

By:	Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director, Education, Learning and Skills
To:	Education Committee, 19 March 2013
Subject	Primary Commissioning and relocation of Special Schools (Special School Review)– Thanet District
Classification:	Unrestricted

Summary:	This report updates Members of arrangements in place to ensure sufficient school places are available in Thanet, and seeks the views of the Education Committee on proposals to commission additional provision. In addition, it updates Members on the planned relocation of Laleham/Gap Special School.
Recommendations:	<p>The Education Committee is asked to endorse proposals to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase capacity for September 2013 by adding temporary places in Year R at the following schools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 30 places at Bromstone Primary School ▪ 30 places at Newington Community Primary School and Nursery b) Consult on the permanent enlargement of Bromstone Primary School, Newington Community Primary School and Nursery and Cliftonville Primary School from September 2014 c) Consult on the relocation of Laleham/Gap Special School from its current site to a new site at Westwood Cross.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Thanet section of Kent's "Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2012-2017" indicates a need to add a significant number of school places in Thanet to manage the predicted increase in numbers of children. There is currently pressure on places in Margate and Ramsgate and this pressure is expected to increase. This has been brought about by both the rise in the birth rate and the unexpected number of families moving into the area.

1.2 The pressure on places has been managed through temporary expansion for September 2012, adding 90 places in Year R (30 at Newlands Primary School, 30 at Callis Grange Primary School, 15 at Northdown and 15 at Palm Bay as outlined in the 12 September 2012 report to Education Cabinet Committee. It was also agreed with headteachers that they would admit over their PAN in exceptional cases. Consultation on the permanent expansion of Palm Bay Primary School was undertaken and a public notice was issued on 8 February on the proposal to expand the school from 1.5 FE to 2 FE. The Local Authority has worked closely with The Kemnal Trust in regard to the permanent expansion of Northdown Primary School from 1.5 FE to 2 FE.

2. Primary Proposals

2.1 Bromstone Primary School

It is proposed to consult on the permanent expansion of Bromstone Primary School from 2 FE to 3 FE from September 2014 with a one year temporary expansion from September 2013. The school is in the process of converting to an Academy from 1 April 2013.

- a. Capital: The school would require some remodelling of existing accommodation to provide 3 Year R classes for September 2013 at an estimated cost of £95k. The total cost of providing permanent accommodation is estimated at £2m.
- b. Revenue: The school will receive Growth funding for a maximum of three years to provide protection on the increased Year R admission number of 90 should pupil numbers fall short of this. The school will receive £6k for each additional class opened as a result of the expansion towards the cost of the non-staffing resources needed to set the class room up.
- c. Human: The school will appoint additional teaching and support staff at the appropriate time.

2.2 Newington Primary School & Nursery

It is proposed to consult on the permanent expansion of Newington Primary School & Nursery from 2 FE to 3 FE from September 2014 with a one year temporary expansion from September 2013.

- a. Capital: Accommodation will need to be provided for December 2013 with an estimated cost £400k. It is planned that the accommodation will be phased with the Early Years/Key Stage 1 accommodation provided as the first phase. The estimated cost of the second phase which would be required for September 2014 is £800k.
- b. Revenue: The school will receive Growth funding for a maximum of three years to provide protection on the increased Year R admission number of 90 should pupil numbers fall short of this. The school will receive £6k for each additional class opened as a result of the expansion towards the cost of the non-staffing resources needed to set the class room up.
- c. Human: The school will appoint additional staff at the appropriate time.

2.3 Cliftonville Primary School

It is proposed to consult on the permanent expansion of Cliftonville Primary School from 3 FE to 4 FE from September 2014.

- a. Capital: Accommodation will need to be provided for 2014/15 with an estimated cost of £1.2m.
- b. Revenue: The school will receive Growth funding for a maximum of three years to provide protection on the increased Year R admission number of 120 should pupil numbers fall short of this. The school will receive £6k for each additional class opened as a result of the expansion towards the cost of the non-staffing resources needed to set the class room up.
- c. Human: The school will appoint additional teaching and support staff at the appropriate time.

3. Special School Proposals

3.1 Laleham Gap

Laleham Gap is being re-built on a new site under the government's Priority Schools Building programme. It is planned to move to a new site currently owned by EKO at Westwood Cross, adjacent to the Marlow Academy. It is intended to agree a land swap with EKO to the value of the land required for the new Laleham Gap site and to commence building, subject to planning permission, from November 2013 with the intention that the school will be operating from the new site from January 2015.

It is proposed to consult on the relocation of Laleham Gap school from January 2015.

a. Capital:

The new build is funded through the Government's Priority Schools Building programme

b. Revenue:

There are no additional revenue implications

c Human:

There are no human resource implications

4. Bold Steps and the Kent Commissioning Plan

4.1 These proposals 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'.

5. Equality Impact Assessment

5.1 A Equality Impact Assessment for each expansion proposal will be completed and an Equality Impact Assessment will also be completed for the re-building and change of site for Laleham Gap Special School.

6. Member Opinion

6.1 The proposals are for schools sited in the following divisions:

- a. Cliftonville Primary School – Margate and Cliftonville Division, Chris Wells and Michael Jarvis.
- b. Newington Community Primary School & Nursery – Ramsgate Division, John Kirby and Elizabeth Green
- c. Bromstone Primary School – Broadstairs & Sir Moses Montefiore Division, Robert Bayford and Bill Hayton
- d. Laleham Gap Special School (current site) – Chris Wells and Michael Jarvis; (new site) – John Kirby and Elizabeth Green.

6.2 The members have been informed of the proposals.

7. Area Education Officer Opinion

7.1 Marisa White, the Area Education Officer for East Kent fully supports the proposals.

8. The Views of The Schools

8.1 Headteachers are in agreement with the proposals on the basis that the accommodation is on site ready for occupation at the point at which it is required. Discussions are continuing with each governing body.

9. Recommendations

9.1 Members are requested to endorse the recommendations as shown on page 1 of this report

.Background Documents

9.1 Bold Steps for Kent and Policy Framework

http://www.kent.gov.uk/your_council/priorities_policies_and_plans/priorities_and_plans/bold_steps_for_kent.aspx

9.2 Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2012-2017

[https://shareweb.kent.gov.uk/Documents/education-and-learning/plans-and-consultations/strategic-plans/Commissioning%20Plan%20for%20Education%20Provision%20Kent%202012-17%20FINAL%20\(Sept-2012\).pdf](https://shareweb.kent.gov.uk/Documents/education-and-learning/plans-and-consultations/strategic-plans/Commissioning%20Plan%20for%20Education%20Provision%20Kent%202012-17%20FINAL%20(Sept-2012).pdf)

9.3 Education Cabinet Committee report – 12 September 2012 – Primary Commissioning – East Kent

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

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