

## Appendix 'A'

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 number of places at Lancaster Road Primary School, (Community), Lancaster Road, Morecambe, LA4 5TH from 420 to 630 pupils 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, PR1 8RJ, Lancashire.

#### 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<sup>st</sup> September 2016.

#### 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 proposals, responses must be received no later than Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

### **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.

In response to increases in pupil numbers as a result of increased birth rates, on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2014 the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools approved the temporary expansion of Lancaster Road Primary School, to provide an additional 30 places in reception year from September 2015 for one year. The temporary expansion will be enabled by using existing accommodation.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2014 the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools also approved the consultation on a proposal to permanently expand Lancaster Road Primary School, to admit 30 additional pupils to each reception year with effect from September 2016. Should the permanent expansion be approved, then additional permanent accommodation will be provided on the existing school site.

If the permanent expansion is approved the capacity of the primary school will be increased from 420 to 630, by increasing the admission number from 60 to 90.

This expansion is required to help address the projected shortfall in school places. The expansion of Lancaster Road Primary School will help to provide additional pupil places to meet the demand from September 2016 onwards.

The permanent expansion of Lancaster Road Primary School would lead to the capacity of the school being permanently expanded by 30 additional reception places each year with effect from September 2016. This would increase the admission number to 90, leading to the school's overall capacity gradually increasing from 420 places to 630 places.

## 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 school is 420 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 60. 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 October 2014, the number of pupils on roll was 411.

## **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.

No new or additional site would be required. The area of the existing site is sufficient to allow for the proposed expansion of the building while still maintaining adequate play and sports spaces.

- 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.

In response to increases in pupil numbers as a result of increased birth rates the objective of the proposal is to permanently expand the school to admit 30 additional pupils to each reception year with effect from September 2016, through the provision of additional permanent accommodation on the existing school site. The expansion would increase the school's admission number to 90, leading to Lancaster Road Primary School's capacity gradually increasing from 420 to 630.

## **Need or demand for additional places**

8. If the proposals involve adding places:

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the need or demand for the particular places in the area;

As a result of the recent growth in the number of births in the local area, the number of school places currently available will not be enough to meet the increased demand as the children reach school age. This is the case in

Morecambe area. Therefore, additional permanent places are needed in this area. The approval of the proposal to permanently expand Lancaster Road Primary School will help to address this demand and ensure so far as is reasonably possible that every child is provided with a school place in close proximity to their home.

- (b) where the school has a religious character, a statement and supporting evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion or religious denomination;

N/A

- (c) where the school adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with the philosophy in question and any associated change to the admission arrangements for the school.

N/A

## 9. Expansion of successful and popular schools

- (a) 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.
- (b) 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.

Lancaster Road Primary School, Morecambe is a successful and popular community primary school. In response to an increase in the Morecambe and Heysham birth rate, a Basic Need expansion scoping exercise was carried out in the area during mid-2014. Following this exercise and after consultation with primary schools in the Morecambe and Heysham area, it was concluded that Lancaster Road Primary School offered the most appropriate location for school expansion to meet the shortfall in the area. The school has been over-subscribed for at least the past 3 years and has achieved a 'Good' rating in its last Ofsted inspection. There is a forecasted increasing demand for reception places. Consultations have confirmed the support for the expansion of this school. Lancashire County Council does consider that the presumption for

the expansion of this school should apply.

## Consultation

**10.** 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. Headteachers 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 8pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at Lancaster Road Primary 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.

LCC officers met with the Headteacher in the run up to consulting on these proposals. The Headteacher and Chair of Governors then discussed this at subsequent Governing Body meetings and the governors were reported to be in support of the proposals.

A children's consultation was undertaken by the school, in which pupils of the school were asked to express their opinion on the proposal.

The views from the meetings, the written responses to the consultations, and the children's consultation are detailed and analysed in the report to the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools that was considered on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015. This 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.

Copies of the consultation were put on deposit at the school, local libraries and town halls. Additional hard copies were available from County Hall.

All relevant statutory requirements regarding consultation on these proposals were complied with.

As a result of the recent growth in the number of births in the local area, the number of school places currently available will not be enough to meet the increased demand as the children reach school age. This is the case in Morecambe area. Therefore, additional permanent places are needed in this area. The approval of the proposal to permanently expand Lancaster Road Primary School will help to address this demand and ensure so far as is reasonably possible that every child is provided with a school place in close proximity to their home. Due to the increased demand for school places in the area it is considered that the proposed expansion will have no adverse effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area.

## **Project costs**

- 11.** 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.

The delivery of additional primary school places will require capital funding. The basic provision of places is the highest priority in terms of allocating capital funding and previous capital allocations and processes indicate that funding would be available for this type of project. It is anticipated that a project to extend the accommodation at the school will cost in the region of £3.2 million. This funding has been identified within the current capital programme.

- 12.** 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.

