

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION BY CABINET

ITEM:	Report of Pershore Area Review Consultation Findings and Recommendations
Cabinet Members Present:	Councillors S E Geraghty (Chairman), A I Hardman, M J Hart, A Kent, K May, R J Morris, T Onslow, A C Roberts and M T Rouse.
Date of Decision:	27 October 2022
Purpose:	To consider the results of consultation about proposals to change the age range to align schools in the Pershore Education Planning area to a single, two-tier system of education.
DECISION:	<p>Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="719 1048 1390 1216">(a) Considered and noted the findings of the pre-publication Consultation undertaken in October – November 2021 as outlined in paragraphs 27 – 29 of the report; <li data-bbox="719 1238 1390 1653">(b) subject to confirmation of a successful business case to HM Treasury by the Department of Education, which proposes funding an expansion at Pershore High School being included in the Schools Rebuilding Programme, agreed a commitment to support a collective change of age range to align schools in the Pershore Education Planning Area (EPA) to a single, two-tier (primary and secondary) system of education; <li data-bbox="719 1675 1390 1955">(c) noted the capital funding detailed in the Council budget for 2022-23, including the County Council’s capped contribution from borrowing of £1.3m in order to deliver either additional accommodation or repurposed accommodation at the LA Maintained schools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="799 1977 1390 2011">(i) Defford-cum-Besford CE First School

	<p>(ii) Fladbury CE First School</p> <p>(iii) Upton Snodsbury CE First School</p> <p>(iv) Abbey Park First & Nursery School and</p> <p>(v) Abbey Park Middle School</p> <p>(d) Noted the request from the DfE regarding disposal of surplus land, as set out in paragraph 56, and agree in principle that if surplus land as identified is sold by Worcestershire County Council at a future date, the proceeds are paid to the DfE for costs incurred in the expansion of Pershore High School;</p> <p>(e) If a coordinated collective solution can be agreed, delegated to the Cabinet Member for Education, the decision to publish the statutory proposals for Abbey Park First and Middle School to change age ranges to a Primary School; and</p> <p>(f) Noted the critical milestones set out in paragraph 59 for changes from September 2025 at the earliest, subject to funding for Pershore High School from the Department for Education.</p>
Reason(s) for the Decision:	To support the desire of local schools and parents as reflected in the consultation exercise, to move to a single, two-tier system of education in the Pershore education area.
Alternative Options Considered:	As set out in the report.
Conflict of Interest (any declared by a consulted Cabinet Member/any dispensation granted)	None
Date the decision is due to take effect:	4 November 2022

SHEENA JONES, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND SCRUTINY MANAGER