

## STOCKPORT COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET– SUMMARY SHEET

**Subject:** Woodford Development - New School Governance Decision

**Report to Cabinet**

**Date:** 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**Report of:** (a) Cabinet Member for Children, Family Services & Education, Cabinet Member for Resources, Commissioning & Governance

**Key Decision:** (b) Y

Forward Plan ☒ General Exception ☐ Special Urgency ☐ (Mark with a Y if applicable)

#### **Summary:**

As a part of the new Woodford housing development (building 920 homes), the developer is obliged via a section 106 agreement, to have constructed a single form entry (FE) primary school building and pass the freehold to the Council for no consideration. The site requires a decision as to how the school is governed.

There are 2 options available to Local Authority regarding the management and governance of the new school. The Local Authority can recommend that an existing community school transfers to the new site and is expanded or the site is offered, though a competitive process, as a free school/academy.

Both Queensgate Primary (Community School) and at least one Multi-Academy Trust are interested in taking over the governance and management of the new school site.

The main report outlines an appraisal of both options in line with an agreed common aim within the ONE Stockport Brough Plan that we have sufficient places in good local inclusive schools at the heart of the community that children and families want to go to.

The decision to be taken is a Key Decision by the Cabinet pursuant to the council's constitution.

#### **Comments/Views of the Cabinet Member: (c)**

It is important to gain insight from a wide range of stakeholders and gain further understanding of the implications of the 2 options. Listening to feedback and gaining further detail will inform the recommendations and decision.

#### **Recommendation(s) of Cabinet Member: (d)**

That Cabinet determines that, subsequent to continued stakeholder engagement in June and July 2021 and further work on place planning projections, a formal consultation on a final proposal and preferred option will be undertaken from September 2021.

That Cabinet agrees that the decision to begin consultation will be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive and the Director of Education in consultation with lead portfolio holders for Children, Family Services and Education and Resources, Commissioning & Governance, and that Cabinet will make the final decision in December 2021.

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**Relevant Scrutiny Committee** (if decision called in): **(e)**  
Children & Families and CRMG

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**Background Papers** (if report for publication): **(f)**

Contact person for accessing  
background papers and discussing the report

**Officer:** Geraldine Gerrard  
**Tel:** 07800 617 956

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**‘Urgent Business’:** **(g)** **No**

**Certification** (if applicable)

This report should be considered as ‘urgent business’ and the decision exempted from ‘call-in’ for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/ Borough Treasurer for the decision to be treated as ‘urgent business’ was obtained on /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.

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