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Ask for: Emily Kennedy  
Date: 16 January 2023

Dear Member

**CHILDREN'S, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION CABINET COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 17 JANUARY 2023**

Please find within this supplement pack, for consideration at the meeting of Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee due to take place on 17 January 2023, the following reports that were not available / provided when the agenda was published.

Please note that these papers include an amended covering report for the Budget item (Item 5). This includes an updated recommendation which now reflects the Cabinet Committee function as part of the Budget setting process, in accordance with the Constitution.

**Agenda Item No**

- 5                    **Draft Ten Year Capital Programme, Revenue Budget 2023-24 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2023-26 (Pages 1 - 2)**
- Please refer to the budget book published and shared on 3 January 2023.
- 11                   **Kent County Council's Family Hub model development (Pages 3 - 30)**
- 16                   **Proposal to establish a new 2FE Primary School with 26 place Nursery in Thanington (Pages 31 - 44)**
- 17                   **Teynham Primary School - Expansion of Teynham Primary School by 1FE (Pages 45 - 48)**

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BWatts', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Benjamin Watts  
General Counsel

From: Peter Oakford, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate & Traded Services

To: Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee – 17 January 2023

Subject: Draft Ten Year Capital Programme, Revenue Budget 2023-24 and medium term financial plan 2023-26

Classification: Unrestricted

**Summary:**

The administration's budget report published on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 sets out the background to and draft budget proposals for the capital programme, revenue budget for the forthcoming year and medium-term financial plan. The report is a standard report for the whole council focussing on the key strategic considerations underpinning the decisions necessary for County Council to agree the budget at the Budget Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023

The administration's overall budget strategy is intended to:

Achieve a balanced one-year budget and balanced medium-term plan with minimal unidentified savings targets

Maintain adequate reserves to mitigate financial risks/shocks and to invest in the future

Maintain a strong positive cashflow and high levels of liquidity

Maintain (but not exceeding) levels of borrowing compared to the asset base (maintaining a healthy balance sheet)

Plan to deliver a financially sustainable Council over the medium term.

In summary, the proposed draft 2023-24 revenue budget requires £39.1m savings, £15.7m additional income from fees and charges and net £14.8m from one-off use of reserves (additional contributions & draw downs, and removal of previous contributions and draw downs). The budget proposes a 5% increase in Council Tax which will generate £41.7m income to support service delivery,

The proposed draft capital programme 2023-33 includes spending of £1,644m of which £996m is funded from confirmed/indicative grants, £407m from borrowing and £261m other sources. The administration's strategy for the capital programme is to minimise the level of additional borrowing, for 2023-24 the changes to the programme represents a £9.6m reduction.

**Recommendations**

The Committee is asked to:

- a) Comment on the draft capital and revenue budgets relevant to this committee including responses to consultation
- b) Propose any changes to the draft capital and revenue budgets relevant to this committee for consideration by Cabinet on 26th January 2023 before the draft is presented for approval at County Council on 9th February 2023

## **Budget Reports**

The full draft budget report and appendices may be accessed on Kent.gov.uk:  
[Our budget - Kent County Council](#)

## **Contact details**

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**From:** Sue Chandler, Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services

Rory Love, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

Sarah Hammond, Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education

**To:** Children's and Young People's Cabinet Committee – 17 January 2023

**Subject:** Kent County Council's Family Hub model development – Update Report

**Classification:** Unrestricted

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

**Summary:**

Kent County Council has a strong working relationship with statutory partners including Health. KCC and its partners are committed to delivering high quality services for babies, children, young people and families ensuring an extensive range of partner and community services are accessible across the county.

Kent has been successful in the application for Family Hubs Transformation Funding to support the exploration, development and the design of the Family Hubs Framework Model in Kent. This report presents the initial KCC response to the vision set out by Government for Family Hubs and key service areas of the Family Hub model framework and outlines the initial Transformation planning undertaken so far.

Subject to future decision-making on the Family Hub model, the funding will also be used to support future transformation of the existing Open Access offer (Children's Centres and Youth Services) into a developed 0-19 year's end to end Family Hub model creating a coherent and accessible partnership to provide children, young people and families improved access to a wide range of services.

**Recommendation(s):**

The Cabinet Committee is asked to consider and NOTE the update provided on the initial transformation activity in relation to Family Hubs in Kent.

**1. Introduction**

1.1 On 14 October 2022, the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services took an urgent Key Decision to agree:

- a. the principle of adopting a Family Hub Model of provision for Open Access Services in Kent. The decision was informed by the Government Policy on Family Hubs and Start for Life, and aligned with the priorities of the Executive and the Council as per the Strategic Statement.

- b. to accept relevant funding via the Family Hub Transformation Authority programme, including agreement to the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding requirement to participate as a Transformation Authority.
  - c. to confirm that any implementation or full delivery of a Family Hub Model in Kent will be subject to the development of detailed proposals, appropriate consultation, engagement and governance through normal Executive Decision-making arrangements.
  - d. to delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services, to undertake relevant actions, including but not limited to entering into contracts or other legal agreements, as necessary to implement the decision.
- 1.2 In November 2022, the Chairman and Spokespeople of the CYPE Cabinet Committee considered that this decision needed further exploration and discussion and, in line with the right any Member of the Council has to place an item on the Scrutiny agenda for discussion, requested that this took place at the Scrutiny Committee on 07 December. This discussion took place and scrutiny committee endorsed the Key Decision.
- 1.3 KCC have developed an initial delivery plan in conjunction with a wide range of partners including Public Health, Health Visiting, Midwifery and Disabled Children's Services. A summary of the Family Hub Transformation Delivery Plan and outline of existing current services which will also form part of the ongoing transformation and development of the Family Hub Model in Kent, is attached at appendix A. The 'plan' which is iterative and will be further developed over time, was submitted to the DfE on 30 December 2022. As part of our transformation approach, we will be recruiting a transformation team to help engage partners, stakeholders and families through the development of parent/carer panels on opportunities to improve the access to advice including areas such as mental health support for new parents, infant feeding advice and support and enhanced Speech, Language and Communication support through Family Hubs.
- 1.4 A programme manager joined the team in January 2023 to begin the transformation programme. As the delivery plan progresses, is reviewed and eventually approved through further substantive Executive decision-making, the programme manager will produce an implementation plan to support our development of a 0-25 Family Hubs model by March 2025.

## **2. Family Hub Framework**

- 2.1 Kent has agreed, via Key Decision 22/00094, to support the principle of the Family Hub framework model; however, more work will need to be undertaken to progress the development of formal proposals regarding how the model could be delivered in Kent.

