

Additional Information for Members – Factors to be Considered by Decision Makers

Using relevant extracts from Department for Education (DfE) Statutory Guidance - 'Expanding a Maintained Mainstream School'

The information presented below is intended to assist Members in their decision-making on the proposals to expand Wilmslow Grange Community Primary and Nursery from 210 to 315 school places and Dean Oaks Primary from 315 to 420 school places. Please refer to the DfE 'Extract of Decision Makers' Guidance' (**Annex 7**)

1 EFFECT ON STANDARDS AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

DfE Guidance	Extracted Paragraph/s	Current Position	Impact of Expansion
A System Shaped by Parents The Government's aim as set out in the Five Year Strategy for Education and Learners and the schools White Paper Higher Standards, Better Schools for All, is to create a school system shaped by parents which delivers excellence and equity. In particular the Government wishes to see a dynamic system in which weak schools that need to be closed are closed quickly and replaced by new ones where necessary; and the best schools are able to expand and spread their ethos and success.	4.17	Last Ofsted Inspection for Wilmslow Grange Community Primary and Nursery was June 2013 when the school was categorised as Good Last Ofsted Inspection for Dean Oaks Primary was May 2013 when the school was categorised as Good.	The local authority has no reason to believe that the proposed expansion of either school would result in an overall change to the Ofsted categories in the future.
The EIA 2006 amends the Education Act 1996 to place duties on LAs to secure diversity in the provision of schools and to increase opportunities for parental choice when planning the provision of schools in their areas.	4.18	The Wilmslow Local Area Partnership (LAP) covers the areas of Wilmslow and Alderley Edge. Overall the LAP consists of 10 primary schools and 1 secondary school and the total primary school capacity across the LAP is currently 2498. Both schools are located in the	These proposals were identified to address a Basic Need in the Wilmslow area and in particular the north area of the town to ensure that the Authority meets its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places for its residents in this area of the Borough.

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<p>In addition, LAs are under a specific duty to respond to representations from parents about the provision of schools, including requests to establish new schools or make changes to existing schools. The Government's aim is to secure a more diverse and dynamic schools system which is shaped by parents. The Decision Maker should take into account the extent to which the proposals are consistent with the new duties on LAs.</p>	<p>Handforth area of Wilmslow where the demand for places indicates that the schools have insufficient capacity.</p> <p>For September 2013 Reception admission the Local Authority admitted over the Published Admission Number at a number of schools, including Wilmslow Grange and Dean Oaks, to ensure that local children could access a school within a reasonable distance to their home address.</p> <p>Although the Local Authority has taken measures to alleviate the immediate shortfall, further long term measures are necessary to accommodate the anticipated increase in demand due to population growth in the area</p> <p>The May 2013 pupil census indicates that there are currently 2426 pupils attending the 10 schools providing an overall surplus of just over 3.4%. However, there is a marked difference in surplus between Key Stage 1 and 2 with much of the surplus in the upper year groups and concentrated in a small number of schools.</p>	<p>The proposals, if determined, will provide additional school places in 2 local primary schools and have a significant positive impact on the current projected shortfall in school places.</p>
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		The overall surplus in the Key Stage 1 year groups is -7.2% whilst the overall surplus for Key Stage 2 is 4.6% indicating the pressure on places is amongst the lower year groups and the impact in future years as this increase in demand moves through the schools.	
Decision Makers should be satisfied that proposals for a school expansion will contribute to raising local standards of provision, and will lead to improved attainment for children and young people. Decision-makers should pay particular attention to the effects on groups that tend to under-perform including children from certain ethnic groups, children from deprived backgrounds and children in care, with the aim of narrowing attainment gaps.	4.20	See paragraph 4.17 – 4.18 above	See paragraph 4.17 – 4.18 above
Diversity – The Government's aim is to transform our school system so that every child receives an excellent education – whatever their background and wherever they live. A vital part of the Government's vision is to create a more diverse school system offering excellence and choice, where each school has a strong ethos and sense of mission and acts as a centre of	4.22	See paragraph 4.17 – 4.18 above	See paragraph 4.17 – 4.18 above

