

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,  
Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

13/00091

For publication

**Subject: Proposal to expand Slade Primary School**

Decision:

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

Issue a public notice to expand Slade Primary School, The Slade, Tonbridge by 15 places from 1.5 FE to 2FE.

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

Expand the school

- (i) Allocate £1.5 million from the Education, Learning and Skills Capital Budget.
- (ii) 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
- (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

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 expand the school to allow for proper consideration of the points raised.

Reasons for decision:

The Tonbridge & Malling section of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2013-18 has identified a need for up to 26 additional Reception Year places within the planning group of Tonbridge South.

The expansion of Slade Primary School, The Slade, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1HR will help to address these pressures and adheres to the principles of our Commissioning Plan as it increases capacity at an outstanding, popular school. In reaching this decision I have taken into account:

- the views expressed by those attending the public consultation meeting on 4 November 2013, and those put in writing in response to the consultation;
- the views of the District and Parish Councils, the local County Councillor; Governing Body of the school, the Staff and Pupils;
- the Equalities Impact Assessment and comments received regarding this; and
- the views of the Education Cabinet Committee which are set out below

**Financial Implications:**

It is proposed to enlarge Slade Primary School by 15 places taking the PAN to 60 (2FE) for the September 2014 intake and eventually a total capacity of 420 places.

Capital - The enlargement of the school requires the provision of 5 additional classrooms, as well as ancillary facilities. A feasibility study has been completed. The total cost is estimated to be in the region of £1.5 million of which £0.9 million will be funded from Targeted Basic Need and the remainder from the Basic Need Budget. 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.

Revenue - The school will receive increased funding through the Delegated Budget on a 'per pupil' basis.

Human – Slade Primary School will appoint additional teachers, as the school size increases and the need arises.

Cabinet Committee recommendations:

**27 September 2012**

The Committee endorsed the Kent Commissioning Plan, which identified a need for additional places in the planning group of Tonbridge South and recommended to the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform that a consultation takes place on the proposal to expand Slade Primary School.

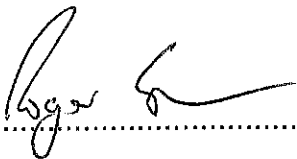
**4 December 2013**

The Committee considered the responses received and the comments made at the public meeting and discussed the concerns raised. The Cabinet Committee resolved to endorse the proposed decision (13/00091) to issue a public notice regarding the expansion of Slade Primary School, to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform.

Any alternatives considered:

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2013-18 explored all options and the expansion of this 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**

**Date**