

**From:** Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director, Education and Young People's Services

**To:** Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee – 21 January 2016

**Subject:** Proposed increase in secondary school capacity in East Kent.

**Classification:** Unrestricted

**Past Pathway of Paper:** Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee, 8 July 2015

**Future Pathway of Paper:** Cabinet Member decision

**Electoral Divisions and Local Members:**

Barton Court Grammar School

- Canterbury South East – Michael Northey

Canterbury High School

- Canterbury City South West – Martin Vye

Spires Academy

- Herne and Sturry – Alan Marsh

Sittingbourne Community College

- Swale Central – Roger Truelove

**Summary:** This report sets out for Cabinet Committee the requirements for increasing capacity in four Secondary schools in East Kent from September 2016.

- Barton Court Grammar School – 1FE expansion from September 2017
- Canterbury High School – 1FE expansion from September 2016
- Spires Academy – 1FE expansion from September 2016
- Sittingbourne Community College – 1FE expansion from September 2016 and a further 1FE expansion from September 2017

**Recommendation(s):**

The Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform is asked to consider the need for additional Secondary capacity in East Kent and agree to:

- i. Allocate £14.2m from Education and Young People's Services Capital Budget.
  - Barton Court Grammar School - £2.2m
  - Canterbury High School - £3.1m
  - Spires Academy - £3m
  - Sittingbourne Community College - £6m
- ii. Authorise the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support in consultation with the Director of Governance and Law to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council; and
- iii. 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.

This decision is conditional upon planning permission being granted for each individual project.

## 1. Introduction

1.1 The Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-20 clearly identifies the need for a significant increase in Secondary school places in the Canterbury and Swale districts.

### 1.2 *Canterbury*

A deficit of 101 Year 7 places is predicted for entry in September 2016. This will be managed through adding temporary places at both Canterbury High School and Spires Academy in agreement with the schools. These temporary places have already been included in the forecasts below and it is expected any additional pressure will be managed through other schools being able to flex their intake number.

The table below sets out the school population figures and forecasts for Year 7 and Years 7-11 in the Canterbury district:

	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)
Year 7	1,568	44	50	-41	-125	-129	-203	-226	-212
Years 7-11	7,747	283	143	45	-182	-375	-624	-900	-1,071

Permanent expansion is proposed from September 2017 of both Canterbury High School and Spires Academy. It is also planned that a 1FE permanent expansion of Barton Court Grammar School will commence from September 2017.

### *Sittingbourne*

Surplus capacity in Faversham and the Isle of Sheppey masks the pressure on places in Sittingbourne. This pressure will become acute in Sittingbourne from 2016, resulting in a shortfall of Year 7 places. Discussions with the Secondary schools in Sittingbourne on providing additional places have taken place. It is planned to commission 30 temporary Year 7 places at Sittingbourne Community College for entry in September 2016. The deficit of places in Sittingbourne has to be considered in the context of the Isle of Sheppey and the number of children who travel off of the island for their education. Therefore careful planning is required to ensure adding capacity in Sittingbourne does not impact unfavourably on Oasis Isle of Sheppey Academy.

The table below sets out the school population figures and forecasts for Year 7 and Years 7-11 in Sittingbourne and also for the whole Swale district. The temporary Year 7 places at Sittingbourne Community College have been included in the forecasts for the district.

	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)
<b>Sittingbourne</b>									
Year 7	945	30	-41	-102	-101	-119	-192	-213	-279
Years 7-11	4725	84	31	-51	-183	-286	-504	-678	-857
<b>Swale District</b>									
Year 7	1,685	172	156	81	-8	-76	-149	-159	-281
Years 7-11	8,369	781	826	806	645	395	72	-243	-605

It is planned to expand Sittingbourne Community College by a further form of entry from September 2017 and to provide the school with accommodation and facilities for the permanent 2FE expansion.

