

By:	Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director, Education, Learning & Skills
To:	Cabinet Member for Education, Learning and Skills
Subject	Decision Number: 12/01961 - Proposal to expand Repton Manor Primary School
Classification:	Unrestricted

Summary:	This report informs the Cabinet Member of the results of the Public Consultation and seeks agreement to the issuing of a public notice in respect of the expansion of the school.
Recommendations:	The Cabinet Member is asked to approve the issuing a public notice to expand Repton Manor Primary School

1. Introduction

1.1 The Ashford District section of the Kent Commissioning Plan 2012-17 indicates a need to commission additional primary school places in the Godinton area.

1.2 On 12 September 2012, Education Cabinet Committee recommended to the Cabinet Member for Education, Learning and Skills that a consultation takes place on the proposal to expand Repton Manor Primary School.

1.3 This report sets out the results of the public consultation, which took place between 8 November and 19 December 2012. A public meeting was held on 4 December 2012

2. The proposal

2.1 It is proposed to enlarge Repton Manor Primary School by 30 Reception Year places taking their PAN to 60 for the September 2013 intake. Successive Reception Year intakes will offer 60 places each year and the school will eventually have a total capacity of 420 places.

3. Bold Steps and the Kent Commissioning Plan

3.1 This proposal will help to secure our ambition “to ensure every child will go to a good school where they make good progress and can have fair access to school places” as set out in ‘Bold Steps for Kent’.

3.2 The Ashford section of the Kent Commissioning Plan indicates the need to enlarge Repton Manor Primary School to formalise the second form of entry.

4. Outcomes of the Public Consultation

4.1 No responses were received to the Public Consultation. This is not unsurprising as the school’s community are aware that it has opened with a 2FE intake and has been designed and built to accommodate this number of pupils.

4.2 A public meeting was arranged for Tuesday 4 December. However, no one attended.

5. Views

5.1 Local Member

The Local Member is Mrs Elizabeth Tweed who is very much in favour of the proposal. Ashford is still considered to be a growth area and these places are definitely needed.

5.2 Area Education Officer

The AEO fully supports this proposal and believes that this enlargement is a cost-effective and sustainable solution to help meet the increased demand in the Ashford area.

5.3 The Governing Body

The Governing Body of Repton Manor Primary School is supportive of the proposal.

5.4 Headteacher

The Headteacher, Senior Management Team and Staff of the school have been fully consulted and are supportive.

5.5 Pupils

The pupils have been offered the opportunity to comment on the proposal.

Education Cabinet Committee

The Education Cabinet Committee, at its meeting of 18th January 2013, considered and endorsed the proposed Cabinet Member decision to issue a public notice to expand Repton Manor Primary School

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and can be found at:

<http://consultations.kent.gov.uk/consult.ti/ReptonManor/consultationHome>. No changes needed to be made to the Equality Impact Assessment following the Consultation period.

7. Recommendations

The Cabinet Member is asked to approve the issue of a Public Notice to expand Repton Manor Primary School

8. Background Documents

Repton Manor Primary School expansion consultation document

<http://consultations.kent.gov.uk/consult.ti/ReptonManor/consultationHome>

Bold Steps for Kent and Policy Framework

<http://www.ab-consulting.co.uk/Delivering%20Bold%20Steps%20For%20Kent,%20Education%20Learn%20ing%20and%20Skills.pdf>

Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2012-2017

<http://kent590w3:9070/documents/b11518/FINAL%20Version%20Kent%20Commissioning%20Plan%20Education%20Provision%202012-2017%20-%20Published%2020%20September%202012%201.pdf?T=9>

Education Cabinet Committee report – 12 September 2012 – Primary Commissioning – Ashford District

<http://kent590w3:9070/documents/g4880/Public%20reports%20pack%2012th-Sep-2012%2010.00%20Education%20Cabinet%20Committee.pdf?T=10>

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