



Portfolio Holder Decision

Published on 8 October 2025

Decision: Heyford Park School Community Use Agreement

Decision taker: Portfolio Holder for Healthy Communities

Decision Date: 8 October 2025

Is decision subject to Call-in? Yes

Deadline for Call-in: Noon on 14 October 2025

Is decision Exempt? No

Is decision urgent? No

Summary

Heyford Park School landowner currently has a Community Use Agreement with Cherwell District Council for community use access to the sports facilities and changing rooms on the school site.

Due to the requirement to expand Primary School provision, the school is looking to re-purpose the existing squash court to provide additional classroom space as part of the overall development. The decision requested is for the approval of the loss of squash court provision and an amendment of the Community Use Agreement. Acceptance of the new dining room space (located next to the current dance studio) will be used as mitigation in, providing an additional space for the benefit of indoor sport activity for the local community.

Decision

Resolved

- (1) That the removal of the squash court and subsequent amendment of the Community Use Agreement be approved.

Reasons for Decision

The decision to re-purpose the squash court at Heyford School will allow for the expansion of primary school provision. The current usage figures are low, and the

provision of indoor sport has been mitigated through the usage of the dining room area as a multi-purpose space suitable for a variety of activities.

Options Considered

Option 1: Maintain the squash court provision in the current location.

This option was rejected due to the location of the squash court around the alterations to the primary school provision. It would result in the squash court being located in the middle of the primary school and, therefore logistically not ideal for the community using the facility. This would also prevent the layout of the enhanced primary provision linking together.

Option 2: Re-provide the squash court at a different location within the school premises.

This option was rejected due to the lack of available space to build a squash court and the lack of funds to re-provide a squash court elsewhere. Similarly, there is limited evidence of need for a squash court given the usage information provided

Conflicts of Interest Declared and Dispensations Granted by Head of Paid Service

None

Information about this decision statement

Call-in

Notice of call-in must be submitted in writing, by email or text to the Chief Executive by the deadline specified above, and must state the reason or reasons why "call-in" has been requested;

Call-in can be requested by any five non-executive members of the Council.

Decisions not called-in by the deadline specified above will become effective immediately the deadline has expired (unless they are recommendations to the Council).

The Council has stipulated that the call-in procedure should not be used to challenge decisions as a matter of course and should be used only when fully justified.

Shiraz Sheikh
Monitoring Officer