

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

Shellina Prendergast

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

DECISION NO:

20/00007

For publication**Key decision: YES**

Key decision criteria. The decision will:

- a) *result in savings or expenditure which is significant having regard to the budget for the service or function (currently defined by the Council as in excess of £1,000,000); or*
- b) *be significant in terms of its effects on a significant proportion of the community living or working within two or more electoral divisions – which will include those decisions that involve:*
 - *the adoption or significant amendment of major strategies or frameworks;*
 - *significant service developments, significant service reductions, or significant changes in the way that services are delivered, whether County-wide or in a particular locality.*

Subject Matter / Title of Decision

Proposal to expand Pilgrims Way Primary school, Pilgrims Way, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1XU by increasing the Published Admissions Number (PAN) from 45 places to 60 places from September 2024.

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Integrated Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, I agree to:

- i. Allocate £1.9m from the Children, Young People and Education Basic Need Capital Budget to expand Pilgrims Way Primary school, by increasing the Published Admissions Number (PAN) from 45 places to 60 places from September 2024.
- ii. Authorise the Director of Infrastructure, Strategic and Corporate Services in consultation with the General Counsel and Director of Education to enter into any necessary contracts / agreements on behalf of the County Council.
- iii. Authorise the Director of Infrastructure, Strategic and Corporate Services to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts. Variations to contract value to be no more than 10% above the capital funding agreed by the Cabinet Member without requiring a new Record of Decision.

Reason(s) for decision:**Background**

The Kent Commissioning Plan for Education 2019-2023 identified a need for additional places in the Canterbury City Planning Area due to pressures from new housing developments in Canterbury City and specifically the private development on the former Howe Barracks Site. This development will produce a total of 500 new homes. To mitigate the need for places, it is proposed that Pilgrims Way will expand by 0.5 forms of entry (FE) to become a 2FE Primary school. Pilgrims Way is the nearest

primary school to these developments and was named for any developer contributions linked to the development of private housing on the former barracks site.

The school is currently being rebuilt under the DfE Schools Rebuilding Programme and the expansion will be implemented in line with the re-building and expansion of the school.

Financial Implications

A feasibility study has been carried out with the costs for the 0.5FE expansion to be £1.9m and to be funded by the CYPE Basic Need Capital Budget and Developer Contributions.

£81,473.63 in developer contributions has been collected by Canterbury City Council towards the 0.5FE expansion of Pilgrims Way Primary School. A further £843,560 is expected but not received and £4,986 has been requested but not agreed. A total of £930,019.63 is therefore expected from developer contributions towards the expansion.

Up to £2,500 is provided for each newly provided learning space for ICT equipment from the Capital budget. Totalling £10,000 for this project.

Legal implications

None identified

Equalities implications

An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced and the assessment identified the following positive impacts:

- Sufficient local primary provision for children in Canterbury to meet the growing need from new housing.
- Future financial viability of the school.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

It has been necessary to take this decision outside of the committee cycle as the Children's, Young People and Education (CYPE) Cabinet Committee on 13 September 2022 had to be postponed following the sad passing of Queen Elizabeth II. The reason this decision cannot wait until the next CYPE Cabinet Committee is that the DfE have confirmed that they need to receive a signed s151 letter for Pilgrims Way by 30th September at the latest. Failure to do this will cause a delay to the project and additional costs will be incurred to ensure the project is completed on time.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

All options are looked at in the report accompanying this decision.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer: None



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signed

22 September 2022

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date

