

From: Sarah Hammond, Corporate Director for Children, Young People and Education

To: Rory Love, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

Subject Expansion of Sir Roger Manwood's School

Classification: Unrestricted

Decision Number: 23/00002

Past Pathway of Paper: Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee – 17 January 2023

Future Pathway of Paper: Cabinet Member Decision

Electoral Division: Sandwich

Summary: This report provides the Cabinet Member with the information regarding the expansion of Sir Roger Manwood's School, Sandwich, and the proposal to pass over developer contributions secured by the County Council to assist in funding this.

Recommendation(s):

The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills is asked to agree the proposed decision to:

- I. Agree a funding agreement between Kent County Council and Sir Roger Manwood's School Trust be entered into to enable £2.1m (plus indexation) of developer contributions to be paid to the School as and when received by the Council.
- II. Authorise the Director of Education in consultation with the General Counsel to enter into any necessary contracts / agreements on behalf of the County Council.
- III. Authorise the Director of Education to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts.

1. Introduction

1.1 Sir Roger Manwood's School is a co-educational selective school in Sandwich. In 2015 the School's Trustees increased the Published Admissions Number from 120 places per year group to 150 and has been self-funding remodelling of the School's buildings to accommodate the additional pupils.

1.2 The Authority has not provided any funding from its Capital Programme to support the expansion of the School. To date financial support has been limited to £285k of developer contributions which the Authority received and

passed on to the School to pay for works undertaken as part of its expansion.

- 1.3 The School has a master plan in place which demonstrates how it will continue to remodel its facilities to address the pressure points created by admitting additional pupils. The plans demonstrate three phases of works. The Authority has sought developer contributions to support the School's expansion from 4FE to 5FE, with agreements in place to the value of £2.1m (including the £285k mentioned above). In line with the CIL Regulations that applied at the time, these contributions name the School and can only be used to support expansion here. They also refer to phases of delivery, again because the CIL Regulations at the time restricted the Authority to utilising no more than five obligations to a project.
- 1.4 Dover District has seen secondary school rolls rising for several years. In the non-selective sector this increase has been absorbed within existing capacity. However, in the selective sector Dover Girls' Grammar School, Dover Grammar School for Boys and Sir Roger Manwood's School have all increased their Published Admissions Numbers and have admitted further pupils. Consequently, the Authority's forecasts (Figure 1) indicate only a small deficit of Year 7 places in forthcoming years. This would not be the case had Sir Roger Manwood's not increased by 1FE.

Figure 1: Secondary - Year 7 surplus/deficit capacity if no further action is taken

	2021-22 capacity	2021-22 (A)	2022-23 (F)	2023-24 (F)	2024-25 (F)	2025-26 (F)	2026-27 (F)	2027-28 (F)	2028-29 (F)	2029-30 (F)	2030-31 (F)	2031-32 (F)	2031-32 capacity
Dover Selective	440	2	3	-6	-6	6	-6	-1	-5	4	27	31	440

2. The Proposal

- 2.1 It is proposed that the Authority enters into a funding agreement with the Trustees of Sir Roger Manwood's School, which is an academy, to secure the additional places it currently provides and to pass over developer contributions, as these are received by the Authority, which link to the three phases of development that facilitate the expansion from 4FE to 5FE.

3. Alternatives Considered

- 3.1 There are two other selective schools in Dover District: Dover Girls Grammar School and Dover Grammar School for Boys. The contributions secured cannot be used to expand these schools.
- 3.2 Dover Grammar School for Girls has increased places in the last few years and offers 140 places in each year (just under 5FE). A new science block has been provided to support the increased numbers.

- 3.3 Dover Grammar school for Boys has just been rebuilt via the Priority School Building programme. This has already enabled the school to expand from 4FE to 5FE.
- 3.4 The expansion of Sir Roger Manwood's added capacity in the Sandwich area, ensuring places are available to support communities local to it.
- 3.5 The option of returning the contributions secured to the developers has been considered and discounted. This would be detrimental to the Kent community.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 As of November 2022, KCC has £741k of banked developer contributions which name Sir Roger Manwood's School and the projects which support the expansion from 4FE to 5FE.
- 4.2 It would be appropriate to enter into a funding agreement for the entire £2.1m of developer contributions. This will set out the individual development agreements from which funding has been received or is anticipated. It will stipulate the monies, and any indexation received with these, will only be paid to the School if and when received by the Authority. This will not place any financial pressure on the Capital Budget.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Authority has a duty to ensure sufficient school places are available. It also has an obligation to spend the developer contributions it receives in line with the terms of the relevant agreement, in this case supporting Sir Roger Manwood's School deliver the additional capacity set out in its master plan.
- 5.2 A legal agreement will be required for £2.1m (plus associated indexation). This will ensure the places funded by this money are guaranteed for the future, that the County Council is able to see building plans and contracts, and be sure that the funding is spent appropriately and in line with S106 agreement terms.

6. Equalities Implications

- 6.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed and the following points should be noted:
- A decision to support this proposal will have the greatest impact on those young people deemed as suitable for selective education within the community. However, over £7,000,000 of developer contributions have been requested to support non-selective secondary school provision across the district (of which over £3,000,000 is within completed agreements) which will support the expansion of those schools when required.
 - The Autumn 2021 census data shows that the non-selective schools in the district have far higher number of pupils eligible for FSM, who have an EHCP or are listed as having SEN support (with the exception of The Duke of York's Royal Military School). When compared to the other two selective schools in the district Sir Roger Manwood's School has:

- fewer pupils entitled to Free School Meals;
- more pupils registered as requiring SEND support; and
- fewer pupils identified as having English as an additional language

However, the data shows that non-selective schools in Sandwich and Deal also have fewer pupils eligible to Free School Meals or have English as an additional language than non-selective schools in Dover Town. This suggests that the lower proportion of pupils eligible to Free School Meals or have English as an additional language at Sir Roger Manwood's School is a reflection of the community served.

6.2 Pupils entitled to pupil premium and who reside within certain postcodes local to the school, are prioritised within the school's determined admissions criteria.

6.3 Noting the above, it is believed that the proposal would have a positive impact on the community. No adverse impacts have been identified on any group with protected characteristics at this stage.

7. The View of the Local Member

7.1 Sue Chandler, Member for Sandwich, is supportive of the proposal.

8. Other Corporate Implications

8.1 None.

9. Governance

9.1 This will be a Key Decision, taken in accordance with the Council's Constitution, and it will provide clear and appropriate delegation to officers to take the actions needed to implement it.

10. Conclusions

10.1 Developer contributions have been secured to support the expansion of Sir Roger Manwood's school. These contributions cannot be used elsewhere.

10.2 Entering into a funding agreement with the School to pass developer contributions as and when received would be appropriate. This will enable the school to add the additional provision planned to support the larger cohorts they have seen since 2015.

11. **Recommendation(s):** The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills is asked to agree the proposed decision to:

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- II. Authorise the Director of Education in consultation with the General

Counsel to enter into any necessary contracts / agreements on behalf of the County Council.

- III. Authorise the Director of Education to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts.

12. Background Documents (plus links to document)

12.1 Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2022-26

https://www.kent.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/131486/Commissioning-Plan-for-Education-Provision-in-Kent-2022-to-2026.pdf

12.2 Equality Impact Assessment

13. Contact details

Report Author <ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Adams• Area Education Officer, South Kent• 03000 414989• david.adams@kent.gov.uk	Relevant Director: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christine McInnes• Director of Education• 03000 418913• christine.mcinnnes@kent.gov.uk
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