

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 19th November, 2019

10.00 am

**Council Chamber, Sessions House, County
Hall, Maidstone**





AGENDA

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 19th November, 2019, at 10.00 am Ask for: **Joel Cook/Anna
Taylor**
Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Telephone: **03000 416892/416478**
Hall, Maidstone

Membership

Conservative (9): Mr A Booth (Chairman), Mr A M Ridgers (Vice-Chairman),
Mr M A C Balfour, Mr P V Barrington-King, Mrs P M Beresford,
Mrs R Binks, Mr G Cooke, Mr R C Love, OBE and Mr J Wright

Liberal Democrat (2): Mr R H Bird and Mrs T Dean, MBE

Labour (2) Mr D Farrell and Dr L Sullivan

Church Mr D Brunning, Mr J Constanti and Mr Q Roper

Representatives (3):

Parent Governor (2): Mr K Garsed and Mr A Roy

Tea/coffee will be available 15 minutes before the start of the meeting

County Councillors who are not Members of the Committee but who wish to ask questions at the meeting are asked to notify the Chairman of their questions in advance.

Webcasting Notice

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for the live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by any member of the public or press present. The Chairman will confirm if all or part of the meeting is to be filmed by the Council

By entering into this room you are consenting to being filmed. If you do not wish to have your image captured please let the Clerk know immediately.

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)

A - Committee Business

- A1 Introduction/Webcast Announcement
- A2 Apologies and Substitutes
- A3 Declarations of Interests by Members in items on the Agenda for this Meeting
- A4 Minutes of the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 26 July 2019 (Pages 7 - 12)
- A5 Minutes of the reconvened meeting of the Pupil Premium Select Committee held on 2 September 2019 (Pages 13 - 16)

B - Any items called-in – NONE

C - Any items placed on the agenda by any Member of the Council for discussion

- C1 Review of the Planned Provision of School Places within the Thanet Area (Pages 17 - 36)

MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC FOR EXEMPT BUSINESS

That, under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

EXEMPT ITEMS

At the time of preparing the agenda there was an exempt appendix to item C1. During this and any such items which may arise the meeting is likely NOT to be open to the public.

Benjamin Watts
General Counsel
03000 416814

Monday, 11 November 2019

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Friday, 26 July 2019.

PRESENT: Mr A Booth (Chairman), Mr A M Ridgers (Vice-Chairman), Mr P V Barrington-King, Mrs R Binks, Mr R H Bird, Mr D L Brazier (Substitute) (Substitute for Mr M A C Balfour), Mr D Farrell, Mr R C Love, OBE, Dr L Sullivan, Mr J Wright and Mr I S Chittenden (Substitute) (Substitute for Mrs T Dean, MBE)

ALSO PRESENT: Mr M Whiting, Mr A R Hills, Mrs C Bell and Mr K Pugh

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms P Southern (Corporate Director, Adult Social Care and Health), Ms C McKenzie (Sustainability and Climate Change Manager) and Mr J Cook (Scrutiny Research Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

6. Apologies and Substitutes

(Item A2)

Apologies had been received from Mr Balfour, Mrs Beresford, Mr Cooke and Mrs Dean. Mr Brazier substituted for Mr Balfour and Mr Chittenden substituted for Mrs Dean.

7. Minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2019

(Item A4)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2019 were, subject to a minor correction to the attendance listings, a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

8. Loneliness and Social Isolation Select Committee Action Plan - 3 months on update

(Item A5)

1. Mr Pugh (Chair of the Loneliness and Social Isolation Select Committee) provided in introduction to the item, explaining that he had been asked by Cabinet to be involved in the Executive response to the Select Committee's recommendations. A key action requested of him was to work on the development of the Member Panel that would be established to monitor relevant work in relation to loneliness and social isolation.

2. Penny Southern (Corporate Director Adult Social Care & Health) delivered a presentation, which outlined the Executive response to the Select Committee's recommendations. She explained that her Directorate was the KCC Lead and that she would be the accountable officer for delivering the response to the recommendations from the report. She advised that the presentation and current plan for responding did not cover budget implications as the initial review had been

focused on what needed to be done and that resourcing would be considered as further progress was made.