- 2.2 We will need to consider how and where services are delivered: through fixed settings, outreach, virtual and digital interfaces, and/or face-to-face, to support vulnerable families in their own communities across Kent.
- 2.3 Young people and families will be engaged in the design process through meaningful co-production which, in addition to working with existing service users, prioritises the inclusion of children, young people and families whose views and ideas have not previously been heard; those whose experiences of working with professionals have not always been positive; or those for whom services are not easily accessible.
- 2.4 Inclusion of the voice of young people and families whose needs have not been met will ensure we design services that meet the needs of some of the most marginalised and vulnerable young people and families.
- 2.5 The Council is currently exploring how Kent could implement the national Family Hubs programme, by transforming non-statutory children's services so that they target areas of greatest need and improve access to services through community outreach and an enhanced digital offer.
- 2.6 Kent's digital offer will provide interactive online sessions for those families who cannot reach services or do not wish to attend in person. Learning from the COVID-19 pandemic identified that virtual delivery was a positive way of working for some families, as this was accessible at a time convenient to them. However, some families told us that they liked and continued to value centre-based face to face services.
- 2.7 Family Hubs incorporate universal and targeted services under one umbrella, to deliver more joined up services. There needs to be a more integrated workforce and a network of providers working with children 0 – 19 years.
- 2.8 The Family Hub model is intended to bring together early intervention work delivered by the wide spectrum of early help services including community services alongside the offer from Children's Services, Health Visiting, School Health, CAMHS, housing, maternity services and local voluntary service providers.
- 2.9 Family Hubs will provide families with a single access point to integrated family support services for early help with social, emotional, physical and financial needs.
- 2.10 Family Hubs will need to provide a universal 'front door' to families, offering a 'one-stop shop' of family support services across their social care, education, mental health and physical health needs, with a comprehensive Start for Life offer for parents and babies at its core. This will also lead to a new integrated assessment and plan for early years support between KCC, Midwifery and Health Visiting. This will provide early identification and support to Kent's children that could progress through to school age and adolescence.
- 2.11 To ensure all families receive joined up universal support there are 6 core universal service expectations that must be delivered from a Family Hub Network in line with The "Best Start for Life": 1) midwifery, 2) health visiting

services, 3) Mental health services, 4) Infant feeding services, 5) SEND services and 6) safeguarding.

2.12 There may be separate decisions and activity required beyond the scope of the Family Hub project to address issues and update how SEND should be delivered in the community.

2.13 Family Hubs will provide us with an opportunity to develop our services for parents needing early support when difficulties arise, providing a focal point within a community where help and information can be accessed.

2.14 Family Hub networks will include youth provision, Public Health services, debt and finance advice. Services will need to be joined up enabling service users to be confident about where they access support. Although each family hub is bespoke to the local community it serves there are three key delivery principles shown in Table 1 below:

**Table 1 – Key principles of Family Hubs**

<b>Access</b>		There is a clear and simple way for families with children of all ages to access help and support through a Family Hub Network.
<b>Connection</b>		<p>Services work together for families, with a universal ‘front door’, shared outcomes and effective governance. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ co-location of core services</li> <li>○ data-sharing enabling families only have to tell their story once</li> </ul> <p>Statutory services and voluntary and community sector (VCS) partners work together to get families the help they need.</p>
<b>Relationships</b>		DfE have stipulated the intention that “The family hub prioritises strengthening relationships and builds on family strengths. Trusted relationships are at the heart of everything that is delivered in family hubs”.

2.15 The government has developed a National Centre for Family Hubs, led by the Anna Freud Centre and funded through the DfE. The National Centre for Family Hubs is intended to provide a learning network that collates and disseminates best practice on evidence-based service models to Family Hub providers across England.

2.16 The National Centre for Family Hubs offer webinars which are accessible to all, as well as a monthly [newsletter](#) which shares news from members, latest events and resources.



- 2.17 The work of the National Centre for Family Hubs is guided by three main principles: What the evidence tells us works and is good value for money, what families tell us they need and want, what Family Hub providers tell us about effective delivery.
- 2.18 They have developed a number of Toolkits for Family Hub authorities and partners to aid the design of a transformation programme. These toolkits will facilitate the development of proposals for Family Hubs that can provide Kent families with the most effective model of services and include tools for Youth and SEND services, Co-production, Integration and Access and Inclusion.
- 2.19 Kent's identified objectives for the Family Hubs model are aligned with and build on the existing service delivery models:
- Enhance our community outreach to reach vulnerable children, young people and families and to improve links to local partnerships
  - Develop a targeted approach to reduce risk, vulnerability and escalation and provide additionality to cases held within intensive and specialist services; maximises the use of the collective estate
  - Reinforce and strengthen partnership working to improve our presence as a point of access for support across a range of needs and ages.
  - Build on a strong digital offer, which is easily accessible and supports the self-efficacy of young people and families.
  - All of which will help to inform KCC's work to develop a 0-5 strategy.

### **3. Background Information**

- 3.1 In September 2020, Andrea Leadsom MP began a review to consider improving health and development outcomes for babies in England.
- 3.2 The review focused on support to families in the first 1,001 days of a child's life, 'Start for Life system' the period between conception (-9 months) and the age of two (the first 1,001 critical days). Within this review the development of family hubs was created as welcoming places for families to access these 'Start for Life' services. The review considered evidence gathered from a wide range of sources including virtual visits to areas, meetings with parents/carers, academics, practitioners, civil society organisations, representative bodies and many others.
- 3.3 In March 2021, The Best Start for Life: a vision for the 1,001 critical days was published by the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC). (See background documents).
- 3.4 Family Hubs are at the heart of this vision for baby-centred services, designed to give every baby the best start for life.
- 3.5 The paper identified examples of good practice and circumstances where change was needed to make a real difference to the lives of parents, carers

and babies. The Family Hub model extends the transformation of services from conception until the age of 19 (or 25 for young people with special educational needs and disabilities).

- 3.6 In October 2021, then Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, announced £301.75 million for children and families including £82 million to set up Family Hubs in 75 upper-tier local authorities.
- 3.7 In April 2022, the 75 Local Authorities identified as eligible to receive government funding for Family Hubs were announced. The Department for Education developed the selection criteria which targeted areas with the highest deprivation levels as part of the levelling up agenda and included geographical representation from rural to urban areas. Kent was identified as one of the 75 Local Authorities eligible for Family Hub funding.
- 3.8 In August 2022, the transformation funding application process opened. Kent applied for Family Hubs Transformation Funding to support the exploration, development and the design of the Family Hubs Model in Kent. KCC have now received the first instalment of £1.3m. The full year one amount is £2.6m. Funding can be utilised to support partnership development and co-production, community engagement activity costs, development of digital capacity and building development/refurbishment costs.

#### **4. Financial considerations**

- 4.1 As KCC has been selected as a Family Hub Authority and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) declaring our intent to participate, we are now eligible to receive a national grant of up to £10m over the next 3 years, (depending on the specific proposals developed) – to further continue exploration on how the Family Hub model could work in Kent. Costing and spend arrangements for any implementation of a Family Hub model in Kent will be subject to future Executive decisions.

#### **5. Legal considerations**

- 5.1 Key Decision 22/00094 was taken to approve KCC becoming a Family Hub Authority at a policy level and to authorise entering into the MoU with the DfE to receive relevant transformation funding.
- 5.2 The current Statutory Guidance, which will be applicable to any arrangements eventually progressed as part of the Family Hub model, sets out that the Local Authority is required to ensure that the provision in place for Children's Centres and Youth Services:
  - Are sufficient and sustainable to meet the needs of its service users
  - Are fully accessible to service users (including location of buildings)
  - Provide universal and targeted provision, linking with specialist provision where needed
  - Actively reaches and engages children, young people and families who are at risk of poor outcomes
  - Has robust mechanisms in place to facilitate and encourage meaningful service user participation and feedback

- Has a Quality Assurance framework which includes feedback from parents, families and young people
- Considers the opportunities to commission/fund, signpost/link to, or host services from partners and the voluntary sector

Legal due diligence has recently been commissioned in relation to the project activity and sector specific legal advice will be embedded as part of the project team.

