

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,

Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

DECISION NO:

18/00061

For publication:

Subject: Proposal to temporarily expand The Westlands (Secondary Academy) School by 1.5FE from September 2019

Decision:

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

- (i) allocate £1.96 million from the Children, Young People and Education Capital Budget for the temporary expansion of The Westlands Secondary School by 1.5 FE from September 2019.

Reason for Decision:

The Swale district section of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2019-23 has identified a significant pressure on Year 7 places in Sittingbourne. The temporary expansion of Westlands School by 1.5FE 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:

1. the views of the Local Member
2. the views of the Governing Body/Swale Academies Trust
3. the views of the Area Education Officer
4. the views of the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee.

Financial Implications

a. Capital

The capital allocation of £1.96m would be a funding contribution towards the replacement of a number of mobile and temporary classrooms on the Westlands site that would otherwise not be useable as the classrooms to meet the additional pupil place need. The funding allocation would be subject to a contractual agreement from the Trust to offer a minimum of 330 Year 7 places for September 2019 onwards. The school's current published admission number (PAN) is 285.

b. Revenue

The school will receive increased funding through their Delegated Budget. The rising rolls will be protected in line with KCC Growth Funding Policy. Revenue funding will also be allocated to enable the School to resource each new classroom as they come on line. At present that is at a value of £6,000 per classroom.

c. Human

The School will appoint additional staff as the need arises.

Supporting Information:

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other Consultations:

Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee – at its meeting on 29 November 2018:

Marisa White (Area Education Officer - East Kent), Ian Watts (Area Education Officer – North Kent), David Adams (Area Education Officer - South Kent) and Jared Nehra (Area Education Officer - West Kent) were in attendance for this item.

1. Ms White, Mr Watts, Mr Adams and Mr Nehra introduced the reports which set out the proposed decisions to expand or alter the following schools: John Wesley Church of England Methodist Primary School, Ashford, Kings Farm Primary School, Gravesend, The Westlands (Secondary Academy) School, and the changes to specialist provision in Maidstone and Malling.
2. Officers answered questions from Members of the Committee and comments were noted.

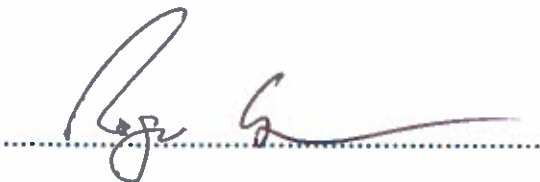
The recommendations for this proposed decision were as follows:

RESOLVED that the decision proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education, to allocate £1.96 million to the temporary expansion of Westlands Secondary School by 1.5FE, be endorsed.

Any alternatives considered:

Feasibilities studies of all schools in Sittingbourne where undertaken and considered.

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



Signed

6 / 12 / 2018

Date