



**Author/Lead Officer of Report:** Nicola Shearstone, Head of Commissioning, Early Support & Prevention

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**Report of:** *John Macilwraith, Executive Director, People Services*  
**Report to:** *Councillor Bob Johnson, Council Lead*  
**Date of Decision:** *23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021*  
**Subject:** *Approval for Temporary Expansion at Dore Primary School*

Is this a Key Decision? If Yes, reason Key Decision:-	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
- Expenditure and/or savings over £500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	
- Affects 2 or more Wards	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Which Cabinet Member Portfolio does this relate to? Education and Skills		
Which Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee does this relate to? Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? (People/PL/130421)		
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-		
<i>"The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)."</i>		

**Purpose of Report:**

To seek approval for a temporary mobile unit to be constructed on Dore Primary School site for September 2021. This is to accommodate a single bulge year group in planning area Dore & Totley.

**Recommendations:**

- Approve the inclusion of a budget of up to £300k in the capital programme to allow delivery of temporary mobile classroom on the Dore Primary school site to create capacity for an additional class (30 pupils). This would be in place for the next 7 years to take the cohort through primary years, reception to year 6.
- Approve the procurement of the ground surveys by via 3 competitive quotations and the principal contractor via the Yorbuild framework
- Delegate authority to the Director of Finance and Commercial Services or nominated Officer, as appropriate, to award the necessary contracts

**Background Papers:**

Dore Primary Sufficiency Assessment – 1<sup>st</sup> Planner – February 2021

<b>Lead Officer to complete:-</b>	
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.
	Finance: Eugene Walker
	Legal: Nadine Wynter
Equalities: Bashir Khan / Adele Robinson	
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>	
2	<b>EMT member who approved submission:</b> John Macilwraith
3	<b>Cabinet Member consulted:</b> Cllr Abtisam Mohammed
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Decision Maker by the EMT member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.
	<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Nicola Shearstone
	<b>Job Title:</b> Head of Commissioning, Early Support & Prevention
<b>Date:</b> 23/04/21	

## **1. PROPOSAL**

- 1.1 To erect a temporary mobile unit on the Dore Primary School to accommodate a “bulge” year starting at Reception Year in September 2021. School planning forecasts indicate a deficit of approximately 23 places, almost a full form of entry, in school planning area Dore and Totley in the next academic year, after which the NOR is forecast to drop back to match available places.

## **2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE ?**

- 2.1 The decision to proceed with this temporary expansion is expected to have the following impact:
- SCC can deliver on it’s planning commitment for every child to access a local school place,
  - Families in this locality will not be required to travel longer distances to access a school place.
  - Reduced number of appeals to admissions team. Due to the geographical profile of this area, it would be anticipated that many appeals would be upheld meaning,
  - Schools in area would face significant challenge accommodating the additional demand.
  - SCC have entered into a positive relationship with Totley / Dore schools when reviewing any capacity/demand issues into the future.

## **3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?**

- 3.1 SCC and Dore Primary senior leadership team and governors have been consulted on the options; agreement was sought through governing board. As this is a temporary expansion there is no legal requirement for further consultation.

## **4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

### **4.1 Equality of Opportunity Implications**

- 4.1.1 Decisions need to take into account the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 which identifies the need to:
- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act.
  - advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The Equality Act 2010 identifies the following groups as a protected characteristic: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion and belief; sex and sexual orientation.

An EIA has been carried out and highlights that the proposal is for a temporary unit to be built on Dore Primary school site to accommodate a “bulge” year of pupils through the primary school years. Creating additional capacity enables the school to include more pupils who had selected Dore Primary as their first preference either within their catchment or neighbouring catchment areas.

#### 4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

- 4.2.1 The temporary expansion draws on Basic Need Funding from central government for the provision of school places. This funding is already under significant pressure for temporary (2022/23) and permanent expansions for secondary schools in the south west, in planning areas 1 & 7. This overall position will be the subject of a wider briefing report.
- 4.2.2 Under current estimates this scheme is being costed at approximately £200,000, however due to the timescales at which this will need to be progressed a budget allocation of up to £300k is requested to allow the scheme to progress if additional costs are identified.
- 4.2.3 The commitment of funds for this temporary expansion will create no immediate cash flow problems to SCC but will contribute to an overall requirement to commit the council’s own resources to the provision of school places in the next 2 years

#### 4.3 Legal Implications

- 4.3.1 Local authorities have a statutory duty under section 14 of the Education Act 1996 to ensure that there are sufficient schools for primary and secondary education in their areas. The proposal set out in this report will assist the Council in meeting this duty by creating additional places at Dore Primary School.

#### 4.4 Other Implications

- 4.4.1 Teaching / teaching support staff will need to be recruited for the additional class.

### 5. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 **School to temporarily increase PAN and absorb demand.** Officers considered if Dore Primary was able to accommodate an additional single year group without capital intervention. Since September 2020, Dore Primary have created a 26 place Pre-school, using a 'spare' classroom to deliver a nurture unit. This space would have only been suitable for the infant phase. When the bulge year moves into juniors, the classroom would be isolated from the rest of the junior phase given its location on the infant site. Therefore, the school is not in a position to accommodate a bulge year without physical expansion.

**Refurbishment of a caretakers building**

This option was proposed by the school in initial planning phase and reviewed by council officers, who confirmed the caretakers house is unsuitable for a classroom due insufficient size, over two storeys, located at the end of the drive, with access to playground via carpark.

**6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 Erect a single mobile classroom on the Junior playground. School leads have negotiated the addition of an external canopy to the existing single mobile (nurture unit) to allow for free-flow play and a replacement fire door to allow for increased number of people to use the junior hall. By successfully working to tight deadlines and expediting approval processes, this option could be implemented by September 2021. Dore Primary School governors have agreed to proceed with this option.

This proposal will provide the pupil places required to meet the catchment demand for September 2021.