

**Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services**

Report to:	<b>Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Executive Councillor Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services</b>
Date:	<b>27 June 2014</b>
Subject:	<b>Proposal to expand the capacity at Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School, (final decision)</b>
Decision Reference:	<b>I006428</b>
Key decision?	<b>Yes</b>

**Summary:**

This report concerns the permanent expansion of the capacity at Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School to accommodate the increasing number of primary aged pupils in Scampton. The proposed implementation date is 1 September 2015. If this expansion proposal is approved an additional purpose built classroom would be provided to ensure that the appropriate infrastructure and facilities are in place for the number of pupils on roll.

It is the Local Authority's (LA) statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to accommodate all pupils of statutory school age in Lincolnshire. The LA believes that this proposal is the best available option to address the increasing pressure on primary school places in Scampton.

The LA has co-ordinated the process following statutory guidelines published in The Department for Education (DfE) guide "School Organisation Maintained Schools Guidance for proposers and decision-makers" January 2014 (with attached Annex A and B) in accordance with the terms of the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 as updated by the Education Act 2011. Consultation commenced on 30 January 2014 with a five week period of consultation which closed on 6 March 2014 and is further referred to later in this report in the Consultation section.

Following the consultation period the decision was taken on 31 March 2014 to publish a Statutory Notice on 17 April 2014. This initiated a four week Representation Period up to 15 May 2014 when written objections and comments may be submitted. The process is now entering the final stage when the LA, as decision maker, must take the final decision regarding the proposal within 2 months from the end of the Representation period (by 15 July 2014).

This report seeks to advise the Executive Councillor on making the final decision regarding the proposed expansion of Scampton Pollyplatt Primary

School.

**Recommendation(s):**

That following the completion of the statutory process, in accordance with current legislation, the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services is recommended to take the final decision to approve the expansion of the capacity for primary age provision from 140 to 210 places at Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School with effect from 1 September 2015 as detailed in this report.

**Alternatives Considered:**

1. The council retains the school as it is at present with no expansion of the capacity at Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School.

However, the above alternative would have the following disadvantages:

It is likely that there would be insufficient primary school places in Scampton and the LA may be unable to comply with its statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places for children of a statutory school age in the community in future years.

It would place increasing pressure on Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School where the numbers on roll are already at or above capacity in several year groups leading to concerns over the consequent impact of overcrowding on the quality of education provided. The school will not be able to continue to offer sufficient places to meet local demand without additional accommodation.

It would likely lead to children being offered places more than 2 miles away outside of Scampton in the future, with increasing transport costs and potential increased car usage and also concerns over the impact of this additional travelling time on the children concerned.

2. The council retains the school as it is at present with no increase in the capacity at Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School but looks to increase capacity at other schools in the surrounding area.

There are a number of schools in the surrounding area and all options fully considered. There are schools with surplus capacity in Welton (2.4 miles) and Sturton by Stow (6.1 miles) where children could be offered a place, but neither are considered to be options preferred to expanding Pollyplatt due to reasons such as distances and routes that young children would have to travel, and it would be against parental preference. The demographic pressures are from the local Scampton community in the RAF and civilian housing within safe walking distance from the Pollyplatt School. There are also primary schools in Hackthorn (3.1 miles), Ingham

(4.8 miles), Nettleham (4.9 miles) and Scampton CE Primary School (2.6 miles) which are full and could not accommodate the extra Scampton children without expansion or potentially impacting on standards through over-crowding. They are also considered to be less suitable alternatives due to reasons such as undersized sites, distance, parental preference and the fact that they are of suitable sizes for the areas they serve.

#### **Reasons for Recommendation:**

To enable the LA to meet its statutory obligation to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in Scampton. The LA believes that this proposal is the best available option to address the increasing pressure on primary school places in the area and fulfil its statutory duty of ensuring that there are sufficient school places to accommodate all pupils of primary school age in Lincolnshire. The LA would not be actively participating in this process if it did not see significant advantages for children and young people, their parents/carers and the local community.

To ensure that the provision of school places is planned so as to promote high educational standards, enable fair access to educational opportunity for every child and promote the fulfilment of each child's potential. This proposal will both enhance the quality of provision and sustain local provision.