3. Ms Southern explained that the process of reviewing the recommendations had involved four phases;

- Engagement
- Assessment
- Implementation
- Sustainability

4. She advised that the last phase was crucial as all progress and developments had to be sustainable for them to have a reasonable impact and that they would allow KCC to continue to help people appropriately. In terms of timetabling, the plan was that a full response to all recommendations would be developed by October 2019 and that full implementation of the response would take place by October 2020.

5. The presentation outlined the main response element to each recommendation, with key points as follows:

- Work with groups other than older people (as focused on in the main Topic Review) would drive and be linked to a complex piece of work involving field activity identifying relevant people and seek find preventative solutions.
- Important elements of corporate strategy for this area would be incorporated into the Civil Society Strategy rather than being created as a separate strategic document.
- Rather than focusing on a single launch event, KCC would be developing a longer term communications campaign and this would involve the development and promotion of a new toolkit (linked to other recommendations).
- KCC would seek to make best use of existing platforms, while also highlighting the planned toolkit. Signposting to a single point of access was already a core outcome of the wellbeing core offer contract but KCC was not intending to create a single platform.
- The social prescribing arrangements in the County were complex and further review and engagement work was required to fully assess the offer. KCC was keen for there to be a single model for this and would link in with relevant partners to achieve better co-ordination.
- Transport elements were important and required further work, which would involve looking at cross commissioning between KCC Transport and Adult Social Care services. This would be linked with the assessment of the Big Conversation Pilots.
- KCC would conduct further engagement and review before deciding on whether KCC should sign up to the Government Pledge relating to loneliness and building social connections. This would involve engagement with other Kent local Authorities and other partners.
- KCC would not adopt the recommended UCLA Loneliness scale as it was believed by the Directorate that the Warwick-Edinburgh Well-being Scale used by KCC Public Health was a more appropriate measure. KCC would seek to embed this preferred measure via contracts in the future.
- A Member Panel would be set up to monitor the relevant activity and as per the introduction, Mr Pugh had been asked by Cabinet to Chair the Panel which would operate under the Cabinet Member for Adult Social & Health.

6. Members discussed the update, commenting on the importance of Social prescribing, highlighting the need for this to be more joined up and easier to access. Members also commented on the benefits of easy access to services via a single online source or phone number. A Member highlighted concerns around the risk of not linking properly with District Councils in terms of planning considerations relating to placement and accessibility of key service venues.

7. Responding to comments and questions, Ms Southern explained that;

- A key focus was to get the message across that this was everyone's business.
- KCC was not necessarily looking to invest more funding to deliver this work but would instead seek to make best use of available resources.
- KCC was keen to work with all appropriate VCS organisations in responding to these challenges.
- KCC had to link with Districts and Boroughs and other partners to ensure a co-ordinated response.
- KCC was keen to ensure better communication channels for those experiencing loneliness and isolation.
- KCC was working towards high level events like the Kent Show.

8. Ms Southern was grateful for the comments of the Committee and would work towards producing some measurable outcomes.

9. The Chairman thanked Mr Pugh, Mrs Bell and Ms Southern for attending the meeting and for answering Members' questions.

RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Committee note the report and progress to date.

9. Select Committee Work Programme

(Item A6)

1. Mr Hills, as the Topic Proposer, provide an overview of his proposal that a Climate Change and its effect on Kent be established. He explained that there continued to be concerning information being released by the Met Office and other parties and that this included detailed examination of potential serious climate related problems. Mr Hills highlighted that a long term strategy had been launched to deal with coastal flooding and climate change and that the Environment Agency (EA) was preparing for a 4 degree rise in temperature. He advised the Committee that given the expect development activity, coastline length and population growth in Kent, it was vital that KCC fully understood the challenges so that it could prepare and respond appropriately.

