

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	26 March 2024
Title:	North Whiteley New Secondary School
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Mark Saunders, Senior Strategic Development Officer

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1. The decision

1.1. That the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services gives permission to consult on the three options outlined in paragraphs 25-27 within this report for the delivery of secondary education in the Whiteley and Fareham areas.

2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1. The first Whiteley primary school serving the South Whiteley development was opened in 1997 with 3fe capacity. Two further primary schools will serve the North Whiteley development. Cornerstone CE Primary School, which was relocated from a temporary site and expanded in 2021, opened as 1fe but was built with 3fe capacity. The second primary school at North Whiteley, if required, is anticipated to open after 1700 occupations, currently estimated as 2029 or later, and would be built to accommodate an additional 2fe.

2.2. It is planned to open a new secondary school in September 2027 to serve the whole of the Whiteley area, funded from developer contributions. The new school will initially be built as 6fe with the potential to expand to 8fe should future local demand require. The North Whiteley development and the existing Whiteley area are currently part of The Henry Cort Community College catchment area. The long-term school forecasts suggest that a new 6fe secondary school in Whiteley and the retention of The Henry Cort Community College would lead to a significant surplus of school places across Fareham.

2.3. The three options which will be consulted on are:

2.4. Option 1 - Build North Whiteley Secondary as a new 6fe academy and The Henry Cort Community College remains operational and on its current site but, with a reduced catchment area catering for 4fe (based on remaining feeder school PANs, though primary numbers on roll are falling).

2.5. Option 2 - Build North Whiteley Secondary as a new 6fe academy and The Henry Cort Community College closes. Remaining catchment area jointly

shared between Fareham Academy and Cams Hill School. Further work to understand the potential spare building capacity and any necessary catchment changes will be undertaken once approval is given to consult.

2.6. Option 3 - Relocate The Henry Cort Community College to the new North Whiteley secondary school site – The County Council’s preferred option. A split site arrangement would likely be required in the short term, while the existing year groups filter out of the school, for example, with Years 10 and 11 remaining at The Henry Cort Community College site. Remaining catchment area jointly shared between Fareham Academy and Cams Hill School. As with option 2, further work to understand the potential spare building capacity and any necessary catchment changes will be undertaken once approval is given to consult.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. Do nothing - it is concluded that this is not an appropriate option. The new North Whiteley secondary school is required to meet the demand from the development, but it is likely to create surplus places in Fareham. Consultation on the three options is needed to mitigate the impact of the new school and ensure the appropriate distribution of secondary school places across Whiteley and Fareham.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: Not Applicable

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: Not Applicable

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: Not Applicable

7. Statement from the decision maker: None

Approved by: ----- Councillor Edward Heron Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services	Date: 26 March 2024
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