The proposal will assist in meeting parental preference. The Government has made it clear that the wishes of parents should be taken into account in planning and managing school estates. DfE guidance states that places should be allocated where parents want them and that successful and popular schools be allowed to grow. Scampton Pollyplatt is a popular and consistently over-subscribed school. The school has received first preference applications of 31 for 2014, 26 for 2013 and 27 for 2012. It was last inspected by Ofsted in 2011 and graded overall as "Good".

The LA considers the proposal to be the most appropriate available solution to the expected shortage of primary school places in Scampton to enable local children to attend their local school. The Headteacher and Governing Body are also supportive of this proposal.

### **1. Background**

National birth rates have been steadily rising in recent years. This increased birth rate, combined in some areas with changes in migrational trends and the effect of new housing development, is now starting to put significant pressure on primary schools across the country. There is expected to be a shortage of school places if additional capacity is not created. Birth data for the Scampton area shows an increase in births resulting in larger projected intakes than there are currently places for.

There is expected to be a long term requirement for more primary school places. The Scampton community also has the additional pressure of demand for places

caused by the placement of RAF personnel. The future of RAF Scampton has been secured until at least 2020 following a ministerial decision that extended the originally proposed 2014 date. It is not expected to be known until the next strategic review in 2015 or 2016 whether the base continues beyond 2020. Even if it were to close there is a shortage of RAF housing across Lincolnshire to serve Waddington and other areas. There are already over 40 Waddington families that live in Scampton accommodation and this is likely to rise. Families tend to access primary school provision closest to where they live rather than where they work. This type of housing, whether for service families or sold off to civilians, is likely to attract young families with primary aged children.

The majority of the pressure for Pollyplatt Primary School is from the immediate housing adjacent to the RAF base, which consists of a mix of both services and civilian homes. The school is located on the housing estate and is within safe walking distance of the children and families that live there. It predominantly serves the immediate area. Scampton will experience a shortage of available places if capacity at one of the local schools is not increased.

In agreement with the LA the school has admitted above the usual intake of 20 (current PAN) to accommodate local children by offering up to 30 Reception places for the intakes in September 2012 and 2013 and for the incoming intake in September 2014. They have been able to do so by making maximum use of all available accommodation together with the remodelling of some internal areas to create space which is more useable for teaching purposes. However, without the provision of additional accommodation this may lead to overcrowding with insufficient infrastructure for the number of pupils being accommodated at the school. If this expansion proposal is approved an additional purpose built classroom would be provided to ensure that the appropriate infrastructure and facilities are in place for the number of pupils on roll. This would be the preferred approach over temporary accommodation due to the rising cost of mobile/temporary classrooms and the current deficiencies in the accommodation currently available in the school.

The proposal being consulted on is to permanently expand the school from the existing capacity of 140 places based on a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 20 to 210 places (PAN 30), with a proposed implementation date of September 2015. This would increase the PAN for all year groups from 20 to 30 and as the proposal is to expand by more than 30 places and by more than 25% a statutory process must be followed.

Having additional classes and more children on roll at the school will also have financial benefits for the school. This may potentially provide the opportunity to enhance teaching provision and career opportunities for staff which in turn will benefit the learning experience of the children.

Following statutory consultation, if the expansion proposal is approved, it is proposed that building work to add necessary additional accommodation will be carried out (subject to planning permission being granted) in the 2014/2015 academic year and planned to be completed in readiness for the start of term in

September 2015. This would be managed to cause minimal disruption to the school during term time making the best use of school holidays where possible.

The planning application process is dealt with and consulted on separately. There will be an opportunity for those that are interested to respond directly to the planning application at a later date.

### **Reaching the decision – Preliminary Considerations**

The requirements for decision making relating to school organisation in LA Maintained schools are set out in Annex B of the guide “School Organisation Maintained Schools January 2014” published by the DfE.

The DfE does not prescribe the exact process which a decision maker should follow but the decision maker must have regard to this guidance. The decision maker should consider the views of those affected by the proposal and should not simply take account of the numbers of people expressing a view but give greatest weight to those stakeholders most likely to be affected and especially the parents of children at the school concerned.

### **Factors to be considered by Decision Makers**

#### *The Consultation and Representation Period*

The Executive Councillor must be satisfied that the appropriate consultation and representation periods have been carried out and that all of the responses received have been given due consideration.

Although there is no longer a prescribed consultation period prior to the publication of the Statutory Notice and Complete Proposal the DfE's guidance states "*a strong expectation on schools and LAs to consult interested parties in developing their proposal prior to publication*". The LA conducted a five week period of pre-consultation to fulfil this expectation and also to operate a fair and open process and ensure all views were considered. A Statutory Notice and Complete Proposal, initiating a four week Representation Period, were published in accordance with current statutory requirements.

