



Decision Ref. No.

(Please enter)

B123/18

DECISION RECORD

Officer Key Decisions are subject to the Council's Call-In Procedure (Annex 9 of the Council's Constitution <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/freedom-of-information-and-council-data/open-data-statistics-about-hertfordshire/who-we-are-and-what-we-do/who-we-are-and-what-we-do.aspx>)

Subject: Whether or not to agree to a proposal following the publishing of statutory notices to close the Primary Support Bases at The Reddings Primary School and Bowmansgreen School and create new services at Dacorum Education Support Centre in Hemel Hempstead and at Links Academy, (Woollams Crescent) in St Albans, respectively.

Staff Contact: Phil Brunt

Executive Member: Terry Douris

Tel: 01992 588437

Portfolio: Executive Member for Education, Libraries & Localism

1. Decision

The Director of Children's Services has decided to agree a proposal to close two primary support bases (PSBs) following a public consultation and statutory notice period. The first is currently located at Reddings Primary School, Bennetts End Road, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP3 8DX and serves the Dacorum area. Once closed it is proposed that a new service is to be commissioned from the Dacorum Education Support Centre (DESC), to provide both out-reach services to local schools and in-reach service for respite provision, if required, which would be located at its site at 30 Tenzing Road, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP2 4HS.

The second PSB is currently located at Bowmansgreen Primary School, Telford Road, London Colney, St Albans Hertfordshire, AL2 1PH and serves the St Albans area. Once closed it is proposed that a similar new service is to be commissioned from the Links Academy with any respite provision located at its site at Woollam Crescent, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 6EJ.

2. Reasons for the decision

Both PSBs are based in mainstream primary schools which are no longer able to meet service needs. Both base schools, the county council and local head teachers in each area consider that the closure of the bases and the re-commissioning of new services would have a positive impact for pupils and schools in the areas, with the opportunity of providing enhanced education opportunities and improved facilities. New accommodation is to be provided on the site of both Links Academy and DESC with designated outside space, offices and meeting rooms as well as class bases.

Both proposed new services are located within the same district as the existing PSB locations and so are accessible to students from these areas. The launch of a new service would have a positive impact for the pupils it serves and for staff, by enabling the re-provision of the services and by providing enhanced education opportunities and improved facilities.

DECISION RECORD

3. **Alternative options considered and rejected**

None

4. **Consultation**

(a) **Comments of Executive Member**

The Executive Member has no comments other than to concur with the Director's decision.

(b) **Comments of other consultees**

None

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

Signed:

Title: Jenny Coles, Director of Children's Services

Date: 16th November 2018

6. **Copies of agreed document to:**

- Elaine Shell, Democratic Services Manager, Room 213, Old Block, County Hall (signed paper original). Electronic copy to Democratic.Services@hertfordshire.gov.uk

and following the expiry of the call-in period to:

- Executive Member(s) - Councillor Terry Douris and/or Councillor Teresa Heritage; other Executive Members (as appropriate)
- Local Member; other Local Members (as appropriate)
- Chair (Councillor David Andrews), and Vice-Chairs (Councillors Kareen Hastrick and Roma Mills) of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Office of the Schools Adjudicator (osa.team@osa.gsi.gov.uk)
- The governing body / proposers (as appropriate) – email to school head teacher to forward to chair of governors for distribution to governing body members
- The trustees of the school (if any)
- The local Church of England diocese - Canon David Morton, Director of Education, Diocese of St Albans (dde@stalbans.anglican.org)
- The local Roman Catholic diocese - Mr JP Morrison, Director of Education, Diocese of Westminster (jpmorrison@rcdow.org.uk)
- DfE (SchoolOrganisation.NOTIFICATIONS@education.gov.uk) but only for certain types of statutory proposal
- The parents/carers of every registered pupil at the school (but only where the school is a special school)
- Any other body that is deemed appropriate (e.g. other relevant faith organisation)