## **6. Equalities considerations**

- 6.1 Assessment at strategic level regarding early transformation scoping, partnership working and delivery plan development for Family Hubs does not indicate any negative implications. (See background documents for further information on the EqIA undertaken for Decision 22/00094).
- 6.2 The Transformation activity will be reliant on the feedback from parents and carers to help shape the services with all detailed proposals being subject to further engagement and formal decision-making (which will be informed by a separate updated EqIA).

## **7. Governance**

- 7.1 The Family Hub Transformation programme operates under the authority arising from Key Decision 22/00094. This provides for proposal development, partnership arrangements and Transformation spending on preparatory work required to in advance of any formal proposals for future decision-making on Family Hub implementation.
- 7.2 Management of the transformation preparation activity is delegated to relevant Officers in accordance with the Executive Scheme of delegation and the specific arrangements set out in Decision 22/00094.
- 7.3 The final approval of any significant service change and the overall Family Hub model for Kent will be via the Key Decision process.

## **8. Risk and Other Factors**

- 8.1 The accountability and responsibility sit within the CYPE Directorate, however there are overlaps and interdependencies with the Public Health and Community Services and through the development of the model there may, over time, be additional functions which overlap.

### **Recommendations:**

The Cabinet Committee is asked to consider and NOTE the update provided on the initial transformation activity in relation to development of Family Hubs in Kent.

## **9. Appendices**

- a) [Delivery Plan](#)

## Background Documents

- [EqlA for Decision 22/00094](#)
- [The Best Start for Life: A Vision for the 1,001 Critical Days](#)

## 10. Contact Details

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## **Summary of the Family Hub Transformation Delivery Plan and outline of existing current services which will also form part of the ongoing transformation and development of the Family Hub Model in Kent.**

### **Introduction**

1. This document represents a work in progress outlining initial thinking of how KCC can deliver a Family Hub Model in Kent.
2. It reflects certain approaches expected in any Family Hub model delivered by a Local Authority, in line with the Government Policy on Start for Life and Statutory Guidance for relevant children and young people services, along with potential arrangements which may be appropriate as part of any transformation delivered through implementation of a Family Hub Model.
3. Government was advised, when the Delivery Plan was submitted, that all implementation of the Family Hub approach and the wider model would be subject to further decision-making by the Council, in accordance with its Executive Decision-making arrangements and related regulations
4. In May 2022, the Ofsted ILACS inspection recognised Kent's children's services as Outstanding. Stating that children and their families have access to a good range of early help support services.
5. Ofsted highlighted effective communication with other professionals, the use of strength-based interventions, and having a structured framework of moving forward plans providing our families with guidance and information to continue to help themselves.
6. KCC, Police and Kent and Medway ICB are the 3 core partners of Kent's Safeguarding Children's Multiagency Partnership (KSCMP). The KSCMP facilitates and oversees the priority areas of safeguarding practice and policy, particularly to ensure strong join-up between services to safeguard children and young people. The Kent statutory Director of Children's Services (DCS) is the current Chair of the KSCMP.

### **Current Landscape**

7. Kent's Open Access services already provide a strong foundation upon which to develop a Family Hub model. Key partners such as Public Health, Health Visiting and Midwifery services operate many of their statutory functions from KCC children's centres.
8. As part of the Family Hub transformation development in Kent, we want to build on this partnership working to develop a culture of integrated working including the development of shared assessments and interventions with health colleagues.
9. There is no statutory framework for youth provision, however Kent has maintained a robust funded offer of support which has been developed over a number of years to meet the needs of young people in Kent.
10. Youth Services in Kent provide a rich mix of positive activity, support and advice for all young people through open access hubs in every district alongside targeted additional support for young people who require individual interventions.
11. The KCC offer has two main elements, 1. An in-house, youth offer, where each district has a KCC-run youth hub, offering a mixture of universal, additional and targeted support for young people with additional support needs. And 2, an externally provided, open access

commissioned youth offer. Youth provision will continue to provide a valuable contribution in the wider development of family hubs.

12. KCC also operate a network of children's centres, these are in place to improve outcomes for young children and their families and reduce inequalities, particularly for those families in greatest need of support. The core purpose of a children's centre is to enhance child development and school readiness, to support parenting aspirations and parenting skills; and to promote child and family health and life chances.
13. This is achieved by providing early childhood services in an integrated manner to facilitate access and maximize benefits to young children and their parents including early education, training, antenatal classes, baby clinics, support with breastfeeding, support with parenting and speech and language, drop-in sessions for parents and children, services for children with special needs and disabilities.
14. KCC's network of children's centres also provide opportunities for families to get involved with volunteering within services.
15. The development of Children's Centres and improved joint working and collaboration with NHS Health Services will be key to the transformation to improve outcomes and life chances for all young children; specifically, to close the gap between the outcomes for the most disadvantaged and others, through the development of Family Hubs
16. Early Help assessment and whole family intervention for families with multiple or complex needs takes place in Early Help Units (EHU). Kent's EH model is bound by the principles of Working Together 2018 and is well established across the internal and multiagency partnership, including across all health services. The programme ensures an integrated, whole family approach when working with families.
17. Midwifery Services are currently delivered through 4 NHS Trusts. Aspects of antenatal care are delivered in existing Children's Centres, and through a digital offer online antenatal courses are offered.
18. Kent's Health Visiting Services (HVS) and School Health services are commissioned by Public Health and delivered by Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust (KCHFT) through a collaborative partnership, working with children aged 0-19. They work with all families in Kent with children aged 0-5 years to deliver the Healthy Child Programme.
19. Kent's HVS are delivered in the community, including delivery in Children Centres, where they operate support sessions/clinics as part of the core offer. HVS use family health needs assessments to identify and respond to need. There are well established referral pathways in place to ICS and other specialist services if required. The HVS have recently developed a website Kent Baby, providing online support for parents and their baby before and after birth right up until their child starts school.

### **Transformation opportunities**

20. Kent has a wide range of communities including deprived urban and rural coastal communities, seldom heard rural communities and densely populated urban communities. The needs of our communities are often very complex and specific, with local challenges requiring local solutions. The Family Hub will develop a model of co-production with children, families and communities to help ensure that services are in the right place and offer the right support at the right time.

### **Schools and school readiness**

21. Schools are often at the heart of Kent's communities, particularly in rural areas, and play a wider role in bringing communities together, Family Hubs will therefore work closely with schools and communities to ensure a joined-up approach to support.

### **Deprivation and child poverty**

22. Child poverty is not evenly distributed in Kent, with children from coastal areas more likely to live in poverty. Although some areas in West Kent are predominately affluent, there are small pockets of communities that require additional support from services, the Family Hub model will help to ensure that services are relevant to the communities that they serve through improved levels of outreach into deprived communities.

