

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Education
<b>Date:</b>	19 June 2017
<b>Title:</b>	Amalgamation of Fort Hill Community School and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College, Basingstoke including the Fort Hill Special Educational Needs resourced provision
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

**Contact name:** Brian Pope – Assistant Director, Children's Services

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#### 1. The decision:

- a) That the Executive Member for Education gives approval to the proposal published by the Local Authority, in accordance with sections 15 and 19 of the Education and Inspections Act and the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2013 to
  - Discontinue Fort Hill Community School (including resourced provision), Kenilworth Road, Basingstoke RG23 8JQ from 31 August 2017.
  - Establish resourced provision for up to 16 pupils with a Specific Learning Difficulty (SpLD) at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College (Community School), with effect from 1 September 2017.
- b) That the Local Authority make available the Fort Hill site to the governing body of Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College so that they can continue to offer education on the Fort Hill site for year 10 and 11 pupils from September 2017 should they wish to do so.
- c) That support is offered, to those pupils currently on the roll of Fort Hill Community School in years 7 and 8 who will transfer to Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College in September 2017, with travel between the two schools at the beginning and end of the school day. This support to be offered for a maximum of two years from 1 September 2017. This offer would be extended to pupils in years 10 and 11 if at anytime during this period a decision is taken by the governing body to cease the offer of education on the Fort Hill site. This support would be available for any pupil on roll of Fort Hill at the time of the Executive Member's Decision day on the 20 March 2017.

#### 2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1. On 20 March 2017 the Executive Member for Education decided to publish a statutory Public Notice (Appendix 1) in accordance with sections 15 and 19 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006. The Notice set out the County Council's intention to discontinue Fort Hill Community School and resourced provision with effect from 31 August 2017, and to establish a new Specific Learning Difficulties resource provision at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College (CBEC).
- 2.2. The Public Notice was published on 24 March for a period of four weeks; the closing date for comments was 21 April 2017.
- 2.3. Nine representations were received during the Public Notice consultation period. Those representations have been reviewed taking into account the statutory guidance for decision makers on factors that need to be considered when deciding on proposals to close and expand schools. In reviewing the representations made on the proposal no suitable alternative option was identified and, therefore, it has been concluded that amalgamation of the two schools on the CBEC site provides the best opportunity for school improvement.
- 2.4. In order to support pupils in the last years of their secondary education the Local Authority will make available the Fort Hill site to the governing body of CBEC so that they can continue to offer education on the Fort Hill site for year 10 and 11 pupils from September 2017 should they wish to do so.
  - a) It is proposed that support is offered to those pupils currently on the roll of Fort Hill Community School in years 7 and 8 who will transfer to CBEC in September 2017, with travel between the two schools at the beginning and end of the school day. This support to be offered for a maximum of two years from 1 September 2017. This offer would be extended to pupils in years 10 and 11 if at anytime during this period a decision is taken by the governing body to cease the offer of education on the Fort Hill site.

2.5.

### **3. Other options considered and rejected:**

- 3.1. Maintain the current position; make no change
- 3.2. Find a strong academy sponsor to improve outcomes at the school
- 3.3. Link Fort Hill Community School with another Basingstoke secondary school
- 3.4. Create an all-through 4 to 16 school

### **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: None

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.
6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.
7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

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**Executive Member for Education  
Councillor Peter Edgar**

**19 June 2017**