

1 July 2015 - Update

From: Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director for Education and Young Peoples Services

To: Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

Subject: Report of actions taken subject to the Executive Scheme of Delegation to officers - Modification of the decision made on 3 April 2014 to merge and relocate Foxwood and Highview Schools

Classification: Unrestricted

Electoral Divisions: Hythe (Foxwood) and Folkestone North East (Highview)

Summary: Following delays in the project to provide the new school building the implementation of the decision to merge and relocate Foxwood and Highview Schools is to be deferred by delaying the original implementation dates set out in the Record of Decision no. 14/00012 (b) dated 3 April 2014.

The Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform is requested to acknowledge and endorse the amendment of the dates as follows:

- (i) close Foxwood School on 31 August 2016
- (ii) relocate Highview School and increase the designated number from 282 to 336 for September 2016.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The original proposal regarding Foxwood and Highview Schools set out the proposed merger of the two schools to form a “new” school with a designated number of 336 (an increase of 54 places) for September 2015. It was planned that the “new” school would relocate to a new, purpose-built building in Park Farm Road, Folkestone in January 2016.
- 1.2 The Cabinet Member for Health & Education Reform on 3 April 2014 took the decision to merge and relocate the schools.
- 1.3 The project to provide the new purpose-built building in Park Farm Road is undergoing delay, such that the Headteacher and Governing Body of Foxwood and Highview Schools, together with LA officers consider it advisable to delay the closure of Foxwood School, the expansion of Highview School and the relocation of the “new” school until 1 September 2016 when the new building will be ready for occupation.
- 1.4 The Executive Scheme of Delegation to officers provides the governance pathway for officers to undertake necessary actions to implement the decision taken in 2014, in this instance a delay is necessary for the effective management of the implementation and is therefore appropriately agreed by the Corporate Director or Sub-Delegees.

- 1.5 Under the scheme, officers are required to keep the Cabinet Member informed of actions proposed and Mr Gough, Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform is fully apprised of the situation and is in agreement that a delay is necessary; e-mail attached as appendix 1.
- 1.6 In addition Local Members, Mr Whybrow and Mr McKenna will be informed of the delay along with other relevant stakeholders.

2. Equality Impact Assessment

- 2.1 An Equality Impact Assessment was completed at the time of the original consultation.

3. Conclusions

- 3.1 The modification to the original proposal will enable the proposal to be implemented with the least possible disruption to both pupils and staff.

4. Recommendation(s)

The Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform is requested to acknowledge and endorse the amendment of the dates as follows:

- (iii) close Foxwood School on 31 August 2016
- (iv) relocate Highview School and increase the designated number from 282 to 336 for September 2016.

5. Background Documents

6.1 Bold Steps

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-and-policies/corporate-policies/bold-steps-for-kent>

6.2 Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2013-18

[Kent Commissioning Plan 2013-18](#)

6.3 SEN Strategy

[SEND Strategy](#)

6.4 Consultation Document and Equalities Impact Assessment

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

7. Contact details

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