No responses were submitted during the Representation Period. Responses received in the consultation period have been made available to the Executive Councillor for consideration when taking the final decision and further details of these responses are provided in section 5 of this report (**Consultation**).

#### *Education standards and diversity of provision*

The Executive Councillor should consider the quality and diversity of schools in the area and be satisfied that the proposal will meet the aspirations of parents, contribute to raising local standards of provision and lead to the narrowing of attainment gaps. The Government's aim is to create a more diverse school system

offering excellence and choice so that every child receives an excellent education whatever their background and wherever they live.

The most recent Ofsted report following an inspection at the school was published in 2011 and evaluated the school overall as “Good”.

The LA believes that this proposal provides the best option to maintain and improve standards of attainment with an enhanced quality of education for current and future children in the area whilst maintaining diversity.

### *Demand*

The Executive Councillor must consider the evidence presented for any projected increase in pupil population (eg planned housing developments) and any anticipated new provision (eg a new free school). A decision must also take into account parental preference and the quality and popularity of schools in the area that have surplus capacity. Surplus capacity in less popular schools should not in itself prevent the addition of new places. The DfE recognises that for parental preference to work effectively there may be some surplus capacity in the system overall but that competition for places to be taken up will lead to existing schools improving standards.

The expansion is required to meet the projected demand for places in Scampton and to ensure that the LA meets its duty of providing sufficient places for children of statutory school age in the immediate area without the need to transport young children more than 2 miles away and over the A15. The expansion is proposed to meet the need for additional capacity in Scampton and not to create surplus capacity nor replace existing capacity in the primary sector therefore not having a significant negative impact on neighbouring primary schools.

As stated earlier in this report, an increased birth rate is now starting to put significant pressure on primary schools across the country with an expected shortage of school places if additional capacity is not created. Birth data for the Scampton area confirms that this increase in births is resulting in larger projected intakes than there are currently places for with a long term requirement for more primary school places. The Scampton community also has the additional pressure of demand for places caused by the increased placement of RAF personnel anticipated by the Ministry of Defence in the next few years. The future of RAF Scampton has been secured until at least 2020 following a ministerial decision that extended the originally proposed 2014 date. It is not expected to be known until the next strategic review in 2015 or 2016 whether the base continues beyond 2020. Even if it were to close there is a shortage of RAF housing across Lincolnshire to serve Waddington and other areas. There are already over 40 Waddington families that live in Scampton accommodation and this is likely to rise. Families tend to access primary school provision closest to where they live rather than where they work. This type of housing, whether for service families or sold off to civilians, attracts young families with primary aged children. There is expected to be a long term requirement for more primary school places.

The majority of the pressure for Pollyplatt Primary School is from the immediate housing adjacent to the RAF base, which consists of a mix of both services and civilian homes. The school is located on the housing estate and is within safe walking distance of the children and families that live there. It predominantly serves the immediate area. Scampton will experience a shortage of available places if capacity is not increased.

The number on roll at the time of the census taken in January 2014 was 151 which is expected to rise to 158 by the beginning of June 2014 due to local mid-year admissions.

The current and projected position is broken down by year group in the table below. It shows the potential intakes for September 2014 to 2016 which is based on NHS GP registration data and historical trends. The published admissions number per year group is currently 20 with a permanent PAN capacity of 140, although the use of available internal accommodation allows for a PAN of 25 and a PAN capacity of 175. There could potentially be 190 on roll by 2016 with mid-year applications and the current Y4 to Y6 cohorts being replaced by the projected 2014 to 2016 intakes:

	2016	2015	2014	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Number on Roll	27	23	30	26	27	29	22	16	16	15	151

Data from January 2014 Census, NHS GP Registration and trend analysis

Scampton will therefore experience a shortage of available primary places if capacity at the local school is not increased. A permanent sustainable solution is needed to accommodate these extra children to avoid overcrowding and/or transporting young children to alternative schools outside of their local community.

The school is popular with parents and in recent years has been consistently oversubscribed. The school has received first preference applications of 31 for 2014, 26 for 2013 and 27 for 2012.

### *School size*

Assumptions that schools should be of a certain size to be a good school should not be made although the viability and cost-effectiveness of a proposal is an important factor in the decision-making process eg the impact on a LA's budget to provide additional funding to a small school to compensate for its size.