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excellence or specialist provision.			
Decision Makers should consider how proposals will impact on local diversity. They should consider the range of schools in the relevant area of the LA and whether the expansion of the school will meet the aspirations of parents, help raise local standards and narrow attainment gaps.	4.23	Of the 10 primary schools in Wilmslow 7 are Community Schools,(including Wilmslow Grange and Dean Oaks) offering a total of 1883 school places, 1 is Voluntary Aided offering 182 places, 1 is Voluntary Controlled offering 133 places and 1 is Academy offering 300 places.	The proposals would increase the total number of available school places amongst the Community schools by 210 places and increase the opportunity for parental preferences to be met.
Every Child Matters – The Decision Maker should consider how proposals will help every child and young person achieve their potential in accordance with “Every Child Matters” principles which are: to be healthy; stay safe; enjoy and achieve; make a positive contribution to the community and society; and achieve economic well-being. This should include considering how the school will provide a wide range of extended services, opportunities for personal development, access to academic and applied learning training, measures to address barriers to participation and support for children and young people with particular needs, e.g. looked after children or children with special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities.	4.24	<u>Wilmslow Grange</u> The school has a 52 place Nursery on site and children are offered the statutory 15 hours per week. In addition a privately run before and after school club operates on site during term time. The school offers a variety of lunch time clubs and a combination of school run and privately operated extra curriculum clubs are offered after school. SEN – Wilmslow Grange has a specialist Resourced Provision for Autism offering 7 places across all year groups. The school is a fully inclusive mainstream primary school with 230 children on roll and excluding the specialist provision no school places are specifically reserved for pupils with	All current arrangements in relation to Nursery provision, before and after provision and any extra curriculum clubs will continue should the proposed expansion go ahead. Although the proposed expansion will not increase capacity in the specialist resourced provision the increased capacity will deliver additional places for mainstream children, including those with special educational needs and thereby the impact of the proposal will have a positive impact on parents and

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		<p>special educational needs or disabilities. Currently the school has 11 statemented children (including 7 in the resourced provision) and 19 children at school action plus / school action on roll which is equivalent to an overall of 13% which is slightly below the Cheshire East average of 15% and below the national average of 20% (data as at 10 September 2013)</p> <p><u>Dean Oaks</u> The school has a privately operated nursery on site offering the parents the statutory 15 hours per week. A privately run before and after school club also operates on site. The school offers a variety of lunch time clubs and a combination of school and privately operated extra curriculum clubs are offered after school.</p> <p><u>SEN –</u> Dean Oaks is a fully inclusive mainstream primary school with 320 children on roll and no school places are specifically reserved for pupils with special educational needs or disabilities. Currently the school has 6 statemented children and 46 children at school action plus / school action on roll</p>	<p>carers seeking places for their children.</p> <p>All current arrangements in relation to Nursery provision, before and after provision and any extra curriculum clubs will continue should the proposed expansion go ahead</p> <p>If the proposal to expand the school is approved, the increased capacity will deliver additional places for all children, including those with special educational needs and thereby the impact of the proposal will have a positive impact on parents and carers seeking places for their children.</p>
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		which is equivalent to an overall of 16% which is in line with the Cheshire East average of 15% and below the national average of 20% (data as at 5 September 2013)	
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2. SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS

Guidance	Paragraph/s	Current Position	Impact of Expansion
Equal Opportunity Issues – The Decision Maker should consider whether there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues that arise from the changes being proposed, for example that where there is a proposed change to single sex provision in an area, there is equal access to single sex provision for the other sex to meet parental demand. Similarly there needs to be a commitment to provide access to a range of opportunities which reflect the ethnic and cultural mix of the area, while ensuring that such opportunities are open to all.	4.27	<p>The local authority is bound by the Admissions Code and regulations which does not allow for any discrimination in respect of sex, race or disability.</p> <p>Based on October 2012 school census data, Wilmslow Grange and Dean Oaks currently has a typical racial make -up which compares to the racial make-up across all Wilmslow Schools.</p> <p>Wilmslow Grange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 89% White • 5% Mixed/Dual Background • 5% Asian or Asian British • 1% Other Groups or Not recorded <p>Dean Oaks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 77%White • 11%Mixed/Dual Background 	<p>The proposed expansions will have a marginally positive impact on young people and parents with a disability because the provision of additional places will overall provide sufficient places closer to peoples places of residence.</p> <p>The proposals will also offer greater parental choice for those families with wider caring responsibilities for household members with a disability.</p> <p>The racial make-up of the schools is not expected to be impacted upon by the proposed expansions and it is expected that the overall impact will be neutral.</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5%Asian or Asian British • 7%Other Groups or Not recorded <p>All Wilmslow Schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 87% White • 5.6% Mixed/Dual Background • 4.3% Asian or Asian British • 0.5% Black or Black British • 2.6% Other Groups or Not recorded 	
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3 NEED FOR PLACES

