

By:	Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director for Education, Learning and Skills
To:	Education Cabinet Committee, 21 June 2013
Subject	Primary Commissioning in Gravesham District
Classification:	Unrestricted
Future Pathway of Paper:	Public consultation
Electoral Division:	Gravesham East and Gravesham West

Summary:	<p>This report seeks the views of the Education Committee on whether to commission additional places in Gravesham as follows:</p> <p>a) commission an enlargement of Chantry Primary School by 1FE for September 2014.</p> <p>b) commission an enlargement of Lawn Primary School by 10 reception places for September 2014.</p>
Recommendations:	<p>The Education Cabinet Committee is asked to consider and endorse or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform to carry out public consultations on the proposals to enlarge Chantry Primary School and Lawn Primary School.</p>

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Gravesham section of the Kent Commissioning Plan indicated a need to commission additional school places to manage the increase in numbers in parts of Gravesham district.
- 1.2 Two enlargements were proposed and progressed at St Botolphs' CE Primary School and Whitehill Primary School, in accordance with the Kent Commissioning Plan.
- 1.3 The commissioning plan also referred to additional demand by 2016 to be met by commissioning an enlargement at Lawn Primary School for September 2015, taking the school to 1FE. This report recommends advancing the timescale by 1 year to September 2014.
- 1.4 Following consideration of all available options, the local authority is proposing enlarging two schools, Chantry Primary School by one form of entry, and Lawn Primary School by 10 Year R places by September 2014. This will increase the number of Year R places in Gravesham by 40 for 2014.

2. Proposals

2.1 Chantry Primary School

It is proposed to enlarge Chantry Community Primary School by 1FE taking their PAN to 60 for the September 2014 intake and a total of places of 420 by September 2020.

- a. Capital - The enlargement of the school requires a refit and furnishing of existing accommodation. The cost of this work will be in the region of £150k.
- b. Revenue - The schools will receive increased funding through the Delegated Budget on a 'per pupil' basis.
- c. Human Resources – Chantry Primary School will appoint additional teachers as required, as the school size increases and the need arises.

2.2 Lawn Primary School

It is proposed to enlarge Lawn Community Primary School by 10 Year R places taking their PAN to 30 for the September 2014 intake and a total of places of 210 by September 2020.

- a. Capital - The enlargement of the school requires an installation of one additional classroom. The cost per classroom is preliminarily estimated at £125,000 to which must be added, some necessary infrastructure improvements. A feasibility study is awaited, but the total potential cost is likely to be in the region of £200k.
- b. Revenue - The schools will receive increased funding through the Delegated Budget on a 'per pupil' basis.
- c. Human Resources – Lawn PS will appoint additional teachers as required, as the school size increases and the need arises.

3. **Bold Steps and the Kent Commissioning Plan**

- 3.1 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’.

4. **Equality Impact Assessment**

- 4.1 An Equality Impact Assessment will be completed for each proposal

5. **Member Opinion**

- 5.1 The proposals are for schools sited in the following divisions:
 - a. Chantry Primary School - Gravesham East division, Ms Jane Cribbon and Mr Colin Caller.
 - b. Lawn Primary School - Northfleet & Gravesend West division, Ms Sue Howes and Mr Narinderjit Singh Thandi.

- 5.2 The members have been informed of the proposals.

6. **Area Education Officer Opinion**

- 6.1 The Area Education Officer for West Kent fully supports these proposals and having considered other commissioning options, is of the belief that these enlargements offer the best location, are the most cost-effective and are the most sustainable solutions to increased demand in the Gravesham area.

7. The Views of The Schools

- 7.1 The head teachers and governing bodies of all the schools have agreed to the proposals.

8 Recommendations

- 8.1 The Education Cabinet Committee is asked to consider and endorse or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform to carry out public consultations on the proposals to enlarge Chantry Primary School and Lawn Primary School.

Background Documents

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

Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2012-2017

[https://shareweb.kent.gov.uk/Documents/education-and-learning/plans-and-consultations/strategic-](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)

[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)

Education Cabinet Committee report – 12 September 2012 – Primary Commissioning – West Kent

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

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