### **Infant and child health**

23. Encouraging and supporting women to breast feed is valuable, starting with the infants first feed. Monitoring the proportion who receive a first feed of breast milk, maternal or donor breast milk helps to understand breast feeding support which may be required. Analysis of the most recent figures published suggests that the first feed of breast milk in 2021/22 in Kent and Medway was 62%. Across the four maternity trusts this ranged from 58% - 67.7%. We want to ensure that families are offered the support they need to continue to breast feed and that partners feel included in the early weeks whilst feeding is established. Preparing antenatally and learning about what could help and what may inhibit breastfeeding has the potential to support more woman to breastfeed.
24. Supporting Infant Feeding is an ongoing priority in Kent and KCC Children's Centres work in partnership with the Kent Health Visiting Service to ensure the implementation of the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative across the county and have already been successful in achieving level 3 accreditation with further assessments being undertaken early 2023 as we work to achieve sustainability. The Specialist Infant Feeding Service (SIFS) is delivered by KCHFT as part of the Health Visiting Service and has links across Kent's Midwifery, Health Visiting and Children's Centre services. Breast feeding services form part of the Children's Centre core offer. Professionals can refer directly to the Infant Feeding Service (IFS) for support from specialist IFS leads.

### **Mental health of families**

25. The mental health and wellbeing of the under 5-year-olds is largely unknown but recent studies indicate a correlation between early infant sleep problems and specific behavioural and emotional health and wellbeing problems at 2 years. For those children (under 18 years) requiring hospital admission for mental health conditions, the numbers from Kent are similar to the England admissions.
26. Perinatal mental illness can occur during pregnancy or in the first year following the birth of a child. 10-20% of women experience mental health problems during pregnancy or in the first year after having a baby. 5-10% of fathers are reported to suffer from depression during their partners pregnancy and following birth.

27. Poor mental health can impact a parent's ability to bond with their baby, to develop invaluable attachment and have the capacity to nurture them. This highlights the importance of identifying and meeting the needs of parents and carers, so they are better prepared to support their infant. It is recognised that the ways in which infants develop and build relationships is important for brain development including emotional, social, intellectual and psychological development. Without this development infants can feel insecure and become anxious.

### **Core additional components of a family Hub**

28. The Department for Education have made a number of stipulations about Family Hubs. While there is inevitable room for national variations based on size, geography and resource, they have outlined a blueprint, which states that

29. A Family Hub is a system-wide, multi-agency model, providing high-quality, whole-family, joined up family support services and is centred around 3 key principles:

a. Access:

- i. There is a clear, simple way for families to access help and support through a hub building and spoke approach. This includes an offer across physical and virtual spaces.
- ii. Connectivity: There are services working together for families with a universal 'front door', shared outcomes and effective governance.
- iii. There are professionals working together, through co-location, data sharing and a common approach to their work.
- iv. Families only have to tell their story once, the service is more efficient, and families get more effective support.
- v. Statutory services, the community, charities, and faith sector partners are working together to get families the help they need.

b. Relationships:

- i. The Family Hub prioritises strengthening relationships and builds on family strengths.
- ii. Relationships are at the heart of everything that is delivered in Family Hubs.

30. Family Hubs should be designed to deliver family support services from pregnancy, through the child's early years and later childhood, adolescence and into early adulthood until they reach the age of 19 (or up to 25 for young people with special educational needs and disabilities).

31. KCC has a strong history of working with our partners in the public, private, voluntary and community sector, and this has been strengthened through our response to the Covid pandemic. This has allowed a stronger joint focus on the impact of covid on mental health and support required. The negative impact on different ethnic populations in terms of health outcomes has been an area of focus for the wider health and multiagency network.

### **Building on and developing the Family Hub Opportunities**

32. Public health services are already provided through outreach locations throughout Kent and as part of extending the Family Hub network we will build on use of these existing locations. A review of what community venues are working best will inform decision making as part of the Family Hub programme development.



33. Kent has a wide range of support for those with mental health and wellbeing needs. This includes regular campaigns to support residents access help, such as Release the Pressure. A comprehensive digital platform, (Kent Resilience Hub) which supports navigation to online resources or services across a range of need.
34. Perinatal mental health difficulties can affect prospective parents, new parents/partners/carers. Early identification and support are paramount to support parents and infants develop their relationships. Kent has developed a specialist perinatal mental health community team and the new specialist service, Thrive, the Maternal Mental Health service for those who have experienced birth trauma or perinatal loss.
35. We are With You – a substance misuse support service for young people aged between 10-18 providing brief interventions, and specialist treatment and adult support services via change Grow Live and Forward Trust
36. Kent Resilience Hub is an online resource to enable parents, practitioners, schools and young people to find local support for young people. It includes Youth Voice, the Try Angle Awards and Youth Charter. It also includes extensive training opportunities. Mood Spark is an online website (Moodspark.org.uk) developed by young people in Kent that provides information to young people to support their wider emotional health.
37. Kent is also implementing training for the wider workforce to support parents with children with Autism to ensure that at a first contact a parent is offer consistent support and strategies across multiagency partners. Family Hub teams will be an important part of this network to ensure families receive support early on.
38. Kent has demonstrated its ability to co-produce service with families through the new parenting support offer for parents with neurodiverse children on the pathway to a diagnosis. Together with parents offers a good example of working with families with lived experience.
39. Kent's partners deliver a wide range of evidence-based parenting programmes, which are tailored to meet a continuum of needs between 0-25yrs. Programmes are delivered face to face and virtually and are enhanced by digital information. KCHFT's Health Visiting and Kent School Health Services provide online parenting programmes through Solihull which are free to access to all Kent residents and provide a range of virtual courses. Parenting information and support is also provided through the Health Visiting website and on the Born to Move App. There is a county-wide integrated parenting offer with CC and HVS for introducing solid foods which are co-delivered virtually and in person enhanced by the websites digital offer. The partnership regularly reviews the offer to ensure it meets local needs.
40. Kent parenting programmes are supported by bespoke 1:1 parenting support where a programme does not meet the specific needs of a family, or they are struggling to engage in group work.
41. Kent is embedding the "Balanced System" approach to speech, language and communication needs. This is a 5-year programme to initiate the implementation of a single Balanced System outcomes-based offer for children and young people in Kent 0-15 years. This will include a universal offer for children and families where they can have easy access to speech, language and communication advice via community venues such as Family Hubs.
42. The award-winning Enhanced Family Involvement in Children's Learning (EFICL) programme is being delivered in Kent already and an extended and targeted offer of support will enhance the Home Learning offer from Family Hubs.
43. The Health Visiting Service carry out the Healthy Child Programme, Health and Development review of the child aged 2-2 ½ years.

44. In line with recommendations from Ofsted and Care Quality Commission, KCC, The Education People and Kent Community Health Foundation Trust (KCHFT) have worked together to develop an 'Integrated Review at Two' process for Kent. The 'Integrated Review at Two' process brings together the Healthy Child Programme Health and Development Review at age two to two and a half and the EYFS Progress Check at age two.
45. The integrated review at 2 process was fully implemented, across Kent in March 2021. The Family Hub staff will look to further support those identified in the 2-year review with additional home learning support connecting with Portage where required and offering future outreach support using Portage skills.