2. Mr Whiting (Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste) thanked Mr Hills for raising the topic and agreed that it was a very important issue. However, he advised the Committee that KCC already recognised that a great deal of work was required and that to respond effectively, a large amount of information had to be collected and analysed, in line with the resolution of County Council with regard to the UK Environment and Climate Change Emergency. Mr Whiting highlighted that both the EA and central Government were developing relevant plans with regard to coastal risk management in relation to climate change and that consideration was being given to flood plain management.

3. Mr Whiting summarised the response to the proposal, advising that in view of the all the activity already taking place at both local and national level, combined with the time needed to allow the Growth, Environment and Transport directorate to collect the necessary information, it was not appropriate to establish the Select Committee at this time but that the matter could be reconsidered in early 2020 when more information might be available.

4. Carolyn McKenzie (Head of Sustainable Business and Communities) reassured the Committee that KCC had completed its own impact and risk assessment using the government model. She explained that this was very detailed and had provided an excellent starting point to build on as part of the extensive ongoing work. She highlighted that the Kent Environment Strategy would involve monitoring this important issue.

5. Members discussed the proposal and the Executive response, noting the points made regarding a possible lack of information being available initially and that a delay to establishing the Select Committee may remedy this. It was also noted that the issue remained quite broad with wide reaching elements and that it would be important to carefully consider the scope of the Select Committee if and when progressed.

6. Members also discussed the idea of more than one Select Committee being run concurrently, however the Clerk explained to the Committee that there were insufficient resources to do so but that the accelerated pace of the most recent Select Committee might be possible for future ones, allowing more to be conducted in a shorter period of time, while still not overlapping.

7. It was agreed that, in recognition of the importance of the issue, the Climate Change and its Effect on Kent Select Committee be added to the Topic Review Work Programme.

8. Mr Bird proposed, seconded by Mr Booth, that the Committee resolve to establish the Affordable Housing Select Committee upon the completion of the current Knife Crime Select Committee and that Climate Change Topic review follow.

RESOLVED that;

- The Climate Change and its Effect on Kent Topic Review be approved for inclusion on the work programme;
- The Select Committee on Affordable Housing be established and formal work to commence upon the completion of the Knife Crime Select Committee;
- The General Counsel be asked to explore options for increasing resourcing for supporting Topic Reviews.

10. Exempt minute of the meeting held on 9 July 2019
(Item A8)

RESOLVED that the exempt minute of the meeting held on 9 July 2019 was a correct record and that it be signed by the Chairman.

- (a) **FIELD**
- (b) **FIELD_TITLE**

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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE - PUPIL PREMIUM

MINUTES of a meeting of the Select Committee - Pupil Premium held in the Swale 3, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Monday, 2 September 2019.

PRESENT: Mrs L Game (Chairman), Mr A Booth, Mrs T Dean, MBE, Ms S Hamilton, Mr J P McInroy and Dr L Sullivan

ALSO PRESENT: Mr R W Gough

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr K Abbott (Director of Education Planning and Access), Mr J Roberts (Chief Executive Officer – The Education People) and Mrs A Taylor (Scrutiny Research Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS**1. One year on update report**

(Item 1)

1. Mrs Game welcomed Select Committee Members and invited guests to the one year on reconvened meeting of the Pupil Premium Select Committee. She invited Mr Gough to introduce his report.

2. Mr Gough (Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education) explained that this issue continued to be very topical. Validated data would be available in January 2020 which would demonstrate the impact of the work done so far. There were a number of overlaps between the work done following the publication of the Select Committee recommendations and work done across the Education Directorate.

Recommendation 1

3. James Roberts (Chief Executive, The Education People) explained that the key point in relation to Recommendation 1 was work with external communications groups. Officers would provide information on the take up of the focus groups held with schools to better understand techniques and incentives that work best with families to promote registration.

4. In response to a question Mr Roberts would provide clarification on whether children with SEND had to register for Pupil Premium Funding (and Free School Meals). A Member commented that some schools informed Members that they could register for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Funding and Members discussed the cycle in deprived areas with little parental support at home and low adult literacy levels. This should be considered by schools when communicating with families.