Guidance	Paragraphs	Current Position	Impact of Expansion
<p>Creating Additional Places –</p> <p>The Decision Maker should consider whether there is a need for the expansion and should consider the evidence presented for the expansion such as planned housing development or demand for provision. The Decision Maker should take into account not only the existence of spare capacity in neighbouring schools, but also the quality and popularity with parents of the schools in which spare capacity exists and evidence of parents'</p>	4.28	<p>The Wilmslow Local Area Partnership (LAP) has 10 primary schools and 1 secondary school covering the areas of Wilmslow, Handforth and Alderley Edge.</p> <p>Pupil forecasts for the Wilmslow LAP indicate an overall shortfall of 227 pupil places by 2018. These forecasts exclude the Local Authority's preferred target of 4% 'operational surplus', which is a level of spare capacity</p>	<p>These schemes were identified to address a Basic Need for school places in the Wilmslow area.</p> <p>The proposed expansions are intended to contribute too much needed additional capacity in an area of the Borough and ensure that the Authority meets its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places in this area.</p> <p>High demand for places requires further</p>

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<p>aspirations for places in the school proposed for expansion. The existence of surplus places in the neighbouring less popular or successful schools should not in itself prevent the addition of new places.</p>	<p>intended to accommodate reasonable journey times to school, some degree of parental choice and flexibility to allow for mid-year entrants. To meet this operational surplus current forecasts based on October 2012 School Census indicates a further 327 pupil places would be required by 2018.</p> <p>There is an increasing demand in the Wilmslow area at the normal point of entry to school (i.e. into the reception class) which is impacting significantly on parental preference and the Authority's ability to comply with its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places for its residents. It is expected that this increase in demand will continue in the coming years with the potential admission pool of 441 pupils by 2015.</p> <p>Some long term measures have already been taken to increase capacity in Wilmslow (this additional capacity is included in the latest forecasts detailed above). This additional capacity has provided an additional 147 pupil places (based on Published Admission Number) in two schools across all year groups. However, the increasing</p>	<p>measures; not only to ensure that there are sufficient places for local children to attend local schools within a reasonable distance, but also to ensure the Local Authority can build in a level of operational surplus, to accommodate reasonable journey times to school, some degree of parental choice, and flexibility to allow for mid-year entrants.</p> <p>The expected shortfall across the 10 primary schools has informed the decision to propose the expansion of Wilmslow Grange and Dean Oaks to provide further accommodation in this area to meet this increasing demand due to population changes.</p> <p>It is important to note that any additional housing in the area will add further pressure on school places. Where additional capacity is required due to increased pupil populations arising out of new housing developments, capital contributions will be sought from developers during the planning application process.</p>
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		demand at the normal point of entry to school, together with the forecast shortfall across all year groups of 227 pupil places by 2018, has necessitated further expansion proposals for this area of the Borough.	
<p>Expansion of Successful and Popular Schools-</p> <p>The Government is committed to ensuring that every parent can choose an excellent school for their child. They have made clear that the wishes of parents should be taken into account in planning and managing school places. Places should be allocated where parents want them, and as such, it should be easier for successful and popular schools to grow to meet parental demand</p> <p>For the purposes of the guidance the Secretary of State does not propose any single definition of a successful and popular school. It is for the Decision Maker to decide whether a school is successful and popular, however, the following indicators should be taken into account.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The schools performance 2. The number of applications for places. 	4.31	<p>When considering which schools to expand the Authority has given consideration to a number of issues including the number of pupils in each school's catchment area and the community's ability to sustain the school, the number of first preferences received for each school as an indication of popularity and the current size of the school and capacity to expand; the latter taking into account site suitability, and the latest Ofsted inspections. Suitable schools also needed to be central to the areas where the extra places are required.</p> <p>Wilmslow Grange Community Primary and Nursery</p> <p>Wilmslow Grange is a successful school achieving a "Good" category from Ofsted at the last inspection in June 2013 Demand for places from local residents and the number of children resident in the schools catchment area has been increasing in recent years.</p>	The proposals, if approved, will provide additional school places in 2 "good" local primary schools affording access to the local schools for local children

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		<p>For 2012 and 2013, the number of children resident in the school's catchment area has been double the 30 places available.</p> <p>For the last 4 years the number of first preference applications has exceeded the 30 places available in the reception class and for admission in 2012 the Local Authority, in agreement with the school, admitted 44 pupils to ensure that local children could access a school place within a reasonable distance from their home address.</p> <p>No extra accommodation was provided to the school at that time and to accommodate these additional children the school converted the IT Suite to provide an 8th classroom. For admission in 2013, the Local Authority again agreed the admission of 45 children to secure places for local families at a school within a reasonable distance and therefore further measures will be necessary.</p> <p>Dean Oaks Primary School The school is successful achieving a "Good" category from Ofsted at the last</p>	
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		<p>inspection in May 2013. The number of children resident in the school's designated catchment area has been increasing in recent years exceeding the 45 places available. Although the number of first preference applications received would appear to indicate that the school is not oversubscribed the school usually receives a number of late requests for places after the initial offer date and by the start of term in September has usually reached or exceeded the 45 places available.</p> <p>For admission in 2012 the Local Authority, in agreement with the school, admitted 50 pupils to ensure that local Wilmslow children could access a school place within a reasonable distance from their home address. For September 2013 admissions the Local Authority agreed with the school to admit 57 pupils to ensure local children in the area could access a school place within a reasonable distance.</p> <p>It is therefore recommended that the demand for places in the area justifies an extension to the school to increase the number of pupil places to 420 places, which can be phased in from</p>	
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		September 2014 at the normal point of entry to the school. The school would have an admission number of 60 pupils operating as a two form of entry primary school.	
Before approving proposals the Decision Maker should confirm that the admission arrangements of schools proposed for expansion fully meet the provisions of the School Admissions Code. Although the Decision Maker may not modify proposed admission arrangements, the proposer should be informed that proposals with unsatisfactory admission arrangements are unlikely to be approved, and given the opportunity to revise them in line with the Code of Practice. Where the LA, rather than the governing body, is the admissions authority, we will expect the authority to take action to bring the admission arrangements in to line with the School Admissions Code.	4.34	<p>Wilmslow Grange Community Primary and Nursery and Dean Oaks Primary are both Community Schools and as such the Local Authority is the Admission Authority,</p> <p>The authority has determined its admission arrangements for 2013/2014 and 2014/2015.</p>	N/A

4 IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY AND TRAVEL

Guidance	Paragraph/s	Current Position	Impact of Expansion
Travel and Accessibility for All - In considering proposals for the	4.35	In making this recommendation the authority has given consideration to a	Parents and carers wishing to access local provision will have greater

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reorganisation of schools, Decision makers should satisfy themselves that accessibility planning has been properly taken into account. Facilities are to be accessible by those concerned, by being located close to those who will use them and the proposed changes should not adversely impact on disadvantaged groups.		<p>number of issues including the increasing number of pupils resident in the area.</p> <p>Data shows that at January 2013 85% of children living within Wilmslow Grange's and 83% of Dean Oaks catchment area children were on roll at the schools. Both schools admit 11% of pupils from outside of their catchment areas but within the Wilmslow LAP and both schools admit 2% of children outside of Cheshire East which is considered a low percentage.</p>	<p>opportunity to secure places at a nearby school and therefore within a reasonable distance if the proposed increase in capacity is agreed.</p> <p>A map of the local area, which shows the primary schools in the vicinity is attached as Annex 9</p>
In deciding statutory proposals, the Decision Maker should bear in mind that proposals should not have the effect of unreasonably extending journey times or increasing transport costs, or result in too many children being prevented from travelling sustainably due to unsuitable routes e.g. for walking, cycling etc. The EIA 2006 provides extended free transport rights for low income groups – see Home to School Travel and Transport Guidance ref 00373 2007BKT-EN at www.teachernet.gov.uk/publications . Proposals should also be considered on the basis of how they will support and contribute to the LA's duty to	4.36	See paragraph 4.35 above	See paragraph 4.35 above