#### **Steps already taken by KCC to transform towards a family hub mode**

46. The Lead Member for Integrated Children's Services took a formal Key Decision for KCC to become a Family Hub Authority on the 13 October 2022 - [Decision - 22/00094 - Family Hubs Transformation](#).
47. This was endorsed by the Children Young People and Education Cabinet Committee and considered at Scrutiny Committee. The delivery plan will form part of an iterative and continuously developing workstream outlining transformation opportunities, potential areas of focus and options for service redesign with the involvement of key partners and service user feedback.
48. The ongoing formal implementation of the Family Hub approach in Kent remains subject to further formal decision-making at Executive Member level.
49. Updates will be provided to DfE, in addition to any stages required under the MOU, as this issue progresses through KCC's formal governance process.
50. To create a seamless offer across 0-25 years, we are working on the development of a single assessment building upon the midwifery and health visiting pathway.
51. 'One front door' approach, working with partners to ensure referrals to children's social care are efficiently and consistently managed to provide the child or family with the right help at the right time.
52. Early Co-production discussions have commenced through liaison with existing multi-agency parent/carer panels including those facilitated by the Maternity Voices Partnership, KCHFT Public Health Services 0-19 years Parent and Carer Forum and the well-established Member-led Local Children's Partnership Groups.
53. The Health Visiting Service is delivering a one-year pilot offering a Tongue-Tie Co-ordination Service which offers a single point of access for babies requiring a tongue-tie division and offers families pre and post procedure support. The pilot is jointly funded between KCC Public Health and the Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board. We are currently developing a campaign on infant feeding from birth to 18 months.
54. KCC are partners in PATH, an EU-funded project on low mild to moderate perinatal mental health. This has led to the development of resources and increased awareness for families and carers of the impacts of poor mental health on families. The PATH and Kent resilience hub websites present a range of resources and advice for families and professionals. KCC have helped develop, and deliver PATH training to health, non-health professionals and families. We have supported the development of parental workplace wellbeing recommendations through local focus groups, and partner workshops. KCC will work with partners to embrace and embed them.
55. We are exploring the opportunities to have parenting groups organised by the Disabled Children teams hosted in the Family Hubs, and having increased sensory environments

within our Family Hubs, working closely with SEND and Disabled Children's Services expertise.

56. Playground sessions are currently delivered by artists from our libraries, children centres and community venues, They focus on families in general but have also engaged with specific targeted groups. Due to the sensory aspect, we are keen to look how it might support with SEND Needs and if/how we can continue the delivery in Family Hubs.
57. We have initiated first meeting with faith communities and service personnel representative for Kent with information sharing principles established. Kent has a strong Interfaith network that will help Family Hubs connect more widely to the diverse faith communities in Kent.
58. A literature review of parenting programmes was undertaken by Kent Public Health observatory in 2020, available: <https://www.kpho.org.uk> .
59. Thrive, the new specialist Maternal Mental Health Service (part of the NHS Long Term Plan) which focuses on moderate to severe perinatal mental health difficulties associated with perinatal loss and birth trauma is currently being rolled out across Kent and Medway and will be available in 2023/2024.
60. The development of the Family Hub Framework Model will help to ensure that the start for life offer is integrated and consistent across the county with the development of a shared brand, understanding and language between agencies.
61. KCC has a wide range of digital platforms and interfaces, however, these are not integrated or joined up across the agencies. The Family Hub Framework Model gives KCC the opportunity to ensure that a coordinated digital strategy is in place to support and enhance the user experience across digital and virtual platforms under a single, Family Hub online offer.
62. Post Covid use of buildings has reduced the interconnected working of Open Access services in Early Help Units and Children's Social Work Services where co-location has reduced to create safer building spaces for delivery of services. This has had an impact on seamless whole family working to help sustain positive changes achieved through interventions, connections are now being rebuilt to pre-covid levels, however, some communities are using centres less frequently and have told us that they want a more digital interface and increased outreach opportunities to improve their access to services.
63. Family Hub development will work with Kent Digital Transformation team to prioritise development opportunities to support Kent's Family Hubs framework with specialist support to develop a significantly enhanced Digital offer focused on service user accessibility with new features to be embedded into the offer based on service user feedback and need.
64. Ofsted recognised Kent's excellent record of co-production and participation into all aspects of Children's Services. Family Hubs will grow those existing opportunities for successful co-production and service user voice. Health Visiting and Midwifery are also committed to co-production with a number of parent carer forums in existence across Kent for particular service areas.
65. KCC enjoys a wide range of well-established partnership groups including a joint maternity and health visiting steering group with representatives on from KCC and integrated commissioning groups. There is commitment to the Family Hub offer which is viewed as the next stage in developing an ambitious programme of integrated multiagency working with shared principles already discussed about the service design and requirements.
66. KCC is in a formal partnership with KCHFT who deliver health visiting services with a strong track record of delivering transformation.

- 67. Our Children's Centre network are leaders in early years practice, ensuring that Early Years principles are continuously developed. The experience of practitioners enabled the service to develop a Child Development training package for our Children's Social Work and Early Help teams which has subsequently been mandated across Integrated Children's Services.
- 68. In KCC the Open Access Children's Centre and Youth Hub offer forms part of our Integrated Children's Service. All Social Work and Early Help services are integrated, and family support is offered at a community level through the Children's Centre estate and both universal and targeted outreach. KCC's model is underpinned by a whole family 0-25 offer across the continuum of need
- 69. Kent has worked with health partners to develop the Kent and Medway Care Record which brings together health and social care records and is now embedded into Health and Children's systems. The learning from this development will help us further develop our Family Hub data sharing and joint assessment plans.

### **Goals for Family Hubs**

- 70. Following robust data and IMD deprivation analysis we aim to ensure that Family Hubs deliver the right services in the right places and at the right time.
- 71. Kent's vision is for children, young people and families to have easy and timely access to the right services for their needs and to be able to receive support across a range of services and networks which promote positive changes, improve resilience, and help to achieve healthy and successful futures.

### **Partnership goals**

- 72. To know families in Kent have received the support they need to be confident to help themselves and be positive in their parenting
- 73. To have a supported, capable workforce who demonstrate they are confident to listen to and hear the voices of families and help them to know about locally available support.
- 74. To improve access and use of information provision to enable parents, children and young people to develop greater agency and resilience within their communities
- 75. To build a system where a family is met with understanding and empathy when they tell their story and is responded with a coordinated solution that addresses their needs.
- 76. To see significant improvements in the public health outcomes for deprived communities in coastal areas so that they improve faster than the rest of Kent to reduce the gaps.
- 77. To target populations that are seldom engaged by growing neighbourhood and place-based solutions and innovations outside of (but connected to) specialist services.
- 78. To address some of the challenges children and families face at a time of transition by implementing needs led and outcome-based systems.

### **Milestones to be developed**

- 79. To improve the Start or Life offer, by joining up our start for life digital services
- 80. To develop Family Hub spaces that are accessible to all families
- 81. To collate our websites and develop a distinct digital offer which brings the information for families into one place is easily accessible and supports the self-efficacy of young people and families
- 82. Increased engagement from the local communities, including the seldom heard, to integrate and be a part of the family hub workforce.