## 2. Financial Implications

a. Capital: The school enlargements require each school to be provided with additional general teaching spaces, specialist teaching areas and facilities. Curriculum assessments for each school have been carried out in order to identify the additional accommodation required for each school project. Budgets have been agreed with the Academy Trusts who will be delivering the project themselves. The costs of the projects as indicated below are estimates and these may increase as they developed. If the cost of any project is greater than 10% the Cabinet Member will be required to take a further decision to allocate the additional funding.

Barton Court Grammar School – £2.2m

Canterbury High School – £3.1m

Spires Academy – £ 3m

Sittingbourne Community College – £6m

b. Revenue: For a period of three academic years the schools will receive protection for additional Year 7 pupils at the rate of £3,803 per pupil. For each additional classroom, resulting from the expansion, the sum of £6,000 will allocated towards the classroom setup costs.

c. Human: The schools will appoint additional staff as and when appropriate.

## 3 Raising Standards and Improving Lives

### 3.1 Barton Court Grammar School

Barton Court is an outstanding school. Ofsted's key findings about the school when it was inspected in March 2014 stated that students of all abilities including those supported by the pupil premium, make excellent progress and, as a result, achievement in all subjects, including English and mathematics, is exceptionally high. School leaders are passionate in their commitment to the school's future success and have therefore confirmed their agreement to expand the school to enable more children to have the opportunity to attend this excellent school.

### 3.2 *Canterbury High School*

Although the school was recently judged as requiring improvement, Ofsted recognised that the school has an inclusive philosophy and ethos and its commitment to giving all pupils a wide range of opportunities and variety of subjects, including in the sixth form, are real strengths. School leaders are working hard to return to being judged a good school and are setting clear directions for improvement. The school is very popular and always oversubscribed.

### 3.3 *Spires Academy*

Spires Academy was judged as requiring improvement in May. However Ofsted recognised that school leaders had high expectations and ambition for the academy and that it was improving. Since the inspection in May a monitoring inspection visit has taken place which reported that the senior leaders and trustees were taking effective action to tackle the areas required for improvement in order to become a good academy. The collaborative partnership with Simon Langton Girls' Grammar School, whose Principal is also the executive principal of the Spires Academy, is contributing well to improvements. The school is increasingly popular and its number of first preferences has risen consistently over the past five years.

### 3.4 *Sittingbourne Community College*

Sittingbourne Community College is a good school as judged by Ofsted in December 2013, where the students achieve well and the learning and progress of different groups is improving rapidly. Ofsted reported that the quality of teaching is at least good and continuing to improve, with many examples of outstanding practice. The school's popularity is increasing and the number of first preferences has risen steeply over the last two years.

## 4. **Policy Framework**

4.1 These proposals will help to secure our ambition "to ensure that Kent's young people have access to the education, work and skills opportunities necessary to support Kent business to grow and be increasingly competitive in the national and international economy" as set out in 'Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council's Strategic Statement (2015-2020)'.

4.2 The 'Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision, 2016-20' identified the demand for up to 8575 Secondary school places in Canterbury district and 9030 Secondary school places in Swale district. If capacity is not added, there will not be enough places available to meet demand and parental preference.

## 5. **Academy Consultations**

5.1 The process to be followed to increase the physical capacity of an Academy is outlined in the DfE advice for Academy Trusts on "making significant changes to an existing academy". Expansion proposals can be fast tracked without having to provide a business case to the EFA. However, academy trusts will need to seek approval from the Secretary of State through the EFA. The academy will be required to carry out a public consultation with stakeholders if the proposed expansion is considered to be a significant change (adding more than 30 pupils and increasing the capacity by 25% or 200 pupils).

## 5.2 *Barton Court Grammar School.*

The Academy Trust carried out a public consultation on their proposal to expand the school on their current site between 30 June 2015 and 18 September 2015. There were 192 responses to the public consultation with 174 “for” the expansion and 16 “against” and 2 “neither for nor against”. At the end of the consultation period the Trust agreed to continue with the proposal and submit a planning application. The build project was considered at Canterbury City Council’s planning Committee in January. The Local Authority provided a statement of support for the proposal.

