

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1. Meeting:	Cabinet Member and Advisors for Children, Young People and Family Services
2. Date:	16th October 2013
3. Title:	Annual update on the Waverley Development
4. Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary

This report provides the Cabinet Member and Advisors for Children, Young People and Family Services with an update on the Waverley Estate development and the action being taken by School Organisation in response to a proposed deed of variation to the Section 106 agreement.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

The Cabinet Member and Advisors for Children, Young People and Family Services note the current position in relation to the Waverley development.

The proposed deed of variation to the Section 106 Education Contribution agreement be supported to keep the Waverley development viable.

7. Proposals and Details

An initial report on the Waverley development was brought to the Cabinet Member and Advisors for Children, Young People and Family Services on 5th December 2012 and the recommendations below were approved at that meeting:

- A) The permanent removal of the Waverley Estate (formerly Orgreave Mining Site) from the Treeton C of E Primary School catchment area.
- B) A shared interim catchment area for primary provision of Education for pupils living at the Waverley Estate of Catcliffe Primary School and Brinsworth Howarth J & I school be established until the opening of the first Waverley new build School.
- C) The commencement of formal discussions with the Governing Body and the Senior Leadership Team at Brinsworth Howarth in relation to a temporary expansion of the school to meet expected future demand.
- D) An initial catchment area line to define the provisional catchment area boundaries, subject to annual review until such time as the development is established to a point where a permanent catchment area boundary for both primary and secondary provision can be accurately determined.

Update position from the above action points:

- A) The Waverley Estate has been removed permanently from the catchment Area of Treeton C of E Primary School.
- B) The shared Primary phase catchment area of Catcliffe J & I School and Brinsworth Howarth J & I School has been established until the opening of the Waverley Primary School.
- C) Following successful discussions with the Governing Body at Brinsworth Howarth J & I School, a temporary increase in the Published Admission Number (PAN) has been agreed in FS2 / Reception from 30 to 45 2013/14 Academic Year and subsequent cohorts thereafter until the opening of the Waverley Primary School.
- D) An initial Secondary Education catchment area line has been defined and will be kept under review as the development progresses to ensure an equal share of the pupil yield from the development.

Update and current position:

The proposed High Speed 2 rail link potentially passing through or near Waverley and, the current housing market climate is creating some anxiety with the developers Harworth Estates, Barratt Homes, Harron Homes and Taylor Wimpey Homes in

relation to the release of £ 5.5M at the trigger point of the 550th new built home being occupied.

Given these uncertainties and apprehensions, Harworth Estates were keen to discuss the Section 106 agreement currently in place with a view to keeping the site viable with a revised 3,598 dwellings on the site as opposed to the 4,000 original dwellings.

The outcome of the meeting being that a deed of variation to the original Section 106 agreement will need to be drafted, with amended trigger points for the release of funds for the new Waverley Schools. Harworth Estates would like to have the deed of variation agreed in the next 2-3 months if possible.

Provisional agreement has been reached in relation to a phased release of funding to create an eventual 3 form entry primary school on the site (having consulted School Effectiveness Service prior to the meeting) and in the future to make the Brinsworth Howarth expansion permanent.

The proposed new trigger points for release of funding are:

Occupation of the 550th dwelling will release funds for the design / procurement process.

Occupation of the 750th dwelling will release funds to create a 1 form entry primary school.

Occupation of the 1750th dwelling will release funds to expand the school to a 2 form entry primary school.

Occupation of the 2500th dwelling will release funds to expand the school to a 3 form entry primary school.

The original trigger points were:

Occupation of the 400th dwelling will release funds for the design / procurement process.

Occupation of the 550th dwelling released funds for a 2 form entry primary school.

Occupation of the 1550th dwelling will release funds for the design / procurement process.

Occupation of the 1750th dwelling released funds for a second 2 form entry primary school.

The current position at Waverley is that 66 dwellings are occupied and 40 dwellings are currently under construction. The full pupil yield from occupation of new dwellings does not occur instantly.

Primary school aged places have been created temporarily already by the expansion of Brinsworth Howarth J & I School from an admission number of 30 to 45 in FS2 from September 13 and subsequent FS2 cohorts thereafter until Waverley Primary School phase 1 is constructed. School Organisation are comfortable with the revised trigger points given that the school currently has surplus places in all year groups and FS2 entry in September has 24 places allocated with a new admission number of 45 for that cohort.

Creating a single form entry new school and expanding as demand increases, also means that the utilisation of only half of the new school building for several years can be avoided as would have been the case under the original Section 106 agreement.

Given the financial and site uncertainties as opposed to several years ago when the original agreement was drafted, the deed of variation will provide assurances to developers, keep the site viable and provide education facilities at a time and scale more appropriate to the current climate.

8. Finance

The cost of the additional teaching and learning spaces required during the interim catchment area period at Brinsworth Howarth have, been funded from Basic Need funding allocation. The deed of variation to the Section 106 agreement will assure the funding being available on a phased basis for the Waverley new school as trigger points for the release of funds are reached.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The main risk in the allocation of catchment areas is that there could be too much demand for a specific school. As the arrangement is of a temporary nature until the opening of the first primary school phase and clear definition of the boundary for secondary schools can be determined the risk will be managed as, the more houses are built the clearer the boundary for catchment areas will be defined.

There are always risks and uncertainties when school place provision is considered since future pupil numbers are based on estimations. Over provision at one school could influence pupil numbers at other schools. Local Authorities are obliged, however, to provide sufficient places, promote diversity and increase parental preference.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The major theme supported by the proposal is 'to ensure that everyone has access to skills, knowledge and information to enable them to play their part in society'.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Consultation to establish the initial catchment area arrangements for the Waverley Development from September to December 2012.
Report to Cabinet Member 5th December 2012 and approval to establish Education arrangements for the Waverley development.

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