

Notes / Feedback

Schools Partnership Meeting – Sandbach

Date: 30 October 2012

Appendix 2.1

Present:

Schools Diana Morrison - Sandbach Community
 Lynn Treadway – Sandbach Community
 Eddie Lea – Elworth CE
 Danielle Doubleday – Offley
 Jenny Davies – Offley
 Margaret Blease- Bourne – Elworth Hall
 Rob Whittle - St John's
 Gavin Mendham – ECAPH Chair
 Ben Cox – The Dingle

LA Officers Rob Hyde
 Barbara Dale
 Ken White
 Val Simons

Introductions

Presentation and Questions:

Statutory process considered including timescales for proposed expansion of Pebble Brook.

Information re: forecasts for Sandbach shared and discussion about the need to continue to review provision and ensure future demand and respond to parental preferences.

DfE presumption in favour of expansion of popular and successful schools and risks in relation to potential increase in the number of 'independent' schools (Academies/Free Schools)

Discussed operational surplus – local level 4%, CE level 10%

BD presented data and illustrated immediate shortfalls for Sandbach

Temporary measures already taken to get local children into local schools.

Processes for considering options was explained,

Notes / Feedback

Rationale for the proposed expansion of Wheelock.- stressed that this was consultation and no decision made. Planning application process would also have to be undertaken.

Statutory process involved

Timetable for proposal

Forecasting methodology currently being reviewed Pre school (NEG) data needed earlier in the process, GP data may be option

Financial implications.

Draft Town strategy and future housing developments.

Confirmed any pupil yield is additional to the forecast shortfall that is already indicated.

Section 106 process

Feedback:

TLC took out lots of accommodation, schools argued at the time live births increasing and accommodation would be needed in the future.

Accuracy of forecasting data

Additional accommodation at one school could destabilise all the surrounding schools. Have to acknowledge that 4 additional classrooms at one school could provide means for families to move schools.

School Organisation framework mentions 1FE or 2 FE schools the optimum size for a school, yet this expansion goes against that from a class organisational point not ideal.

Pupils need to be “shared out”. Alternative solutions discussed

Around the table discussion about alternative solutions from each school.

Questioned that the combined increase in PANs proposed across all schools was more than the proposed expansion of Wheelock and would create more places than required into the area as a whole.

Review catchment areas

Notes / Feedback

Further meeting needed within the consultation period, to facilitate opportunity for schools to discuss with Governors, come back together and present alternative solutions for presentation to the Portfolio Holder at 3 December meeting .

Follow up meeting arranged for 9 November 2012 a.m. at Offley Primary

Although notes taken from this meeting those present were urged to visit the web site read the information and complete the consultation feedback form