (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

The authority will be able to confirm funding availability once the capital programme has been agreed, but the site is already within the authority's ownership.

## Age range

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

(2)

The current age range of the infant school is 3 – 7 years.

The proposed age range of the infant school is 3 – 11 years.