## 5.3 *Canterbury High School.*

The proposed 1FE expansion of Canterbury High School does not meet the criteria to be considered a significant change. However, the Academy Trust will carry out an informal consultation with parents/carers, staff and governors and will be informing the EFA of the increase in pupil numbers.

## 5.4 *Spires Academy*

The Academy Trust will carry out a consultation with stakeholders on the proposed expansion and will seek agreement from the Secretary of State.

## 5.5 *Sittingbourne Community College*

The Academy Trust will carry out a consultation with stakeholders on the proposed expansion and will seek agreement from the Secretary of State.

# 6. **Views**

## 6.1 The view of the Local Member:

*Barton Court Grammar School* – Mr Michael Northey “I am very much in favour of the Barton Court expansion and wish it every success. It will be much needed in years to come”.

*Canterbury High School* – Mr Martin Vye understands the need to expand Secondary capacity in Canterbury and welcomes the fact that Canterbury High School has been chosen to take in an extra 30 children in Year 7 next September and to expand by 1FE from 2017.

*Spires Academy* – Mr Alan Marsh is aware of the proposal.

*Sittingbourne Community College* – Mr Roger Truelove supports the project to expand Sittingbourne Community College subject to the scheme including ways of mitigating any increase in traffic.is aware of the proposal.

## 6.2 The view of the Area Education Officer:

Discussions have taken place with all the schools involved and with other schools locally. The schools’ leadership teams have confirmed their support for the proposals. All proposals are set out within the Commissioning Plan which has been consulted on with schools, local councils, governors and KCC local Members. These proposals will help meet the local demand for Year 7 places from September 2016 onwards.

# 7. **Proposals**

7.1 *Barton Court Grammar School* expansion, increasing the PAN from 128 to 150 from September 2017. The build project for the permanent expansion of Barton Court Grammar School has been worked up and submitted for planning agreement to

Canterbury City Council by the Academy Trust. An agreement will be drawn up between KCC and the Academy Trust for the delivery of the Project in accordance with the agreed budget.

7.2 *Canterbury High School*, 1FE expansion (30 temporary Year 7 places from September 2016 and permanent 1FE expansion from September 2017), increasing the PAN from 180 to 210 (gradual expansion). It has been agreed that the academy will deliver the build project themselves. Therefore, KCC Capital Projects will arrange a contractual agreement between KCC and the academy trust for the delivery of the Project in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the Agreement and the agreed budget.

7.3 *Spires Academy*, 1FE expansion, (30 temporary Year 7 places from September 2016 and permanent 1FE expansion from September 2017), increasing the PAN from 120 to 150 (gradual expansion). It has been agreed that the build project will be managed by KCC Capital Projects Team.

7.4 *Sittingbourne Community College*, 2FE expansion, (30 (1FE) temporary Year 7 places in September 2016 and permanent 2FE expansion from September 2017 – increasing the PAN from 210 to 240 in September 2016 and then increasing permanently to 270 from September 2017 (gradual expansion). It has been agreed that the build project will be managed by KCC Capital Projects team.

7.5 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed to comply with the Council's equality duty to have due regard to equality considerations when proposing school expansions and commissioning additional school capacity.

## **8. Delegation to Officers**

8.1 The Officer Scheme of Delegation; under Appendix 2 part 4 of the Council's Constitution, provides a clear and appropriate link between this decision and the actions needed to implement it. For information it is envisaged, if the proposals proceed, that the Director of Property & Infrastructure Support will sign contracts on behalf of the County Council.

## **9. Conclusions**

9.1 Forecasts for the Canterbury and Swale district indicate an increasing demand for Secondary school places from September 2016. These enlargement will add an additional 60 Year 7 places in Canterbury District in September 2016 and a further 22 Year 7 places from September 2017. The enlargement of Sittingbourne Community College will add an additional 30 Year 7 places in Swale District in September 2016 and a further 30 Year 7 places from September 2017 onwards. These proposals are in line with our vision to ensure that children and young people in Kent get the best start in life as set out in KCC's Strategic Statement 2015-20 'Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes' and the 'Commissioning Plan for Education – Kent' (2015 – 2019).