The numbers on roll are already at or above capacity in several year groups leading to concerns over the consequent impact of overcrowding on the quality of education provision if additional accommodation is not provided. This expansion will provide additional classrooms together with the appropriate infrastructure and facilities for a school of this size.

### *Proposed admission arrangements*

Before approving the proposals the LA must ensure that the admission arrangements of the school are compliant with the School Admissions Code. The proposed increase to the PAN at Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School will be processed in accordance with the School Admissions Code to determine admission arrangements for the academic year commencing September 2015.

### *National Curriculum*

All maintained schools must follow the National Curriculum unless they have secured an exemption.

Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School currently follows the National curriculum and will continue to do so if the proposed expansion is approved.

### *Equal Opportunity*

The LA must have 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations and should consider whether there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues that arise out of the proposed expansion. There should 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.

There are no sex, race or disability discrimination issues arising from this proposal. The LA will continue to be committed 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.

### *Community cohesion*

The impact on the community must be considered and schools have a key part to play in providing opportunities for young people from different backgrounds to learn from and respect each other and gain an understanding of other cultures, faiths and communities. The decision-maker must take account of the community served by the school and the views of different sections of the community.

This expansion will enable the school to admit children of RAF personnel as well as local families and therefore continue to meet the needs of children from varied backgrounds.

Responses to the consultation were received from varying sectors of the community ie parents (including parent governors and also staff) of current pupils; governors of Pollyplatt School; staff, governors and parents representing neighbouring schools; parish council and the Anglican Diocese representatives. A wide range of views was received and all comments raised will be taken into consideration in the design and future planning of the school buildings and site if the proposal goes ahead.



### *Travel and accessibility*

The Executive Councillor should be satisfied that accessibility planning has been properly taken into account and that proposed changes do not adversely impact on disadvantaged groups. Proposals should not unreasonably extend journey times or increase transport costs or result in too many children being prevented from travelling sustainably due to unsuitable walking or cycling routes. The proposal should be considered on the basis of how it will support and contribute to the Council's duty to promote the use of sustainable travel and transport to school.

If this proposal goes ahead it should reduce the likelihood of local children having to travel to schools outside of their local community (for many families this would involve a journey of more than 2 miles and having to cross the A15) and therefore assist the Council to meet this duty.

The LA understands that an increase in the number of pupils attending a school may have an impact on the local road network and access. However, the majority of additional primary aged pupils are likely to come from within a suitable walking or cycling distance from the school. The LA is committed to promoting the use of sustainable travel and transport to school and this would be reflected in the implementation of the school travel plan. Should the proposal go ahead, all traffic issues will be considered in the planning application process. As part of this process any planning queries will be dealt with through a separate planning consultation and the LA would have to meet stringent requirements at the planning application stage.

The County Council home-to-school transport policy will continue to apply – this provides free home-to-school transport for pupils to their nearest designated school (if it is more than 2 miles away for primary aged pupils) but it is expected that most pupils will live within a two mile radius of the school.

### *Capital*

The Executive Councillor should be satisfied that any land, premises or capital required to implement the proposals will be available and that all relevant parties have given their agreement. A proposal cannot be approved conditionally upon funding being made available. Where the expansion is reliant on the DfE for funding it cannot be assumed that approval of the proposal will trigger the release of capital funds unless previously confirmed in writing.

This proposed expansion will incur capital costs which will be funded by the LA from the DfE Basic Need Capital Grant funding and delivered as part of the Children's Services capital programme with on-going revenue costs being funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant. The Basic Need funding available is to be used to add capacity to schools in the county to ensure sufficient places are available to meet local need. This funding is not intended to be used for any other purpose than to address basic need. The proposed capital project at Pollyplatt Primary School aims to create the required facilities to allow for up to 210 pupils to be accommodated providing long term value for money. Due to the limitations in the current accommodation the additional space would support Key Stage 2 curriculum

delivery should numbers fall in the future and all accommodation would still be fully utilised and not result in unnecessary surplus accommodation.

### *School premises and playing fields*

All schools are required to provide suitable outdoor space to both enable physical education for pupils in accordance with the curriculum and also for pupils to play outside safely. DfE guidelines suggest areas for pitches and games courts but these are non-statutory.

