

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

**Roger Gough,
Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and
Education Services**

DECISION NO:

17/00120

For publication

Key decision: YES

Adoption or significant amendment of major new strategies or frameworks not already included in the Policy Framework, and; a decision that involves significant service developments and significant changes in the way that services are delivered

Subject: Proposal for the Education Services Company to commence trading on or after 1 April 2018.

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education Services, I propose to:

In light of:

- Further information received resulting in Cabinet Members carefully considering the benefits and risks of proceeding with the commencement of trading;
- Detailed briefing provided to Cabinet Members with an opportunity to consider the issues raised;
- Detailed briefing provided to Scrutiny Committee with an opportunity to consider the issues raised.

Having carefully considered and reflected the concerns and issues raised in planning for the business where appropriate, it is recommended that the Cabinet Member decides to confirm the commencement of trading on or after 1 April 2018.

Reason(s) for decision:

On 27 March 2017, Cabinet decided to proceed with implementation of the proposals for an Education Services Company, outlined in a Full Business Case presented to Cabinet and, prior to this, Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee (7 March 2017) and Policy and Resources Cabinet Committee (8 March 2017).

The proposals for an Education Services Company are developed with full consideration of the Council's Objectives.

By setting up the new company, KCC seeks to ensure that the Council is able to deliver, within a sustainable budget, against its strategic priority (Outcome 1) to ensure that children and young people in Kent get the best start in life.

By setting up the Education Services Company, Kent can further develop its partnership with schools and settings and jointly support the young people of Kent by providing services in a way that ensures not only sustainability, but offers opportunity to expand services in the longer term.

Equality Implications

An EQIA was drafted and included in the Full Business Case. This EQIA will be further developed and will be a 'live' document during implementation.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

This matter was considered by the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee on 22 November 2017 and the outcome included in the paperwork which the Cabinet Member will be asked to sign.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

The Full Business Case presented to Members explored all viable options with the establishment of an Education Services Company agreed to be the preferred option.

Cabinet was also provided with an update on progress to implement the proposals with a written update on 30 October 2017, and Scrutiny Committee was subsequently provided with an update on 7 November 2017.

In addition, Strategic Commissioning Board has also been provided with progress updates on implementation activities, on 7 June 2017 and 5 October 2017.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer: None


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signed

..17 January 2018.....

date