## **10. Recommendation(s)**

<p><b>Recommendation(s):</b> The Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform is asked to consider the need for additional Secondary capacity in East Kent and agree to:</p>
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- iv. Allocate £14.2m from Education and Young People's Services Capital Budget.
  - Barton Court Grammar School - £2.2m
  - Canterbury High School - £3.1m
  - Spires Academy - £3m
  - Sittingbourne Community College - £6m
- v. Authorise the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support in consultation with the Director of Governance and Law to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council; and
- vi. 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.

This decision is conditional upon planning permission being granted for each individual project.

## 11. Background Documents

11.1 Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council's Strategic Statement 2015-2020.

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-and-policies/corporate-policies/increasing-opportunities-improving-outcomes>

11.2 Future Provision of Secondary Education Kent

<http://kcc-app610:9070/documents/s53309/Item%20D5%20-%20Future%20Provision%20of%20Secondary%20Education%20in%20Kent.pdf>

11.3 Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-2020

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s61244/Item%20C1%20App%20FINAL%20APPROVED%20KCP%202016-2020%2003.12.15.pdf>

11.4 Equalities Impact Assessment

## 12. Contact details

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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,  
Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

15/00094

For publication

**Subject: The Expansion of Barton Court Grammar School to 5FE**

Decision:

**As Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform I note the governing body's decision to expand the school and agree to:**

- i. Allocate £2.2m from Education and Young People's Services Capital Budget being Kent County Council's contribution towards Barton Court Grammar School's building scheme to provide the additional form of entry.
- ii. Authorise the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support in consultation with the Director of Governance and Law to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council
- iii. 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

This decision is conditional upon planning permission being granted.

Reason(s) for decision:

The Canterbury district section of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-20 has identified a significant pressure on Year 7 places. The expansion of Barton Court Grammar School to 5FE will help to address these pressures and adheres to the principles of our Commissioning Plan as it increases capacity at a good, popular school. In reaching this decision I have taken into account:

1. the views of Stakeholders who responded to the Barton Court governing body's consultation held between 30 June 2015 and 18 September 2015;
2. the Governing Body's decision following the consultation to continue with the proposed expansion of the school and seek approval from the Secretary of State
3. the views of the Local Member
4. the views of the Area Education Officer
5. the views of the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee.

**Financial Implications:**

It is proposed to permanently enlarge Barton Court Grammar School, increasing the PAN to 150 (5FE) for the September 2017 Year 7 intake.

- a) Capital – Kent County Council's contribution towards Barton Court Grammar School's building scheme to provide the additional places will be £2.2m. The Academy has submitted the plans for agreement to Canterbury City Council and will submit a financial plan to the EFA to

request Secretary of State approval to expand and bid for Condition Improvement Funding (CIF) for the capital required for their building scheme. The outcome is expected to be known by the spring term 2016. KCC's contribution is an estimate and KCC has acknowledged that the final amount may be higher or lower. KCC will work with the school throughout the process to ensure that any contribution for Additional Works is minimised as far as possible, but if this increases by more than 10% the Cabinet Member will be required to take a further decision to allocate the additional funding.

b) Revenue – For a period of three academic years, the school will receive protection for an additional 30 Year 7 pupils at the rate of £3,803 per pupil. For each additional classroom, resulting from the expansion of the school, the sum of £6,000 will be allocated towards the classroom setup costs.

c) Human – As an Academy, the school will decide when to appoint additional teachers, as the school size increases incrementally.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

**8 July 2015 Report to Education and Young Peoples Cabinet Committee**

The Committee resolved to note the necessary actions required to increase Secondary school capacity to meet the demands of a growing Secondary school population as detailed in the report.