83. To ensure Inclusive parenting is promoted by all agencies and fathers are engaged meaningfully from conception and beyond.
84. Increase in the proportion of infants having a first feed of breast milk
85. Increase in the proportion of infants breastfeeding at the 6-8 week health and wellbeing review
86. Increased awareness of the interdependencies between relationships, mental wellbeing and infant feeding
87. To improve the public health outcomes for families in deprived communities in coastal areas
88. We will focus on raising awareness and helping families, workforces, parents/partners to know and understand more about perinatal mental health and conditions such as perinatal anxiety.
  - a. We will do this because we know that perinatal mental illness can occur during pregnancy or in the first year following the birth of a child and can impact women, fathers and partners.
  - b. We will take the opportunities to access nationally procured tiered training provision (levels 1-3) to support parent infant relationships. Practitioners from Kent will have the opportunity to access training to deliver evidence-based interventions that promote parent–infant relationships. The interventions are likely to include video-feedback and a targeted intervention to promote parent–infant relationships, which could be delivered in a group or one-to one.
  - c. Kent will have the opportunity to access practitioners who will be able to supervise those supporting parent–infant relationships.
89. We will have a highly skilled and confident workforce, ensuring the delivery of service and advice provided is accurate, helpful and consistent which is inclusive to volunteers/peer mentors and CVS representatives and delivered in an integrated manner.
  - a. We will achieve this through integrated training opportunities to help maximise the delivery of consistent messaging.
  - b. We will create opportunities for timely support and the space for people to come together.
  - c. We will use our community outreach to reach vulnerable children, young people and families and to improve links to local partnerships.
  - d. Reinforce and strengthen partnership working to improve our presence as a point of access for support across a range of needs and ages, e.g. through co-location
  - e. Work in partnership with Kent families to co-design and develop the Family Hub offer
90. How experiences for families will improve:
  - a. Families will see a more joined up offer between agencies
  - b. Families will have the offer of increased access to information through the family hubs, outreach and digital offers.
  - c. Families will not feel uncomfortable or hide that they may be struggling with their mental health and wellbeing during pregnancy or postnatally
  - d. Families will experience being more than a recipient of services but will be a resource and contribute to the needs of others as they engage in group work for example
  - e. Families should feel seen, heard and enabled to ask for help and to feel confident to help themselves.
  - f. Families will feel better prepared for labour, birth and early parenthood
  - g. Fathers will recognise their role in parenting and support available to them.

91. Measuring change:
  - a. We have an ambition to commission an academic systematic evaluation – across the family hub transformation period.
  - b. Families will report high awareness and communications about family hubs.
  - c. KCC family hubs and KCHFT health visiting will have achieved UNICEF BFI gold accreditation in 2024
92. Through delivery of the Family Hub framework, we will:
  - a. Use our community outreach to reach vulnerable children, young people and families and to improve links to local partnerships
  - b. Develop a targeted approach to reduce risk, vulnerability and escalation and provide additionality to cases held within intensive and specialist services
  - c. Reinforce and strengthen partnership working to improve our presence as a point of access for support across a range of needs and ages, e.g. through co-location
  - d. Build a digital offer, which is easily accessible and supports the self-efficacy of young people and families
  - e. Work in partnership with Kent families to co-design and develop the Family Hub offer.
93. This will contribute to reaching our long-term goals:
  - a. Help support reduction in inequalities in health and education outcomes for children, young people and families across Kent
  - b. Improved experience for families of navigating services and reduced need for families to “tell their story” more than once
  - c. Increased efficiency for professionals and services due to effective collaboration, leading to improved support for families
  - d. Improve early years foundation stage educational outcomes
  - e. Improved access and use of information provision to enable parents, children and young people to develop greater agency and resilience within their communities
94. Strand-specific MI - Breastfeeding:
  - a. Increase in the annual breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks after birth in Kent (compared to baseline 50.1% at 2021/22) in 2023/24 and 2024/25.
  - b. Decrease in the proportion of women [90% baseline 2022] who report that they stopped in the first weeks were not ready to do as collected through the regular audit process in the specialist infant feeding service in Kent 2023 and 2024
  - c. Numbers of mothers and partners accessing infant feeding support services
95. Parent & Carer Panels
  - a. Recording whether a Parent and Carer Panel has been established
  - b. Parent and Carer Panel Information- including frequency of meetings, demographics of panel members
96. Parent-infant relationships and perinatal mental health
  - a. Pre and post intervention assessments of perinatal mental health and parent-infant relationships by:
  - b. Increased reporting by pregnant and postnatal women that they have had conversations about their mental health as seen in access to PMH family coaches, parent infant relationship groups or 1:1 activity
  - c. Increased reporting by partners to be and postnatal partners that they have engaged in conversations about their mental health as seen in access to PMH family coaches, parent infant relationship groups or 1:1 activity

## Programme Delivery Outcomes

See Appendix A

### Family Hub Opening Milestone

97. Through the family hubs transformation funding, DfE have asked Local Authorities to open family hubs as quickly as possible to support families, within the first half of 2023.
98. DfE recognise that we will not necessarily meet all minimum expectations at the point of opening your family hubs, but you will be expected to do so by the end of the three-year programme funding period (end of 2024-25).
99. A Family hub site is a physical place a family can visit and speak to a trained staff member, face-to-face, who will provide them with straightforward information or advice on a wide range of family issues spanning the 0-19 (25 with SEND) age range and connect them appropriately to further services across the 0-19 (25 with SEND) age range if they need more targeted or specialist support.
100. The Parent and Carer Panels will be established under the Family Hubs Programme, we are currently engaging with all stakeholders and mapping the panels that are already exist. We anticipate the parent carer panels to be set up in February in 2023. This forum will work closely with the programme and local commissioners and the programme steering group to co-design services, and shape and develop our Start for Life offer. To date, we have had some engagement with lead health services that already have existing parent and carer panels (e.g., Maternity Voices Partnership). As these forums already exist and have evidence of working well, health are keen that we work with these.
101. We are working with Dads Unlimited to reach Dads and gain feedback from their existing groups. We are also exploring other communities such as military families through our KCC Covenant link. We are planning to link with interfaith forum to increase our reach to BAME and other communities where there is low engagement with services.
102. There are 12 Local Children's Partnership Groups (LGCPs) across Kent, one per district, which are member-led. These groups ensure that partnership working and the needs of children are high on the corporate agenda within KCC. The chairs of these groups are all elected members and meet on a quarterly basis to ensure there is a consistent approach to delivering locality-based outcomes across all districts.
103. The Family Hub Partnership Board that is to be established will play a key role in strengthening engagement from partners into the programme by sharing and developing opportunities for greater integration and joint working via the existing forums and the Parents and Carer Panel once established.

