

Cabinet 23 March 2005

**Moxley Infants School and Dorothy Purcell Junior School
Determination of Statutory Proposals**

Portfolio	Councillor Eddie Hughes, Children's Services
Service Area	Education Walsall
Wards	Darlaston South
Forward Plan	Yes

Summary of report

This report informs the Cabinet that no objections have been received to the statutory proposals to close Moxley Infants School and Dorothy Purcell Junior School and open a replacement primary school. In view of this, the statutory proposals must now be determined by the Cabinet.

Recommendations

Cabinet agree the statutory proposals to:

- 1 Close Moxley Infants School from 31 August 2005
- 2 Close Dorothy Purcell Junior School from 31 August 2005
- 3 Open a replacement primary school from 1 September 2005.

Resource and legal considerations

On 22 December 2004, Cabinet considered the outcome of consultation and approved the publication of statutory proposals for the closure of Moxley Infants School and Dorothy Purcell Junior School from 31 August 2005 and the opening of a replacement primary school from 1 September 2005.

No objections to the proposals were received during the 6-week representation period which followed the publication of the proposals. In these circumstances, the determination of the proposals is by Cabinet and not the School Organisation Committee.

Subject to approval of the statutory proposals by Cabinet, a scheme to single site the school will be developed. It is the intention to complete the necessary works as soon as possible to enable the new school to operate on a single site from an early date. The financial resources required for this are available from the capital resources made available to the Council by the Department for Education and Skills.

Citizen impact

Approval of the statutory proposals will result in the creation of an all-through primary school to serve this part of the Borough. The associated building work will create an improved learning environment for pupils and provide on-site playing fields for pupils formerly taught on the Moxley site. Single siting the school will be more convenient for parents.

Community safety

The new school building would provide a secure environment for children and staff

Environmental impact

A scheme to provide a primary school on the Dorothy Purcell site by the extension and remodelling of the existing building would use sustainable resources wherever possible.

Performance and risk management issues

The provision of an improved learning environment for pupils would contribute to the raising of standards.

The rationalisation of school accommodation would reduce the number of primary schools with more than 25% surplus places.

Equality implications

The proposal provides an opportunity to create a school with an improved learning environment for the local community.

Consultation

A 6-week representation period followed the publication of the statutory proposals. No objections to the proposals were received during this period. Public consultation on the proposals was undertaken during the autumn and the outcome of this was detailed in the report considered by Cabinet on 22 December 2005.

Vision 2008

The proposed new primary school will contribute to the delivery of Walsall's vision for 2008 - Make Our Schools Great. It will provide an improved learning environment for children from the local community.

Background papers

Cabinet Reports:

22 December 2004 Outcome of Consultation on Proposed Amalgamation of Moxley Infant School and Dorothy Purcell Junior School

29 September 2004 Proposal to Amalgamate Moxley Infant School and Dorothy Purcell Junior School

Contact officer

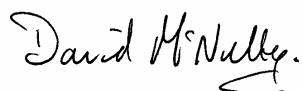
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Signed:



Executive Director: David McNulty

Date: 14.3.2005

Signed:



Managing Director, Education Walsall

Date: 8.3.2005

Signed:



Portfolio Holder: Councillor Eddie Hughes

Date: 14.3.2005