Recommendation 2

5. Following a discussion Officers would provide further information on the percentage of Kent schools that had identified a school governor to act as champion for all children in receipt of any type of Pupil Premium.

Recommendation 3

6. This was work in progress with the pilot project originally located in five Swale schools. Officers were considering ways in which the project could be scaled up to have the biggest impact and how it could be best targeted. Officers would provide further information on the pilot project in the five Swale schools including cost and experience of those schools.

Recommendation 4

7. The Directorate were reviewing the Transition Matters Framework and Toolkit, it was considered that the way in which the transition from primary to secondary school was handled was essential.

Recommendation 5

8. Mr Gough commented on the comprehensive approach taken with the Clinical Commissioning Groups, he referred to work undertaken on the use of a nationally recognised framework supported by Marie Gascoigne. This was part of Workstream 4 and was within the written statement of action.

9. Members discussed the difference in cost of prevention versus speech and language therapy once children are at school. There were concerns that there was too much focus on the end product, it was important to tackle the issues but also important to look at ways of preventing the issues. Keith Abbot explained that it was possible to access government grants for parenting courses and the option to adapt courses through adult education centres and family learning, however there were concerns about the engagement of hard to reach families, the ways in which the courses were delivered was crucial. Pre-school settings had a good track record of picking up development issues with young children.

Recommendation 6

10. Mr Gough confirmed that he had written to the former Secretary of State, asking that, given the strong interest in social mobility and early years, Pupil Premium was given serious priority. The response confirmed that the Government recognised the need to keep the evidence base on early years up to date, KCC was assured that the comments made were taken into consideration and would inform the next spending review to which any future funding would be aligned. The Select Committee instructed Mr Gough to write again to the current Secretary of State enclosing the previous letter written and response provided asking that Early Years Pupil Premium is given sufficient priority in future spending reviews.

Recommendation 7

11. Members asked for clarification around the response to this recommendation, whether it was possible to undertake a pilot to get evidence? Officers to confirm whether there is a regulation that states that KCC cannot top up the Early Years Pupil Premium funding rate. Was it possible to choose one or two schools to pilot and monitor results?

Recommendation 8

12. A discussion was had around whether the placing authority had really considered what was in the best interest of the child and had the placing authority really liaised with KCC?

Recommendation 9

13. James Roberts confirmed that toolkits would be distributed towards the end of September. Officers would circulate the Pupil Premium Toolkit to Members of the Select Committee.

Recommendation 10

14. Improvement advisors were picking up best practice and feeding it back. Members considered it would be useful to have further information on the progress made by Suffolk County Council. Officers to report back on the progress made by Suffolk County Council.

Conclusion

15. The Clerk confirmed that the minutes of the reconvened Select Committee would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee in October 2019 and from there the Scrutiny Committee could decide what further discussions should be had around the follow up of recommendations. It was suggested that Scrutiny Committee would be asked for a further meeting to take place at the beginning of February 2020.

16. The Chairman thanked the guests for attending the meeting and for answering Members' questions.

RESOLVED that the Select Committee note the progress to date of the Pupil Premium Select Committee recommendations and recommend to the Scrutiny Committee that a further meeting take place (either of the Select Committee or the main Scrutiny Committee) in February 2020.

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By: Ben Watts, General Counsel
To: Scrutiny Committee – 19 November 2019
Subject: Review of the planned provision of school places within the Thanet area

Background

- (1) On 17 October 2019 Mr Carter, when Leader of the Council, took a decision to approve a variation to the existing school place planning in Thanet through an urgent application being made to the Secretary of State to terminate the Academy Presumption process published in November 2017. The Record of Decision is attached at Appendix 1.
- (2) In accordance with the terms of reference of the Scrutiny Committee, the Chairman and Spokespeople have agreed to place this issue on the agenda of the Scrutiny Committee.
- (3) Any Member has a legal right to place an item on the Scrutiny Committee agenda. In this case, Mr Carter's decision is not being 'called in' and therefore its implementation cannot be delayed or overturned by it being placed on the Scrutiny Committee agenda. The Committee may decide, however, to make comments or recommendations to the Cabinet Member for his consideration and response.
- (4) Appendix 1: Record of Decision
Appendix 2: **EXEMPT** Decision Report – Reviewing the planned provision of school places within the Thanet area
Appendix 3: EqIA

Recommendation

- (5) The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and make comment.

