

COUNCIL MEETING – 19 APRIL 2012

Recommendations to Council from the Executive meeting held on 27 March 2012

E/11/144 New School Places Programme 2012/13 - 2016/17

The Executive considered a report from the Executive Member for Children's Services that proposed a five year investment programme, subject to annual refresh, of new school places to fulfil the Council's statutory duty regarding sufficiency of school places and to implement the identified need in the previously published School Organisation Plan. Members noted the Council's role as commissioner of new school places and the options available to expand existing or establish new schools. The planning and provision of new school places was one of the key challenges for the Council in managing growth effectively and providing quality infrastructure for its new and existing communities. The Council would be working closely in partnership with schools.

The Executive Member for Children's Services moved the recommendations as set out in the Chairman's Briefing Note.

Reason for decision: To enable the Council to implement the new school places programme.

RESOLVED

- 1. that the commencement of informal consultation and the publication of statutory notices for the proposals to expand Fairfield Park Lower and Shefford Lower School, as outlined in Appendix D to the report, and Greenleas Lower School as set out in the exempt Appendix E to the report be approved;**
- 2. that the Transforming Learning reviews for the Sandy and Biggleswade area and rural mid Bedfordshire area, planned to commence in April 2012 and April 2013 respectively, do not proceed and that places planning take place across the whole geographical area of Central Bedfordshire as required by the annual refresh of the School Organisation Plan; and**
- 3. that the new Education Vision at Appendix F to the report be approved.**

RECOMMENDED to Council

the rolling Capital Programme for New School Places as set out in the Executive report, noting the required amendments to the Council's approved Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2015/16.