

Children & Young People Committee, 17 November 2014

Proposed expansion of St Andrew's CE Primary School to three forms of entry from September 2015: responses to statutory notice

Appendix 2: Governing Body Statement, 12 November 2014

The St Andrew's governing body has considered the objections received by the LA during the statutory notice period for the proposed expansion of the school, as well as the outcome of the ongoing consultation between the LA, school and interested parties to progress the proposed extension plans.

The planning workshops, which were facilitated by the LA and included parent representatives, enabled a productive discussion of the key issues to be addressed in the ongoing development of the plans. The revised plans were presented at the parent/teacher evenings at school and generated a positive level of interest from parents and constructive feedback/comments. The governing body acknowledges that there are still outstanding issues to be addressed, however we are satisfied that the LA is working closely with the school to address those issues and to ensure that our original conditions are being met.

The governing body's position at the end of the statutory notice period is to support the proposed expansion of the school, subject to the conditions previously noted. In particular we wish to highlight that our support is conditional upon:

- Planning approval for the current plans only, as agreed between the LA and the Governing Body. These must include the Haddington Street car park for the extension and provide an additional permanent school entrance on Haddington Street (as previously used by the school for temporary building projects).
- Planning approval must be received prior to reception allocations to enable well-planned accommodation to be provided for an additional reception class in September 2015.
- Agreed priority for funding to be made available from the expansion budget to improve the usability of the outdoor space. This is necessary to compensate for the loss of outdoor space per pupil as a result of the expansion and ensure we can meet the curriculum requirements for sport/PE. We have agreed immediate solutions to extend and enhance the hard play area. However we also need agreement for a medium term solution to improve the all year access to the field. We are proposing to seek expert advice as well as input from the school community, however one option is an artificial surface for a significant area (e.g. half) of the field. We therefore require agreement in principle for funding to be available for this or a similar solution.
- Further discussion with the LA regarding the cost of additional management resources required to ensure the continued high standard of education for all pupils, and how this will be funded.

