

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

Clair Bell, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Public Health

DECISION NO:

20/00026

For publication**Key decision: YES**

The decision will:

- a) result in savings or expenditure which is significant having regard to the budget for the service or function (currently defined by the Council as in excess of £1,000,000)

Title of Decision

The Flete Unit, Margate – Sexual Health Clinic

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, I agree to:

- a) Develop the Flete Unit into a sexual health clinic, office space and teaching platform to deliver specialist sexual health services from a single site in the Thanet area, secured via a 15-year lease.
- b) Delegate authority to the Director of Infrastructure, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social care and Public Health and the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services to take relevant actions necessary to implement this decision, including but not limited to; entering into the required contracts for the development works, finalising the terms of and entering into the required leases and other legal agreements as required to permit occupation and use of the site for the delivery of sexual health services.

Reason(s) for decision:

Kent County Council have a statutory duty to provide comprehensive sexual health services under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 which includes the site from which they are delivered. The Department of Health & Social Care and Public Health England Suggested Integrated Sexual Health Service Specification stipulates the location of premises should be based on the needs of the local population; be accessible by public transport and should meet the majority of need from one site.

Specialist sexual health services in Thanet are delivered over three separate sites each offering a service aspect during a part of the week. The sites are Newington Road Clinic, College Road Clinic and the Queen Elizabeth Queen Mother Hospital. The current arrangements lack the facilities and/or capacity to fully meet current and future need.

A new site has been progressed to enable a fully integrated sexual health service to be delivered in Thanet in one site.

The Kent Sexual Health Needs Assessment identified the number of attendances at local services by Kent residents increased on average by 31.8% annually between 2013 and 2017 an increase

between 2013 and 2017 of 51.1%. 2016 data identified Thanet as having the highest attendance per 100,000 population at just over 4,800 and the third highest average attendance per patient when compared to other Kent districts.

The Flete Unit, Margate, has been identified as a suitable premise to house a comprehensive integrated sexual health service offer for population of Thanet and surrounding areas.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

Consultation: Over December 2017 and January 2018, public health undertook stakeholder insights work to understand the views of stakeholders which established the need for improving clinics and creating an offer with a more flexible service to meet commuter hours. To date, an interim solution has been in place while a suitable site was located.

The Health Reform and Public Health Cabinet Committee have previously endorsed the sexual health commissioning strategy which highlighted the need to identify a suitable site in to deliver an integrated specialist sexual health service in Thanet.

Cabinet Committee comments and questions were submitted to a key officer, as required under the Pre-Proposed Record of Decision process. Comments received supported the proposed decision.

Financial Implications

Total of £2,868,000 over 15 years

- o Year 1 (2020/21) Total of £894,000 including £753,000 construction works and £141,000 rental and utilities.
- o Year 2 onwards (until 2035/36) Total of £141,000 per annum including rental and utilities.

Legal Implications

The works and lease agreement will be managed by KCC Infrastructure who will obtain all necessary consents from solicitors and required works from qualified surveyors.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

Other sites in Thanet have been considered to varying degrees however none were able to be progressed due to either the site being unsuitable, or the site being granted to a different service/provider. Sites include;

- 3 retail units
- Mill Lane, Margate
- Sarre Unit, Margate
- Margate Adult Education Centre
- Norfolk Road Hotel, Margate

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

Clair Bell

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signed

08/06/2020
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date