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promote the use of sustainable travel and transport to school			
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5 FUNDING AND LAND

Guidance	Paragraph/s	Current Position	Impact of Expansion
Capital – The Decision maker should be satisfied that any land, premises or capital required to implement the proposals will be available. Normally, this will be some form of written confirmation from the source of funding on which the promoters rely (e.g. the LA, DCSF, or LSC). In the case of an LA, this should be from an authorised person within the LA, and provide detailed information on the funding, provision of land and premises.	4.57	<p>The building work would be funded from the Council's 2013/2014 Capital Programme for Basic Need. The Capital investment required is estimated at £887,000 for Wilmslow Grange £929,000 for Dean Oaks</p> <p>Funding for the proposed scheme was approved as part of a block budget formally approved at Council on 28 February 2013.</p> <p>The funding approved by the Council included £887,000 for the proposed expansion of Wilmslow Grange named as a scheme in the 2013-2014 budget book and £1,237,000 set aside as a block allocation to fund one of two options - Dean Oaks Primary or Lacey Green Primary Academy. Cabinet approval to fund Dean Oaks was given on 24 June 2013.</p>	N/A

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<p>School Playing Fields- The Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999 set out the standards for school premises, including minimum areas of team game playing fields to which schools should have access. The Decision Maker will need to be satisfied that either the premises will meet minimum requirements of The Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999; or if the premises do not meet those requirements, the proposers have secured the Secretary of State's agreement in principle to grant a relaxation</p>	4.65	<p>Situated in the Handforth area of Wilmslow, Wilmslow Grange Community Primary and Nursery was built in 1963 as a single form entry school. Between 2004 and 2007 the school was expanded from 210 pupil places (capacity) to 294 but due to falling numbers on roll their capacity was reduced in 2008 and further reduced in 2009 to 210 places. However the site remains sufficient to allow for an expansion to accommodate a 2 class extension to provide a total of 315 pupil places and retain adequate playground and playing field provision.</p> <p>Dean Oaks Primary is also situated in the Handforth area of Wilmslow and was established in 2009 following the amalgamation of Oaklands Infant and Dean Row Junior school, both of which had an intake at the normal point of entry of 60 pupils. Following a review of school places undertaken by the former Cheshire County Council, the infant and junior schools were amalgamated and replaced by Dean Oaks, which was established as a 315 place primary school with an intake of 45 pupils at the</p>	Both of the school sites are sufficient to allow for the expansions and retain adequate playground and playing field provision.

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		normal point of entry. However the site remains sufficient to allow for an expansion to accommodate a 2 class extension to provide a total of 420 pupil places and retain adequate playground and playing field provision.	
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6 OTHER ISSUES

Guidance	Paragraph/s	Current Position	Impact of Expansion
Views of interested parties – The Decision Maker should consider the views of all those affected by the proposals or who have an interest in them including: pupils; families of pupils; staff; other schools and colleges; local residents; diocesan bodies and other providers; LAs; the LSC (where proposals affect 14-19 provision) and the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership if one exists, or any local partnership or group that exists in place of an EYDCP (where proposals affect early years and/or childcare provision). This includes statutory objections and comments submitted during the representation period. The Decision Maker should not simply take account of the numbers of people expressing a particular view when considering representations	4.73	<p>A formal consultation process was implemented by the authority between 30 April 2013 and 4 June 2013. Full details of the feedback received during the consultation are attached as Appendix 4</p> <p>The outcome of the consultation was presented to the Cabinet Member for responsibility for Children and Families Service on 1 July 2013. The decision was to issue a statutory public notice attached which is attached as Annex 1a and 1b</p> <p>The 4 week representation period commenced on 18 July 2013 and concluded on 15 August 2013. Full details of the feedback received during the statutory representation period are</p>	

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made on proposals. Instead the Decision Maker should give the greatest weight to representations from those stakeholders likely to be most directly affected by the proposals.		attached as Annex 4	
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