What	Approx. deadline
Kent Public Health Needs Assessment published Nov 2022.	Nov '22 - completed
First Parent Carer Panel	February 2023
Publish Kent Start for Life Offer and develop a Family Hub online presence	Before April 2023
Maximisation of county resources to promote the offer across various media including radio, social media networks	Marketing Strategy in place by April 2023.
Completion of assessment of community building use by partners	May 2023

Identify options and develop opportunities for co-location for Family Hubs	Start summer 2023 co-location on all locations completed by 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2023
We will work alongside our district council partners to promote awareness of family hubs through their community programmes which will help support early engagement and will explore further opportunities for delivery of family hub activity such as leisure facilities.	Target Sept 2023

## Appendices

### A) [Programme Delivery Outcomes](#)





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	Delivery Area and Key Criteria	Programme Delivery Outcomes
Overarching Programme Delivery		
Family Hub Transformation	Access Key Criteria 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support provided is communicated to all parents, carers and their families including those who are hardest to reach and/or most in need of support</li> <li>• Increase access to additional community venues, outreach partnership models and develop a joint digital and virtual offer</li> <li>• Provision of a single front door for family hubs with maximisation of county resources across the partnership to promote the offer across various media including radio, social media networks, websites and Apps.</li> <li>• A review of estates to establish the family hub footprint in Kent as a physical resource to families in Kent.</li> <li>• Development of a single Kent Family Hub identity with associated branding which is adopted across the Kent system.</li> </ul>
	Connection Key Criteria 2,3, & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established pathway for a shared system and shared assessment (with health and ICS Services)</li> <li>• Align caseloads and delivery teams across the FH partnership including health services building on the existing Kent Thresholds Criteria</li> </ul>
	Relationships Key Criteria 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established governance structure for family hubs so there is a joined-up approach strategically through to operational teams.</li> <li>• Regular Parent and carer panels</li> <li>• Develop and embed a new Family Hub peer supporter model with Health partners and the VCS to support the core and go further options.</li> </ul>
	Family Hub Wider Services (including 0 – 2 age range)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We aim to grow this peer support model over the next three years</li> <li>• Our community peers will form part of a much wider network of family support including Primary Care Navigators.</li> <li>• The role of birth registrations and service join up around registrations</li> <li>• Outreach into an expanded community</li> </ul>

		<p>network through partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of children to be school ready at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage</li> <li>• Number of family hubs providing warm spaces in winter, cool spaces in Summer</li> <li>• Information on preparation for severe weather events to families</li> </ul>
Funded Services	Parenting Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an integrated programme of parenting support with health colleagues, covering topic-based workshops to join delivery of evidence-based programmes through a new single Family Hub parenting support offer</li> <li>• A new multi-agency, holistic, ante-natal offer will be co-produced for all expectant parents (including fathers) helping them to transition into parenthood</li> <li>• An identified key worker will develop relationships antenatally for those identified as needing further support, including post birth.</li> </ul>
	Parent-Infant Relationships & Perinatal Mental Health Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will develop and establish a family coach /peer programme [including those with lived experiences] offering a universal offer of support across the twelve districts giving perinatal mental health and parent infant support ante and postnatally, specifically encouraging dads /partners and different ethnic groups.</li> <li>• Developing family coaches to re-establish, expand and enhance our infant feeding peer support model will increase reach and enable families to access support on parent/infant relationships, emotional need and infant feeding, developing staff skills to hear family's needs both ante and post-natal.</li> <li>• Workforces across family hubs will be supported to increase their knowledge and awareness of mild to moderate perinatal mental health.</li> <li>• We will commission professional filming of PATH* low to moderate perinatal mental health awareness training programmes to support family hub workforces and families.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will promote these through social media and social assets and use this as a foundation to raise awareness on perinatal mental health and share this across the family hub networks.</li> <li>• We will procure and offer a perinatal mental health wheel [accredited by the institute of Health Visiting] to all new parents.</li> <li>• We will develop resources [digital and hard copy] self-help messaging to help have improved emotional wellbeing.</li> <li>• We will incorporate workforce development on parental conflict, into the skills set of family coaches so they have a level of understanding of emotional intelligence and the impacts on infants' development.</li> <li>• We will commission and require regular small group supervision for family coaches. We will take the opportunities to access nationally procured tiered training provision [levels 1-3] to support parent infant relationships.</li> <li>• We will support practitioners from Kent with opportunity to access training to deliver evidence-based interventions that promote parent–infant relationships. The interventions are likely to include video-feedback and a targeted intervention to promote parent–infant relationships, which could be delivered in a group or one-to one.</li> <li>• We will take up the offer from the national team to access practitioners who will be able to supervise those supporting parent–infant relationships.</li> </ul>
	Early Language and the Home Learning Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targeted pre-schools will provide home learning packs in partnership with FH and libraries.</li> <li>• Develop the role of libraries being an outreach family hub offer with pre-school sessions to support early language and development.</li> <li>• The award winning EFICL programme is being delivered in Kent already and will be evidenced in the FH</li> <li>• Pilot the introduction of ELIM within the 2-2 ½ year development review and</li> </ul>

		<p>development of intervention programme to support early identification and support; Support to be extended where identified by Family Hub staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional home support packs including Bookstart to be offered to targeted families with 1:1 and group Family Hub support Bookstart resources and 1:1/group support to be targeted at families for increase HLE support where identified</li> <li>• Additional parenting support/groups/resources to be delivered for targeted families using CHIRP (Confident, Happy, Independent, Resilient, Proud) working with the EYFS principles</li> <li>• Training for parent volunteers on HLE to embed practice into communities in addition to staff training; Increased offer of training on Schema for Staff and volunteers to support HLE 1:1 and group work</li> </ul>
	<p>Infant Feeding Support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the health visiting service we will explore options to build on the infant feeding peer support model and develop a pilot family coach infant feeding support for the pivotal early days following birth to those women identified or who have sought additional help. Support to be extended through family coaches.</li> <li>• We will work collaboratively with UNICEF to sustain our joint breastfeeding initiative [BFI] level 3 accreditation in February 2023 and achieve gold standard in February 2023 in our organisations KCHFT and in children centres [family hubs]. We will support the costs for UNICEF achieving sustainability reassessment and achieving processes in the following 12 months.</li> <li>• We will train family coaches and new workforce staff in BFI infant feeding to re-establish, expand and enhance our infant feeding support model and increase our reach. This will enable families to access support on emotional</li> </ul>

		<p>need and infant feeding and parent /infant relationships.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will review options to introduce the hello baby [antenatal] offer which currently is delivered in a neighbouring authority into Kent.</li> <li>• Working with other sectors we will explore possibilities to support feeding where the cost of nursing bras may prohibit commencement/continuation.</li> <li>• We will commission animation films/apps to illustrate early breastfeeding positioning with additionality for different sized women, following c sections.</li> <li>• We will review current evidence and gain further insights to help understand women's perspective of body imagery and cultural and intergenerational attitudes where breastfeeding prevalence is constantly low. We will utilise the collective evidence and insights from other local authorities where breast feeding prevalence is low to put in place effective interventions and support for families.</li> <li>• We are currently developing a 'campaign' on responsive feeding from birth to 18 months. Through partnership working and integrated training support we will develop consistent messaging regards responsive feeding.</li> <li>• We will encourage families to apply for the healthy start programme which gives access to a prepayment card to purchase some foods including milk.</li> <li>• We will support the workforce to know how and where to access support for women who commence breastfeeding, to establish and maintain breast feeding for as long as they want to with the support of the infant feeding specialist and lactation consultants.</li> <li>• We will utilise the newly developed breastfeeding friendly venue toolkit accessible on <a href="http://www.wearebesideyou.co.uk">www.wearebesideyou.co.uk</a> especially in the districts with lower prevalence of breastfeeding</li> <li>• We will establish a system network to</li> </ul>
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		inform and support our infant feeding work.
	Parent and Carer Panels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our community peers will identify and engage parents/carers into new Family Hub bi-monthly forums and staff will be dedicated to supporting participation throughout the year through physical/virtual methods including regular formal and informal feedback</li> <li>• Build on existing relationships with the Maternity Voices Partnership and KCHFT 0-19 year Parent/Carer Forums and use feedback to shape the Delivery Model</li> <li>• Parent/carers panels will help us to identify the relevant and appropriate community spaces in Kent</li> <li>• Parent/Carer panel input into Digital offer to lead the design of the new offer with dedicated resource to develop this</li> </ul>
	Publishing the Start for Life Offer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For key transition points we will provide the start for life government publication materials through midwifery booking and follow up appointments, health visiting (red book/new birth visits) and birth registrations</li> <li>• Additional local materials will be co-produced following feedback from parents and carers in our community through the parent/carers and SEND participation groups, the send local offer and the resilience hub</li> <li>• We will develop a range of materials to suit all family needs, including translations into the key languages and accessible formats.</li> <li>• We will ensure the materials are available through our community partners tailored to the need in that place and will also be published digitally and through our social media sites.</li> <li>• A dedicated staff resource has been assigned to develop and maintain the digital Family Hub offer</li> </ul>



