

SOAG – Expansion of places at Woodley School
Thursday 22 February 2024

Present: Martin Wilby, Head of Places and Access (Chair)
Jane Lima, School Organisation & Planning Team Manager
Cllr Kath Pinnock
Cllr Elizabeth Smaje
Rik Robinson, Headteacher, Ravenshall School
Dawn Pitt, PCAN
Ben Barnett, School Organisation & Planning

Apologies: Cllr Elizabeth Reynolds
Cllr Viv Kendrick
Cllr Yusra Hussain

MW gave an overview of the SOAG meeting and its purpose.

4a. Review of statutory processes using checklist:

Consultation (non-stat): Agreed that consultation has been effective and appropriate, process has been followed.

(DP joined the meeting)

Publication: Agreed proposals published appropriately, process has been followed correctly.

Representation: There was consensus at SOAG that Cabinet should be made aware of the publication of both statutory proposals and the formal permission to transfer three representations from the first representation period to the second representation period, upon which the decision would be based.
Confirmed process has been followed correctly.

Decision: Confirmed process has been followed and a decision can be made in the required time frame

4b. DfE Guidance

- *Representation (formal consultation) and decision* – reviewed and confirmed that the statutory process has been followed (three representations received, all supportive).
- *Education standards and diversity of provision* – reviewed and confirmed. Woodley is rated 'good' by Ofsted so additional places will mean more pupils will benefit.
- *Equal opportunity issues* – reviewed and confirmed no adverse impact expected (an integrated impact assessment has been undertaken).
- *Community cohesion* – reviewed and confirmed no adverse impact expected (the school would continue to provide primary, secondary and post-16 education across Kirklees).
- *Travel and accessibility* – It was felt further detail should be added about the satellite site and home-to-school transport, clarifying that no pupil would be at a disadvantage whether assigned to the main school or a satellite site. To make clear all pupils will be treated equitably.
- Funding – reviewed and confirmed funding arrangements are in place.
- Implementation – reviewed and confirmed no issues.

- School premises and playing fields – reviewed and confirmed that design will take into account feedback from pupils and staff, and safety.

4c Conclusions and recommendations

Subject to the above points being addressed, SOAG agreed the rationale for the proposals had been clearly articulated against the factors in the decision maker's guidance.

4d Final conclusions and recommendations

SOAG advice is that Kirklees Council Cabinet are able to take a decision about increasing the places at Woodley School and college to 194.