

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE  
CORPORATE DIRECTOR MEETING WITH EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

14 January 2020

Proposal to formally confirm the establishment of satellite specialist sixth form provision for Springhead School on the former Graham Lower School site in Scarborough

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To seek Member approval to consult publicly on proposals:

- To formally confirm the establishment of satellite specialist sixth form provision for Springhead School on the former Graham Lower School site in Scarborough. This will confirm arrangements which have been operating since September 2017.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 In 2017, in response to a specific pressure on places at Springhead School, the Local Authority supported the school through an informal consultation on moving their Sixth Form provision onto a site at Lady Edith's Drive in Scarborough. This had formerly been the Graham Lower School Site and was vacant at that point.
- 2.2 This proposal was subsequently agreed and implemented by the Governing Body of Springhead School. The LA then carried out a capital project to bring one of the blocks on the site up to the required standard to operate as a specialist Sixth Form provision from September 2017. This decision was temporary and it was noted that the decision would be reviewed within three years and if the proposal was to be continued then a formal statutory process would need to be followed.
- 2.3 Admission arrangements are in line with current national guidance and local processes. Children would access the provision following a statutory assessment of their SEND resulting in an Education and Health Care Plan and formal consultation between the LA and School regarding the school's ability to meet individual needs.
- 2.4 Pressure on current capacity across specialist provision in North Yorkshire is a significant contributory factor to the projected overspend on the High Needs Block budget. Developing a satellite provision on the Lady Edith's Drive site has created additional capacity and in turn reduced the need for higher cost Independent and Non-Maintained provision. Springhead School has increased its capacity and its roll from approximately 75 pupils prior to the temporary creation of the satellite site to 85 pupils at present.
- 2.5 The sixth form provision at Springhead School on the satellite site is, and will continue to be, managed under the same Senior Leadership and Governing Body structures for the main school site. Any staff employed will therefore be contracted under Springhead School and deployed across the school and satellite at the discretion of the Head Teacher.
- 2.6 The rest of the Lady Edith's Drive Site is currently unoccupied and the medium to long-term use of the whole site is under review by officers.

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

#### REVENUE

- 3.1 Springhead School is well-established and in its most recent Ofsted inspection in 2018 was judged to be Outstanding. The school is operating close to its capacity in terms of commissioned places. The school is projecting an end of year surplus of £22k for 2019/20 and this proposal will not be detrimental to their revenue position.
- 3.2 The average cost for a place at Springhead School is £24,730 against an average cost of £58,519 for Independent/Non-Maintained day place provision.

#### CAPITAL

- 3.3 A capital improvement project was carried out in the Summer of 2017 to facilitate the temporary operation of the satellite provision. The school are currently bidding for further funds to improve the facilities and will continue to be able to do so going forward as is the case for all community and voluntary controlled schools.

### **4.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Changing the structure of school provision requires the publication of statutory notices by the LA for Springhead School.
- 4.2 These proposals will follow the DfE's statutory guidance for proposers and decision makers.<sup>1</sup> In particular, the proposals will need to ensure that the expansion onto an additional site is genuinely a change to an existing school and not the establishment of a new school, and demonstrate how the proposed arrangements are likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of educational provision for those children.

### **5.0 PROPOSED CONSULTATION PROCESS AND TIMESCALES**

- 5.1 Draft consultation documents are attached in Appendix 2.

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<sup>1</sup> Making 'prescribed alterations' to maintained schools: Statutory guidance for proposers and decision-makers (October 2018)

5.2 The anticipated timescales for the School Organisation proposals are:

CYPS Executive Members meeting – approval to consult	14 January
Public Consultation Opens	24 January
Public Consultation Closes	6 March
Full Executive meeting – consider responses to the consultation and decide whether to authorise the publication of statutory notices	24 March
Statutory proposals published	20 April
Representation Closes	18 May
Full Executive or Executive Members (if no objections) to make the final decision	9 June
Implementation	1 September 2020

5.3 A separate staff consultation process, including notifying staff and their professional associations and unions, would run in parallel with this consultation

## 6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The Executive Member for Schools is recommended to give approval to consult publicly on proposals:

To formally confirm the establishment of satellite specialist sixth form provision for Springhead School on the former Graham Lower School site in Scarborough. This will confirm arrangements which have been operating since September 2017.

Stuart Carlton  
CORPORATE DIRECTOR – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE.

Report prepared by Matt George, Strategic Planning Officer and Chris Reynolds,  
SEND Placement Officer

Action Agreed .....Executive Member  
Date:  
Action Requested .....Corporate Director  
Date: