

From: **Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education**
Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director for Children, Young People and Education

To: **Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee – 7 September 2017**

Decision No: 17/00067

Subject: **St George's Church of England Foundation Primary School Provision Phase 2**

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper:
Education and Young People's Cabinet Committee Commissioning Plan for Education Provision – 24 September 2014
Decision by Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform – Decision No: 14/00124 – 05 November 2014

Future Pathway of Paper: Cabinet Member decision

Electoral Division: Broadstairs – Rosalind Binks

Summary: This report requests endorsement for the Cabinet Member to allocate the funding for the second phase of the St George's CE Foundation School Primary Provision build.

Recommendation(s):

The Children's Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to consider and endorse or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education on the decision to:

- (i) Allocate £2.6 million from the Basic Need Capital Programme Budget to fund the phased build of St George's CE Foundation School Primary Provision
- (ii) Authorise the Director of Infrastructure in consultation with General Counsel to enter into any necessary contracts/agreements on behalf of the County Council
- (iii) Authorise the Director of Infrastructure to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts

1. Introduction

In September 2016 a 2FE Primary provision was established on the site of St George's Church of England Foundation (Secondary) School, admitting two

Reception, one Year 1 and one Year 2 classes. The plans for the new school building were designed to be delivered in two phases, in order to maximise KCC's capital funding position. The first phase was completed in the summer of 2016 and will accommodate the school for two academic years (2016-17 and 2017-18). It is now necessary to bring forward the second phase of the building project for September 2018, to ensure the school can continue to admit up to its published admission number.

Planning consent was obtained for the complete build, including the second phase. The first phase included the key communal infrastructure within the building to support two forms of entry (2FE). Therefore the second phase of the project entails building works to provide a six classroom block in order to maintain the existing school intake as planned and consulted on.

Since the Primary provision opened in September 2016 it has been very popular with parents. Pressure on primary school places in Broadstairs continues and it is therefore essential to continue with Phase 2 in order provide sufficient places for local children. The continued build-out of the housing development at Westwood combined with the delays in accessing the site for a primary school to serve that development mean that St George's Primary is helping to meet any additional pressure that may come from families occupying the new housing in phases 1 and 2.

2. Background

The requirement for additional primary capacity in Thanet district was initially highlighted in the 2015-19 Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent and was linked to the growing levels of inward migration. The Plan was endorsed by the Education and Young People's Cabinet Committee on 24 September 2015. Decision Number 14/00124 to approve the initial phase of the build was signed by the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform on 5 November 2014.

3. Financial Legal and Equalities Implications

Financial Implications: The funding allocation required to complete the second phase of the build programme is expected to be £2.6m from the Basic Need Capital Programme Budget. In the event of an increase of costs exceeding 10% of the allocated funding, a further decision will be required.

Legal Implications: None

Equalities Implications: An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed as part of the original proposal and consultation.

4. Consultation

A full consultation on the proposal to change the age range of the school and enlarge the school by establishing a Primary school provision on the site took place between 8 September and 6 October 2014. Therefore, no further consultation is required.

5. Kent Policy Framework

Phase 2 of the building programme to enlarge St George's Church of England Foundation School and provide a 2FE Primary school provision 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)'.

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2017-21 sets out how we carry out our responsibility for ensuring there are sufficient places of high quality, in the right places, for all learners and this project supports that aim to provide sufficient places where they are needed.

6. Views

6.1 The view of the Local Member

The Local Member for Broadstairs, Mrs Rosalind Binks, has been consulted about the proposal and fully supports the completion of the primary school. Mrs Binks acknowledges concerns raised locally at Town and District Councils about traffic movement leading into Broadstairs, St Peter's and surrounding the school; and would not support any future proposals which would encroach on agricultural land outside the current planned site.

6.2 The Headteacher, Governing Body and Diocese of Canterbury fully support the project and look forward to continuing with phase two.

6.3 The view of the Area Education Officer:

The establishment of a 2fe primary provision in order for St George's to become an all-through school was fully consulted on and agreed in 2014. The decision taken at the time was to build the primary provision in two phases. The first phase delivering eight classrooms and general facilities to support a 2fe school and the second phase to consist of an additional 6 classrooms to enable the school to meet the demands of 2fe of pupil intake as it works its way through the school. The school is now well-established and proving popular and we now need to start planning the delivery of the second phase to ensure the school has the classrooms it will require in time to meet the need. I fully support the need to bring the second phase of the build forward at this point in time.

7. Conclusions

This report sets out the need for the completion of the second phase of the planned build of the St George's Church of England Foundation School Primary provision. The second phase will enable the school to progress to its total roll of 420 places.

8. Recommendation(s)

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9. Background Documents (plus links to documents)

9.1 Vision and Priorities for Improvement

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-and-policies/education-skills-andemployment-policies/vision-and-priorities-for-improvement>

9.2 Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2017-21

www.kent.gov.uk/educationprovision

9.3 Consultation Document and Equality Impact Assessment.

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

10. Contact details

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