According to the DfE guidance the site size and outdoor space is more than sufficient for the number of pupils that could be on roll if full. The proposed building work will not reduce any of the formal hard or soft play areas.

### *Special Educational Needs (SEN) Provision and SEN Improvement Test*

If the proposal is approved there is likely to be no impact with regard to SEN provision other than an opportunity to improve the provision with better access to resources and consistently good quality teaching, learning and leadership at the enhanced facilities at the school. The LA will continue to ensure suitable provision for all children with special educational needs and consideration of their needs will take place with physical access being assured should a need be presented. The LA will continue to look to make improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the education provision for children with SEN and so meet the Special Educational Needs Test.

## **2. Conclusion**

The final decision is required from the Executive Councillor to determine whether to approve the proposal to expand the capacity at Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School as detailed in this report. The factors to consider in making this decision are within this report and all valid written responses received during consultation and the Representation Period (see section 5) must be considered

The LA believes this proposal to be in the best interests of local children and local parents as well as educational provision in the area and it supports the council's aim of ensuring that as many children as possible can reach their full potential. It also enables the LA to fulfil its statutory duty of ensuring that there are sufficient places to accommodate all pupils of statutory school age in Lincolnshire.

It is recommended that the proposal be implemented to ensure the best educational opportunities for the children of Scampton. The advantages of implementing this proposal are detailed earlier in this report in the 'Reasons for Recommendations' section.

## **3. Legal Comments:**

The legal issues to be taken into account in the making of this decision, which is within the remit of the Executive Councillor, are fully set out within the report.

#### **4. Resource Comments:**

If the decision to expand the school is approved the capital costs will be met from the Children's Services capital programme with on-going revenue costs being funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

#### **5. Consultation**

In order for the school to expand the LA must follow the necessary statutory legal processes as required by the Secretary of State in accordance with the EIA 2006, the Education Act 2011 and the guidance of the DfE regarding expansion.

Under these guidelines the LA must ensure that sufficient time and information are provided for people to understand and form a view on the proposal and make a response. Under the DfE guidelines which came into effect in January 2014 there is no longer a prescribed consultation period prior to the publication of the Statutory Notice and Complete Proposal regarding significant changes to schools (including physical expansions). However there is a "*strong expectation on schools and LAs to consult interested parties in developing their proposal prior to publication*". The LA has conducted a five week period of pre-consultation to fulfil this expectation and also to operate a fair and open process and ensure all views are considered.. Any documentation issued must set out the problem that is being addressed and invite comment on one or more solutions. The LA must explain the decision making process and take all reasonable steps to draw the proposal to the attention of all those who might be interested and take into account their views.

Guidance requires current pupils to be consulted and the Headteacher of Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School has consulted with the children currently attending the school through the school council and class discussions. The key areas raised were to ensure there was space made available to accommodate the new children without having a negative impact on the children who currently attend the school. It was explained that this would be addressed separately through the planning process and the discussion resulted in a positive response with the children being happy to increase the size of the school.

The EIA 2006 specifically includes as interested parties the registered parents of registered pupils at the school and also the appropriate District and Parish Councils for the area. The guidance issued by the DfE in January only prescribes the minimum that must be consulted and "*any other body or person that the local authority think appropriate and it is unlikely that that there will be any cases where it was not felt appropriate to notify the parents at the school of the proposals*". The list of interested parties was therefore compiled according to these principles comprising as wide a range of consultees as practicable to ensure that all interested parties were included and incorporated parents, the Chief Executive of the District Council, the Parish Clerk of the local Parish Council as well as individual councillors as appropriate.

Consultation originally began on 30 January 2014 with a letter, incorporating relevant information and reasons for the proposal, being sent to all parents of pupils attending the school informing them of the proposal. Interested parties as detailed above were also informed. In addition, on 24 February 2014, individual drop in sessions were offered to interested parties to discuss the proposal further with an LA officer. These meetings were offered to allow those having an interest in this proposal to be able to gather information, ask questions and get involved in the debate. However, no appointments were taken up.

