

DECISION RECORD

Subject: To decide whether to initiate a public consultation on a proposal to change the age range of Widford School, Ware Road, Widford, Hertfordshire, SG12 8RE, to allow nursery-aged children to be admitted from the age of 2.

Staff Contact: Samantha Young

Executive Member: Terry Douris

Tel: 01992 555754

Portfolio: Executive Member for Education,
Libraries & Localism

1. **Decision**

To initiate a public consultation on a proposal to change the age range of Widford School, Ware Road, Widford, Hertfordshire, SG12 8RE, ["the school"] a community school, by changing the age range from 4 to 11 years to 2 to 11 years thereby allowing nursery-aged children to be admitted from the age of 2.

The implementation date, should the Local Authority not receive any objections to the proposals contained in the subsequent statutory notice, will be the 8th January 2018; however should the Local Authority receive objections to the proposals contained in the statutory notice, the implementation date will be the 5th February 2018, subject to any agreed alterations.

2. **Reasons for the decision**

Owlets Pre-School, the only pre-school provision in the village of Widford offering free early-education places for 2 and 3-year-olds, is closing at the end of July 2017. This proposal to change the age range of Widford School from 4 to 11 years to 2 to 11 years will enable the school to offer free early-education places for these children to ensure continued provision in the local area. This proposal is at the request of the governing body of Widford School.

3. **Alternative options considered and rejected**

None

4. **Consultation**

(a) **Comments of Executive Member**

None

(b) **Comments of other consultees**

None

5. **Following consultation with, and the concurrence of the Executive Member, I am proceeding with the proposed decision.**

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Sir

Title: Jenny Coles
Director of Children's Services

Jonathan Director of Education

Date: 8th June 2017

6. Copies of agreed document to:

- The Headteacher & Chair of Governors of Widford School
- The Office of the Schools Adjudicator (osa.team@osa.gsi.gov.uk)
- The Diocese of Westminster (John Paul (JP) Morrison: jpmorrison@rcdow.org.uk)
- The Diocese of St Albans (David Morton: dde@stalbans.anglican.org)
- Assistant Head of Member Services - Room 214, County Hall (elaine.shell@hertfordshire.gov.uk) - Hard & electronic copy (for public inspection both at County Hall and on the Hertfordshire County Council website)