Contact: Anna Taylor/Joel Cook Tel: 01622 694764/416892

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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Paul Carter, Leader of the Council

DECISION NO:

19/00078

For publication**Key decision***

This is a key decision, as it involves expenditure over £1m

Subject: Reviewing the planned provision of school places within the Thanet area.

Decision:

As Leader of the Council, I approve a variation to the existing school place planning in Thanet through an urgent application being made to the Secretary of State to terminate the Academy Presumption process published in November 2017.

On the basis of approval from the Secretary of State being forthcoming, I further agree, subject to normal KCC and statutory school consultations, to KCC reversing its decision (17/0088) to establish a new secondary school in Thanet and instead;

- Agreement is given to the expansion of Ursuline College by 1 Form of Entry (FE) (5FE to 6FE) and King Ethelbert's School by 2FE (from 5FE to 7FE)
- Agreement is given to the temporary expansion of Royal Harbour Academy to meet the additional need up to 2023/24

Reason(s) for decision:

My reason for the decision is as follows:

- It provides the best use of public resource with potential savings of at least £10.3 million capital.
- School rolls have not grown to the extent predicted in Thanet. Principally as a result of new housing build out rates being significantly lower than anticipated based on the Thanet Local Plan. I believe that the shortfall against earlier projections should be materially reflected in our planning for future years and accordingly am persuaded that reducing the anticipated need is reasonable.
- In my view, the proposed strategy presents the best case for improving Educational Outcomes for young people in Thanet
- Numbers currently entering primary schools in Year R, 1 and 2 are dropping significantly.
- Expanding existing secondary schools strengthens the viability of Thanet secondary schools – both financially and educationally.
- The strategy to expand existing secondary schools in Thanet, has the full support of all Thanet secondary heads The extent of their support is shown in a letter signed by all secondary headteachers on 15 October 2019 and is appended to this decision.

It is on this basis that I seek to vary the existing commissioning plan and apply to the Secretary of State to terminate the presumption process and seek support to pursue alternative arrangements to meet the educational needs in that locality.

Reason for urgency:

The Department for Education (DfE) have indicated that they are only willing to consider proposals when they are formally put before them. Given the urgent timelines, I have concluded that it is imperative to bring forward the decision urgently and that KCC cannot wait for the conclusion of the normal key decision timetable.

The short-term demand on places in Thanet in the next two to three years rises to 5FE in 2021 and reduces to 1FE in 2025. Urgency is therefore required to obtain the DfE's formal support. Note, building a new 6FE school in Margate would not be completed until September 2022, which is predominantly post bulge and therefore an interim solution needs to be found.

To provide clarity on the way forward and seeking clarity in their respective statutory positions, both the General Counsel and Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education also believe that the decision is now urgent.

Equality Implications:

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken and can be viewed on request. All identified issues have been mitigated and considered as part of this decision.

Business Plan:

The decision relates to the method for KCC to meet its Statutory duty to provide suitable education provision.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The decision has not been considered by Cabinet Committee due to the need to take the decision urgently – the relevant Chair and Spokespeople have been consulted.

CYPE Cabinet Committee – Gary Cooke (Chair), Trudy Dean and Dara Farrell

The Local Members for the affected Divisions were consulted and one supportive additional comments were provided for inclusion on the Record of Decision.

Rosalind Binks (Conservative - Broadstairs)
Karen Constantine (Labour - Ramsgate)
Emma Dawson (Conservative - Birchington and Rural)
Lesley Game (Conservative - Cliftonville)
Liz Hurst (Conservative – Birchington and Rural)
Barry Lewis (Labour – Margate) - Agreed with proposals
Paul Messenger (Independent – Ramsgate)

Necessity for urgency process was discussed with the Chair of the Scrutiny Committee and the relevant Corporate Director – both agreed that the decision could not be reasonably deferred.