All parents/carers and other interested parties were given the opportunity to respond as part of the consultation process by 6 March 2014. Copies of the letter commencing consultation and the response form were also published on the County Council website via the webpage 'Current Consultations' on [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation)

There were 61 valid responses in total with 24 supporting the proposal, 35 against and 2 which were neither for nor against the proposal but raised points to be considered. Out of the total of 61 there were 12 responses from parents of current pupils with only 1 against. A number of responses were received from governors and members of staff at the school all of which were in favour of the expansion proposal. The majority of the responses against the proposed expansion have been received from governors, staff and parents representing other schools in the area. Those schools being Welton St Mary's Church of England Academy and Sturton by Stow Primary School. Welton St Mary's wrote to all parents asking that they object to the proposal. 20 responses were received from parents of pupils at other schools or academies with 18 of these being against the proposal. 12 responses were received from staff at other schools with all being against the proposal. These responses in the main have questioned whether there is a need for the expansion of a school to provide additional school places when there are places available at other schools in the area around Scampton. The objectors are against the proposal as they believe that it will have a negative impact on the number on roll at other schools, possibly leading to the introduction of mixed year groups and staff redundancies at their respective schools. The Diocese of Lincoln supports the view of Welton St Mary's. The relevant LA head of service with responsibility for this area of work and a member of their service met with representatives of both schools and discussed the rationale of the expansion and responded to the concerns raised during the consultation period. Both schools agreed to consider the 'Complete Proposal' and respond as appropriate if the process continued to the next stage through the publication of a Statutory Notice. Other primary schools in the area, including Scampton Church of England Primary School, have not objected to the proposed expansion. No responses were submitted in the Representation Period.

The expansion is required to meet the projected demand for places in Scampton and to ensure that the LA meets its duty of providing sufficient places for children of statutory school age in the immediate area, without the need to transport young children more than 2 miles away and over the A15. The expansion is proposed to meet the need for additional capacity and not to replace existing capacity in the primary sector. It will also allow the LA to utilise basic need capital funding to meet

parental demand whilst minimising an increasing demand on the revenue budget that supports school transport.

Following the completion of the consultation period all feedback was considered with a full report (which is referred to in the Background Papers section below and will also be re-considered along with this report) by the Executive Councillor and a decision was taken on 31 March to proceed to Statutory Notice. A statutory 4 week Representation Period was entered into on 17 April 2014 commencing with the publication of the Statutory Notice (Appendix A) in the local press, on the Lincolnshire County Council's website and at the school gates. The Complete Proposal, available in paper and electronic format (Appendix B) to which the Statutory Notice refers, was sent to interested parties as detailed in the statutory guidance and was also published on the website under the webpage 'Current Consultations' at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation). The Representation Period provides a further opportunity for people and organisations to express their views and ensure that they are taken into account when the final decision is taken. As previously stated, no responses were submitted in the Representation Period.

Under current legislation the LA is the decision maker for the proposal and is co-ordinating the statutory process before making a final decision at the end of June. The LA, as decision maker, must be able to show that all relevant issues raised are taken into consideration in the decision making process. Points raised can be considered unpersuasive but must not be ignored altogether.

The last stage of the statutory process would be the implementation of the proposal with the expansion of the capacity from 140 to 210 for primary age provision at Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School with effect from 1 September 2015 if it is decided to proceed.

**a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?**

Yes, the local member has been made aware of the proposal to expand the capacity at the school.

**b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?**

Yes, the Executive Councillor has been involved in the discussions regarding the proposal to expand the capacity at the school.

**c) Scrutiny Comments**

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee considered the related proposals at its meeting on 13 June 2014. *The Committee supported/did not support (delete as appropriate following CYPSC) the recommendation contained within the report and had no additional comments to make/comments included (insert if there are comments to add).*

#### d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

An Impact Analysis has been completed. In summary the analysis undertaken indicates that there is some potential for minor negative impact but that this is far outweighed by the benefits of the proposal. The LA would look to mitigate negative impact on the local road network and access and address any other concerns that potentially might arise out of this expansion proposal. The stringent requirements at the planning application stage would include the active involvement of the Highways Department as well as a detailed travel plan.

### 6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Statutory Notice
Appendix B	Complete Proposal

### 7. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Report on the proposal to expand the capacity to take additional primary age children at Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School	Lincolnshire County Council Committee Records Reference I006426 31 March 2014
The DfE guide "School Organisation Maintained Schools Guidance for proposers and decision-makers" January 2014 with attached Annex A and B	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-organisation-maintained-schools">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-organisation-maintained-schools</a>
List of interested parties; letter to commence consultation; the blank consultation response form; and the responses received from all interested parties including the children during both the consultation and representation periods.	All available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Corporate Property, Lincolnshire County Council
Impact Analysis	Available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Corporate Property, Lincolnshire County Council

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