

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,
Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

14/00141(b)

For publication

Subject: Proposal to redevelop and expand Portal House School, Dover

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform I agree to:

- (i) Expand the school by 20 places as part of the project to rebuild the school on its current location by 1 September 2015.
- (ii) Allocate from the Education and Young People's Services Capital Budget Allocate £9m to the rebuild and expansion of Portal House School, Dover.
- (iii) Authorise the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support in consultation with the Director of Law and Governance to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council
- (iv) Authorise the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts

Reason(s) for decision:

On 19 December 2014 the Cabinet Member for Education & Health Reform decided to issue a Public Notice to expand Portal House School by 20 places from 1 September 2015 and allocated £8.5m from the Capital Budget to support the rebuild and expansion. Two objections were received to the Public Notice meaning that a separate decision is required to continue the proposal. Additionally, following submission of a planning application, significant redesign work has been required, resulting in a budget pressure. The current estimate has increased to £9m.

Financial Implications

- a. Capital – The capital cost of the rebuild and expansion of the school will be allocated from the Education and Young People's Services Capital Budget.
- b. Revenue - The school will receive increased funding through the Delegated Budget. Special schools are funded using the DfE Place Plus funding methodology for High Needs Pupils.
- c. Human – Additional staff will be appointed as numbers increase gradually at the school over the next few years.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

19 December 2014: The Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform decided to issue a Public Notice to expand Portal House School by 20 places.

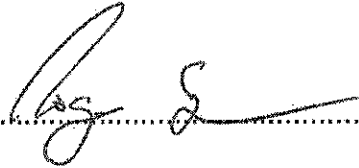
8 July 2015: RESOLVED that the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee endorsed the decision to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform to approve the following capital projects, and allocate funding, from the Education and Young People's Services Capital Budget, of the following amounts in order that the proposals may go ahead:

£9m to the rebuild and expansion of Portal House School, Dover.

Any alternatives considered:

The SEND Strategy explored all options and the expansion of this provision was deemed the suitable option.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:


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Signed

15/7/15
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Date