Comments from consulted Members:

Andy Booth – Chair of Scrutiny Committee

- 1) I am very concerned about this Council reversing any decision, particularly one of such significance. Education is a priority and we are all very aware of the magnitude of feeling amongst the population of Kent.
- 2) Irrespective of the house build rate in Thanet and the school roll – looking toward the future for housing and demand ultimate necessity for school placements I believe wherever we have undertaken the decision to increase the school portfolio (buildings) we should adhere to it.
- 3) Whilst expansion/extension of schools forms an important part of the equation, I am particularly concerned about the effect on the infrastructure surrounding this building work. The disruption on the school(s) – logistics of construction, hours of allowable operation, term time relationships with the school – and the effect these works have on the school pupils.
- 4) Finance is always a key decision issue and it is far easier to look at the big numbers now and take a deep breath. Expansion/extension work to existing schools is usually accepted to have a number of additional variations (building and services related) – due to unforeseen issues and design implications. Keeping a very close eye on the budget more often leads to compromise and a 'make do' result. In my experience, a new build development has better isolation, less impact and by definition – (subject to prudent turnkey project management) the ability to deliver the very best for the school children of Kent.
- 5) Site restrictions at any existing school that is undertaking expansion/extension works is far reaching. The build program is typically extended due to working hours restrictions that usually creep into the project, delivery scheduling, quiet-working restrictions and as previously mentioned – the unforeseen design and construction related matters.
- 6) Consultation is a key issue with any proposed infrastructure change to the school portfolio. I am concerned that the fullest and considered consultation has not been undertaken. This is not what I would consider to be appropriate.

Rob Bird – Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Scrutiny

1. Although the proposed decision has certain merits, it also involves a number of risks as set out by the Corporate Director and the General Council. Despite this, there is no evidence in the RoD that the proposed decision has the support of the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education, currently Roger Gough. This is particularly relevant at the current time given the expectation that Roger Gough will assume the Leadership role imminently.
2. We have not yet been provided with the text of the letter of support from the Thanet school headteachers, so we do not have any assurance that their governing bodies have agreed to expand their schools as envisaged.
3. There are a number of other omissions from the text of the proposed RoD.
4. I have not yet seen any response from the Thanet members who may have concerns about the academy trusts currently operating in Thanet.
5. Although we have been advised [verbally] that the Minister will take the decision quickly, we have no guarantee of this. Should he wish to take DfE officer advice, there is a likelihood that his decision could be delayed given the policy implications and the known stance of the Regional Schools Commissioner and the National Schools Commissioner in relation to Thanet.
6. I accept that KCC may need to move quickly on this and that it may therefore be too late to go through the full FED process. Nonetheless, in this instance I do not see any pressing need for the decision to be taken tomorrow, without any formal scrutiny.

Trudy Dean – Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for CYPE Cabinet Committee

A. I assume the report confirms that the considerable risk of not proceeding with the purchase of the RSD has been avoided, and I would be grateful for your confirmation that this is the case.

B. Given that the remainder of the decision concerns construction projects with a long lead in time, I am unable to understand why this particular level of urgency is reasonable. There are complex arguments involved and I do not have at my disposal

i. the views of local members, particularly from Margate whose residents would be most negatively impacted.

ii. the views of Thanet Council whose housing projections are being questioned and perhaps wholly disregarded for planning purposes. I note Mr Dunkley's concerns in this regard. There may be local intelligence of which KCC is unaware. Have other Borough housing predictions been examined in this way against KCC's school places predictions? If not, is there a risk of challenge of unreasonableness ?

iii. the views of the Cabinet Member for CYPE.

iv. the results of the EqIA. I would like to see this please.

C. There is significant underperformance in achievement at Hartsdown and I am unconvinced by the argument that extending pupil numbers will improve results. I am most reluctant to invest in schools to which 200 pupils had to be directed last year.

