

1. Factors which the decision maker should consider before reaching a decision on the proposals.

1.1	Are the proposals related to other published proposals?	The proposal to enlarge Meridian Community Primary School is not related to other published proposals.
1.2	Is conditional approval being sought for the proposal?	Yes. Approval should be conditional upon the granting of planning permission under Part 3 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990(a) no later than 31 December 2016.
1.3	Was a statutory consultation carried out prior to the publication of notices?	A 5-week period of consultation was carried out between 6 May and 10 June 2016. A summary analysis of the consultation is included in the background documents to this report.
1.4	Did the published notice comply with statutory requirements?	The notice complied with statutory requirements as set out in 2.1 of the main report.
1.5	How will the proposal affect education standards and diversity of provision?	Meridian Community Primary School has been judged by Ofsted as a 'Good' school. Expanding the school will increase the number of places available in the Peacehaven area. The proposal will allow more families the opportunity to attend a good school in their local community.
1.6	How will the proposal affect the proposed admission arrangements for the school?	Meridian Community Primary School published admission number will increase from 60 to 90 with effect from 1 September 2018 in line with the physical enlargement of the premises.
1.7	Has due regard under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) been given to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations?	Please refer to the Equality Impact Assessment in Appendix C .
1.8	Will the proposal have an impact on community cohesion?	<p>The vast majority of pupils (84.3%) according to the January 2016 school census are of White British Heritage. This is broadly in line with that of the population across the County based on the 2011 census. 15% of the pupils who attend the school are from a Black and Ethnic (BME) minority background. Across the Lewes district 10.9% of the school population is BME (11.9% in primary schools).</p> <p>Data for Meridian Community Primary School indicates that the percentage of pupils with English as an Additional Language (EAL) is 4.8% (years 1-6). This is lower than the East Sussex primary schools overall of 6.1%.</p> <p>We do not believe that the proposal will have an impact on community cohesion. It will have a positive impact for the local community and therefore local children, as more families will be able to access this 'Good' local school.</p>
1.9	Will the proposal have an impact on travel and accessibility?	The proposal is about providing more school places to serve the local community. It is therefore unlikely that there will be an increase in journey times or transport costs. Any impact on parking and traffic congestion would be addressed through the detailed design and planning process. As part of this process the Council is working closely with the Highways Authority to ensure any risks are mitigated.
1.10	Has capital funding been identified and secured to enable the proposals to be implemented?	Funding has been secured from the Schools Basic Need allocation in the approved County Council capital programme to implement the proposal.
1.11	Have any particular issues or objections been raised during the representation period which could directly affect the proposal?	By the end of the representation period no objections or comments had been received.