**15 December 2015 Report to Education and Young People's Cabinet Committee**

The Committee endorsed the Kent Commissioning Plan, which identified a need for additional secondary places in the Canterbury District.

Any alternatives considered:

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-20 explored all options for providing additional secondary school places. This proposal to provide Basic Need capital funding towards the Academy's building project, will provide 150 additional selective places to meet predicted future demand in the Canterbury district.

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

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**Signed**

**Date**

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,  
Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

16/00011

For publication

**Subject: The Expansion of Canterbury High School to 7FE**

Decision:

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

- i. Allocate £3.1m from Education and Young People's Services Capital Budget
- ii. Authorise the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support in consultation with the Director of Governance and Law to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council
- iii. 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

This decision is conditional upon planning permission being granted.

Reason(s) for decision:

The Canterbury district section of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-20 has identified a significant pressure on Year 7 places across the district. The expansion of Canterbury High School to 7FE will help to address these pressures and adheres to the principles of our Commissioning Plan as it increases capacity at a good, popular school. In reaching this decision I have taken into account:

1. The Governing Body's agreement to the proposal and their agreement to carry out an informal consultation with parents/carers, staff and governors.
2. The views of the Local Member
3. the views of the Area Education Officer
4. the views of the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee.

**Financial Implications:**

It is proposed to permanently enlarge Canterbury High School, increasing the PAN to 210 (7FE) for the September 2017 Year 7 intake.

- a) Capital – The enlargement of the school requires the provision of additional general teaching spaces, specialist teaching areas and facilities. A curriculum assessment and feasibility study has been carried out. The total cost is estimated to be in the region of £3.1m. The costs of the project are estimates and these may increase as the project is developed. If the cost of the project is greater than 10% the Cabinet Member will be required to take a further decision to allocate the additional funding.

- b) Revenue – For a period of three academic years, the school will receive protection for an additional 30 Year 7 pupils at the rate of £3,803 per pupil. For each additional classroom, resulting from the expansion of the school, the sum of £6,000 will be allocated towards the classroom setup costs.
- c) Human – As an Academy, the school will decide when to appoint additional teachers, as the school size increases incrementally.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

**8 July 2015 Report to Education and Young Peoples Cabinet Committee**

The Committee resolved to note the necessary actions required to increase Secondary school capacity to meet the demands of a growing Secondary school population as detailed in the report.

**15 December 2015 report to Education and Young People’s Cabinet Committee**

The Committee endorsed the Kent Commissioning Plan, which identified a need for additional secondary places in the Canterbury District.

Any alternatives considered:

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-20 explored all options for providing additional secondary school places. The proposal to permanently expand Canterbury High School to provide 150 additional secondary school places to meet predicted future demand in the Canterbury district was deemed a suitable option.

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

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**Signed**

**Date**

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,  
Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

15/00095

For publication

**Subject: The Expansion of Spires Academy to 5FE**

Decision:

**As Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform I note the governing body's decision to expand the school and agree to:**

- i. Allocate £3m from Education and Young People's Services Capital Budget
- ii. Authorise the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support in consultation with the Director of Governance and Law to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council
- iii. 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

This decision is conditional upon the Secretary of State approving the expansion of Spires Academy. This decision is conditional upon planning permission being granted.

Reason(s) for decision:

The Canterbury district section of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-20 has identified a significant pressure on Year 7 places. The expansion of Spires Academy to 5FE will help to address these pressures and adheres to the principles of our Commissioning Plan as it increases capacity at a good, popular school. In reaching this decision I have taken into account:

- 1 The Governing Body's agreement to the proposal and their agreement to carry out a public consultation and seek approval from the Secretary of State
- 2 the views of the Local Member
- 3 the views of the Area Education Officer
- 4 the views of the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee.

**Financial Implications:**

It is proposed to permanently enlarge Spires Academy, increasing the PAN to 150 (5FE) for the September 2017 Year 7 intake.