The financial comparisons given are fairly rudimentary, and do not appear to include the costs of additional accommodation required at Hartsdown . Are there none?

D. I have concerns that future relationships with DfE and EFSA may be undermined, with potential negative effects on other Kent projects.

Relevant education consultation processes relating to the expansions will be undertaken in due course and in accordance with statutory requirements.

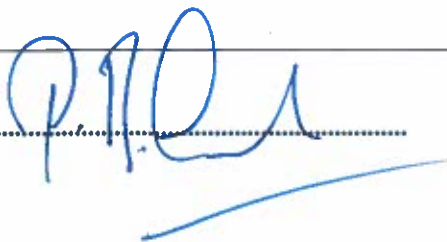
Any alternatives considered:

Consideration was been given to continuing to progress with the previous related decision (17/00088), as per the current Education Commissioning Plan.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None

signed



10.30 AM 17 October 2019.....
date

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Directorate:

Children, Young People and Education Directorate

Name of policy, procedure, project or service

Commissioning additional secondary school capacity

What is being assessed?

Project

Responsible Owner/ Senior Officer

Keith Abbott Director of Education Planning and Access

Date of Initial Screening

October 2019



Screening Grid

Characteristic	Could this policy, procedure, project or service affect this group less favourably than others in Kent? YES/NO If yes how?	Assessment of potential impact HIGH/MEDIUM LOW/NONE UNKNOWN		Provide details: a) Is internal action required? If yes what? b) Is further assessment required? If yes, why?	Could this policy, procedure, project or service promote equal opportunities for this group? YES/NO - Explain how good practice can promote equal opportunities
		Positive	Negative		
Age	No	None	None		This proposal delivers additional capacity required in the short term.
Disability	No	None	None		This proposal will not deliver the 20 place Specialist Resourced Provision for young people with ASD that had been planned for the new school.
Gender	No	Medium	Low		The school will be for boys and girls
Gender identity	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Race	No	None	None		
Religion or belief	No.	None	None		
Sexual orientation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Unknown
Pregnancy and maternity	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Marriage and Civil Partnerships	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Part 1: INITIAL SCREENING

Context

Thanet District Council's proposed revisions to the draft Local Plan (preferred options) January 2017 includes a total of 17,140 new homes over the Plan period to 2031 with approximately 857 dwellings per annum. During the period 2011 to 2016 there were 1,555 new homes built in Thanet.

Secondary pupil numbers in the Thanet district are forecast to grow over the coming years as the increased primary aged population transfers to the secondary phase. The report sets out an alternative option that meets the needs in the case where minimum housing build out comes through.

Aims and Objectives

Aim is to provide the minimum required places to meet current identified need.

- Background documents are:
Kent's Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2019-23
www.kent.gov.uk/educationprovision

Beneficiaries

- The Local Authority

Information and data

The Community

For more detail on the communities within which the schools sit, please visit –
<http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/information-and-data/Research-and-figures-about-Kent/area-profiles>

Proposed Consultation and Community Engagement

N/A

Potential Impact

The proposal will meet the Basic Need in the short-term.

No adverse impacts have been identified at this stage other than non- delivery of the SRP for young people with ASD.

Positive Impact:

Places available locally for children.

JUDGEMENT

Option 1 – Screening Sufficient Yes

Option 2 – Internal Action Required No

Option 3 – Full Impact Assessment No

Sign Off

I have noted the content of the equality impact assessment and agree the actions to mitigate the adverse impact(s) that have been identified.

Senior Officer

Signed:
Job Title:

Name:
Date: 17 October 2019

DMT Member



Signed:

Name: Keith Abbott

Job Title: Director Education Planning and Access

Date: 17 October 2019

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Equality Impact Assessment Action Plan

Protected Characteristic	Issues identified	Action to be taken	Expected outcomes	Owner	Timescale	Cost implications
Age	N/A	N/A			TBC	TBC
Disability	No new SRP provision for ASD	Possibility to deliver in another local school explored	TBC	LA	TBC	TBC
Religion	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A