

**REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL****SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL PROVISION IN WEST BRIDGFORD****Purpose of the Report**

1. To request a variation of £445,000 to the Children and Young People's capital programme to enable detailed analysis, site surveys and feasibility studies to be undertaken to determine the deliverability and estimated costs for the proposed construction in the West Bridgford planning area of a new secondary school and a relocated and enlarged Lady Bay Primary School.

**Information**

2. Nottinghamshire County Council has a statutory duty to secure a sufficiency of school places for all children of statutory school age (5-16 years old) whose parents want them to be educated in a state-funded school. As the Council's role shifts to that of being a 'commissioner' of school places, it will be necessary to work in a different way with a diverse range of providers and different models of governance. The future landscape of education provision in Nottinghamshire will be a 'mixed economy' approach, characterised by a wide variety of schools, academies and other providers.
3. The pupil place demand information appended to this report demonstrates a continuing need for an additional 511 primary phase places in the West Bridgford planning area. Demand is greatest in the Edwalton School catchment which is the location of the Sharphill housing development. Demand for school places in this area will be mitigated by the establishment of the 315 place Rosecliffe School which is due to open in September 2020. Despite the expansion of provision on this site, data from projections and historical precedent shows that there continues to be an unmet need in this planning area. The existing Lady Bay primary school cannot be expanded to meet projected demand due to the restricted nature of the site. As such, it is appropriate to explore the potential relocation and enlargement of Lady Bay primary school as a 630 place (3 Form Entry (FE)).

**Way Forward**

4. Based on the identified immediate need for a 2 FE Primary School and allowing for future expansion up to a 3 FE the Council now needs to identify a suitable site of a minimum of 3 Hectares (7.41 acres) in the West Bridgford planning area for a relocated and enlarged Lady Bay Primary School.

5. In addition, at its meeting in September Policy Committee approved the need for a third secondary school in the West Bridgford planning area and gave approval to work being undertaken to identify a suitable site to accommodate the new school. The initial need for the secondary school provision is for a 5 FE with potential to expand up to a 7 FE which will require identification of a site of a minimum of 7.5 Hectares (18.53 acres).
6. In order to undertake the necessary site identification, surveys, feasibility and initial layout/design works, capital funding is required. The total cost for this work is estimated to be £445,000. Early planning work carried out thus far indicates that subject to the outcome of the work set out in this report and to committee and planning approval the primary school and secondary school could open between 2023-25.
7. Further reports will be brought back as appropriate to update Members and seek any additional approvals required.

### **Other Options Considered**

8. As detailed in this report, the options to expand the existing Lady Bay Primary School have been assessed and are rejected, as detailed in the report.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

9. To enable an appropriate strategy to be put in place to ensure that primary and secondary school pupils can be accommodated in West Bridgford and the wider Rushcliffe District.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

10. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Financial Implications**

11. The financial implications are set out in this report. It is proposed that the required funding will be drawn from Council capital resources.

### **Implications for Service Users**

12. The provision of additional school places within the West Bridgford planning area will help to ensure pupils can be accommodated at their school of choice.

## RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Children and Young People's capital programme be varied by £445,000 to enable detailed analysis, site surveys and feasibility studies to be undertaken to determine the deliverability and estimated costs for the proposed construction in the West Bridgford planning area of a new secondary school and a relocated and enlarged Lady Bay Primary School.
- 2) That a report summarising the outcomes of the analysis, site surveys and feasibility studies be submitted to a future meeting of Policy Committee

### **COUNCILLOR MRS KAY CUTTS, MBE** **Leader of the Council**

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### **Constitutional Comments [KK 16/01/2020]**

13. The proposals in this report are within the remit of the Policy Committee.

### **Financial Comments (GB 31/01/2020)**

14. It is proposed that the £445,000 feasibility costs will be funded from Nottinghamshire County Council capital resources. Any feasibility works that are not directly attributable to the resultant capital project will be classed as abortive fees and will need to be funded from a revenue budget. If this is the case, these costs will be met from within the Corporate Property revenue budget.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- Proposed Basic Need Programme of School Expansions 2018/19 – report to Children and Young People's Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017
- Basic Need Allocation for the Rushcliffe School - report to Policy Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019
- Secondary School Provision in West Bridgford – report to Policy Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

West Bridgford North	Councillor E. Plant
West Bridgford South	Councillor J. Wheeler
West Bridgford West	Councillor G. Wheeler