

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

## DECISION TAKEN BY

Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

## DECISION NO.

13/00013

Unrestricted

**Subject: Proposed relocation of Laleham Gap (Special) School and increase designated number of pupils**

### Decision:

I hereby agree to

to issue a public notice to:

- (i) relocate Laleham Gap (Special) School and increase the designated number from 152 to 170 pupil places

Subject to no statutory objections to the public notice being received. I hereby agree to:

Relocate the school and increase the designated pupil places from 152 to 170

**Any Interest Declared when the Decision was Taken: None**

### Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information

- 1.1 The Special Educational Needs section of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2012-17 identifies the current provision available across the County and outlines plans for providing new/enhanced accommodation for ten Special schools including Laleham Gap School.
- 1.2 The proposal is coming forward following a successful bid for funding to rebuild the school through the Government's Priority Schools Building programme. This will mean that for the first time the school can be consolidated in purpose built buildings on a single site. The proposed new site is at New Haine Road in Ramsgate currently owned by EKO at Westwood Cross, adjacent to the Marlowe Academy
- 1.3 A consultation has been conducted regarding the proposed relocation of Laleham Gap (Special) School, Margate and the increase in the designated number of the school from 152 to 170 and took place between 15 April 2013 and 27 May 2013. A public meeting was held on 2 May 2013
2. **Issues and Risks**
  - 2.1 If this decision were not taken, considerable disruption would be caused to the proper provision of school places for future intakes.
3. **Any Alternatives Considered:**
  - 3.1 Alternatives were considered fully as part of the Commissioning Plan and the conclusion of those investigations was that the relocation and increase in designated number of pupils of this school was the most appropriate solution to issues identified.
4. **Cabinet Committee recommendations and other Consultation:**
  - 4.1 A report was presented to Education Cabinet Committee at its meeting on 19 March 2013 outlining the proposal and the financial implications. It was also explained that the decision to issue a Statutory Public Notice will be taken outside of Committee under the provision set out in the Councils constitution.
  - 4.2 A public consultation was conducted, the result of which the cabinet member will have regard to in taking this decision. They are also referred to in the appendices.
  - 4.3 The local members Mr Alan Terry, Ms Zita Wiltshire, Ms Mo Elenor, Mr William Scobie, Mr Trevor

Shonk and Mr Martyn Heale have been informed and as per the council's constitution are included in the report to the Cabinet member, to which he will have regard on taking the decision.

**Background Documents:** None

**Cabinet Member Signature**

*Roye G*  
.....  
signed

5/6/13  
.....  
date

Decision Referred to Cabinet Scrutiny			
YES		NO	

Cabinet Scrutiny Decision to Refer Back for Reconsideration			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration Record Sheet Issued			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration of Decision Published			