

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,
Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

14/00159

For publication

Subject: Proposed expansion of Bysing Wood (Community) Primary School

Decision:

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

- i. Issue a public notice to expand Bysing Wood Primary School from 1FE to 2FE increasing the published admission number to 60.

And, subject to no objections being received to the public notice

- ii. Expand the school
- iii. Allocate £3.2 from Education & Young People's Services Capital Budget.
- iv. 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
- v. 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

Should objections, not already considered by the Cabinet member when taking this decision, be received during the notice period a separate decision will be required in order to continue the proposal and allow for proper consideration of the points raised.

Reason(s) for decision:

The Swale district section of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2015-19 identified a future pressure in the Faversham and Faversham Rural planning areas. The 2016-20 edition of the Commissioning indicates that this pressure will continue. Expanding Bysing Wood Primary School from 1FE to 2FE 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 expressed by those attending the consultation meeting on 28 January 2016, and those put in writing in response to the consultation;
2. the views of the local County Councillor; Governing Body of the school and Staff;
3. the Equalities Impact Assessment and any comments received regarding this; and
4. the views of the Education and Young People's Cabinet Committee.

Financial Implications:

It is proposed to enlarge Bysing Wood Primary School by 210 places taking the PAN to 60 (2FE) for the September 2017 intake and eventually a total capacity of 420 places.

- a. Capital: The enlargement of the school requires the provision of 7 additional classrooms, as

well as ancillary facilities. A feasibility study has been completed the total cost is estimated to be in the region of £3.2. Appropriate funding has been identified as part of the Medium Term Capital Programme. 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 from September 2017, the school will receive protection for an additional 30 Reception Year pupils. 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: Bysing Wood Primary School will appoint additional teachers and support staff, as the school size increases and the need arises.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

17 March 2016

At its meeting the Cabinet Committee for Education and Young People's Services resolved to endorse the recommendation that the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform takes decision (14/00159) to:

- i. Issue a public notice to expand Bysing Wood Primary School from 1FE to 2FE increasing the published admission number to 60.

And, subject to no objections being received to the public notice

- ii. Expand the school
- iii. Allocate £3.2 from Education & Young People's Services Capital Budget.
- iv. 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
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15 December 2015

The Committee endorsed the Kent Commissioning Plan 2016-20, which identified a need for additional places in the Swale District.

Any alternatives considered:

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-20 explored all options for providing additional primary school places. This proposal to expand Bysing Wood Primary School 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

23 March 2016
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Date