- a) Capital – The enlargement of the school requires the provision of additional general teaching spaces, specialist teaching areas and facilities. A curriculum assessment and feasibility study has been carried out. The total cost is estimated to be in the region of £3m. The costs of the project are estimates and these may increase as the project is developed. If the cost of the project is greater than 10% the Cabinet Member will be required to take a further decision to

allocate the additional funding.

- b) Revenue – For a period of three academic years, the school will receive protection for an additional 30 Year 7 pupils at the rate of £3,803 per pupil. For each additional classroom, resulting from the expansion of the school, the sum of £6,000 will be allocated towards the classroom setup costs.
- c) Human – As an Academy, the school will decide when to appoint additional teachers, as the school size increases incrementally.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

**8 July 2015 Report to Education and Young Peoples Cabinet Committee**

The Committee resolved to note the necessary actions required to increase Secondary school capacity to meet the demands of a growing Secondary school population as detailed in the report.

**15 December 2015 report to Education and Young People’s Cabinet Committee**

The Committee endorsed the Kent Commissioning Plan, which identified a need for additional secondary places in the Canterbury District.

Any alternatives considered:

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-20 explored all options for providing additional secondary school places. The proposal to permanently expand Spires Academy to provide 150 additional secondary school places to meet predicted future demand in the Canterbury district was deemed a suitable option.

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

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**Signed**

.....  
**Date**

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,  
Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

15/00096

For publication

**Subject: The Expansion of Sittingbourne Community College to 9FE**

Decision:

**As Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform I note the governing body's decision to expand the school and agree to:**

- i. Allocate £6m from Education and Young People's Services Capital Budget
- ii. Authorise the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support in consultation with the Director of Governance and Law to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council
- iii. 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

This decision is conditional upon the Secretary of State approving the expansion of Sittingbourne Community College. This decision is conditional upon planning permission being granted.

Reason(s) for decision:

The Swale district section of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-20 has identified a significant pressure on Year 7 places in Sittingbourne. The expansion of Sittingbourne Community College to 9FE will help to address these pressures and adheres to the principles of our Commissioning Plan as it increases capacity at a good, popular school. In reaching this decision I have taken into account:

1. The Governing Body's agreement to the proposal and their agreement to carry out a public consultation and seek approval from the Secretary of State
2. the views of the Local Member
3. the views of the Area Education Officer
4. the views of the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee.

**Financial Implications:**

It is proposed to permanently enlarge Sittingbourne Community College, increasing the PAN to 270 (9FE) for the September 2017 Year 7 intake.

- a) Capital – The enlargement of the school requires the provision of additional general teaching spaces, specialist teaching areas and facilities. A curriculum assessment and feasibility study has been carried out. The total cost is estimated to be in the region of £6m. The costs of the project are estimates and these may increase as the project is developed. If the cost of the

project is greater than 10% the Cabinet Member will be required to take a further decision to allocate the additional funding.

- b) Revenue – For a period of three academic years, the school will receive protection for additional Year 7 pupils at the rate of £3,803 per pupil. (30 places from September 2016 and an additional 30 places from September 2017.) For each additional classroom, resulting from the expansion of the school, the sum of £6,000 will be allocated towards the classroom setup costs.
- c) Human – As an Academy, the school will decide when to appoint additional teachers, as the school size increases incrementally.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

**8 July 2015 Report to Education and Young Peoples Cabinet Committee**

The Committee resolved to note the necessary actions required to increase Secondary school capacity to meet the demands of a growing Secondary school population as detailed in the report.

**15 December 2015 report to Education and Young People’s Cabinet Committee**

The Committee endorsed the Kent Commissioning Plan, which identified a need for additional secondary places in the Swale District.

Any alternatives considered:

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-20 explored all options for providing additional secondary school places in Sittingbourne. The proposal to permanently expand Sittingbourne Community College to provide 300 additional secondary school places to meet predicted future demand in the Swale district was deemed a suitable option.

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

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**Signed**

**Date**