**From: Rory Love, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills**  
**Sarah Hammond, Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education**

**To: Children’s, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee – 17 January 2023**

**Subject: Proposal to establish a new 2FE Primary School in Thanington Canterbury for September 2025.**

**Classification: Unrestricted**

**Past Pathway of report: N/A**

**Future Pathway of report: Cabinet Member Decision**

**Electoral Division: Canterbury South - Mike Sole**

**Summary:** This report sets out the need for a new 2FE (420 place) primary school at Thanington, Canterbury, to open in September 2025. The school will include a 26 (full time equivalent) place nursery. It outlines the process for establishing the new school.

**Recommendation(s):**

The Cabinet Committee is asked to consider and endorse or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and agree to:

i Agree that a Free School Presumption Competition can commence in order to seek applications from potential sponsors to run the new 2FE Primary School in Thanington, Canterbury.

ii Allocate £9.9m from the Children, Young People and Education Capital budget

iii. Authorise the Director of Infrastructure, Strategic and Corporate Services in consultation with the General Counsel and Director of Education to enter into any necessary contracts / agreements on behalf of the County Council.

iv. Authorise the Director of Infrastructure, Strategic and Corporate Services to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts.

**1. Introduction**

1.1 Canterbury City Council’s current Local Plan, adopted on 13 July 2017, proposed a total of just over 16,000 new homes during the Plan period up to 2031. Canterbury City Council is now in the process of drafting their new Local

Plan for the district, which will set the blueprint up until 2040. The Canterbury Infrastructure Delivery Plan (2019) identified the provision of a 2FE Primary School within the strategic site allocation at Cockerling Farm, Thanington (Policy SP3, Site 11). This is critical infrastructure needed to support the delivery of the 2017 Canterbury District Local Plan. The new 2FE Primary School in Thanington was included in the Kent Commissioning plan which stated it would be required as and when the new housing developments progressed.

- 1.2 The new 2FE Primary School is being established to provide additional primary school places for local children to meet the demand for places from the strategic housing developments in Thanington and the vicinity. The school will also help to reduce the impact on the road system in the immediate area by providing a school local to the new housing. The school site has been transferred to KCC as part of a s106 agreement relating to the Cockerling Farm housing development.
- 1.3 In order to establish the new 2 FE primary School in Thanington, Canterbury. Kent County Council is required to run a Free School Presumptive competition to secure a Sponsor to run the school. The Education Act 2011 changed the arrangements for establishing new schools and introduced Section 6A (the academy and free school presumption) to the Education and Inspections Act 2006. This was amended in March 2015 to be only a free school presumption. Where a local authority identifies a need for a new school in its area, it must seek proposals to establish a free school. All new free school proposals require the Secretary of State's approval.
- 1.4 The Academy and free school presumption departmental advice (November 2019) states Local authorities must notify the Secretary of State of their plans to seek proposals for a new school as soon as the need for a new school competition has been agreed. Local authorities should forward the following documents to [freeschool.presumption@education.gov.uk](mailto:freeschool.presumption@education.gov.uk)

A copy of the new school specification, including confirmation:

- that the local authority has identified the required capital to establish the new school, the amount and its source (i.e. local authority's basic need funding);
- that the local authority will meet all pre- and post-opening revenue costs associated with establishing the new school;
- that the local authority will provide the site for the new school; of the full address and postcode of the site for the new school, or all sites where a school will operate from split sites (if the school is on a new development, local authorities should provide an approximate or nearest available postcode);
- of site ownership or tenure arrangements and how these will operate for the new school;
- Their impact and equalities assessment.

## **2. The Proposal**

- 2.1 The new primary school at Cockerling Farm, Thanington will provide 420 places (2FE) for pupils aged 4 to 11 years and is planned to open in September 2025.

Initially we are planning for the school to open as a 1FE school of 30 pupils in Year R (reception year) growing year on year. The second reception class will open at a future date as the housing development expands and houses are occupied, this is to ensure that there are not too many primary school places in Canterbury and that additional places are brought forward as demand increases. We are also proposing to establish a 26-place nursery provision within the new school. It is likely that the nursery will also open in September 2025 along with a Reception Year class offering 30 places. Figure 1 shows the initial proposal for the growth of the school for the first 5 years.

Figure 1: Proposed Admissions Numbers at the new school over the first 5 years

	Yr. R	Yr. 1	Yr. 2	Yr. 3	Yr. 4	Yr. 5	Yr. 6	Total Pupil Numbers
<b>2025/26</b>	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>30</b>
<b>2026/27</b>	30	30	0	0	0	0	0	<b>60</b>
<b>2027/28</b>	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	<b>90</b>
<b>2028/29</b>	30	30	30	30	0	0	0	<b>120</b>
<b>2029/30</b>	30	30	30	30	30	0	0	<b>150</b>

## 2.2 Need for places

The new housing developments in Thanington will result in additional demand for primary and secondary school places in Canterbury City. Barton Manor Secondary School which opened in Canterbury in September 2022 was built to accommodate secondary pupil product from these and other Canterbury strategic sites. The expected primary pupil product for these developments is 322 primary pupils (based on all dwellings being applicable). This demand cannot be met in current local primary schools, therefore a new 2FE primary school at Cockering Farm, Thanington is required to meet the need.

The new Thanington 2FE Primary will sit within the Canterbury City planning group. The tables below show the forecast need for primary school places in Canterbury City and the adjoining primary planning groups for both Year R and Year R to 6. (Forecast 2022 (KCP 2023-2027))

Figure 2 - School-based surplus / deficit capacity summary (Year R)

Planning Group name	2021-22 capacity	2021-22 (A)	2022-23 (F)	2023-24 (F)	2024-25 (F)	2025-26 (F)	2026-27 (F)	2027-28 (F)	2028-29 (F)	2029-30 (F)	2030-31 (F)	2031-32 (F)	2031-32 capacity
Canterbury City	465	50	23	31	31	38	43	49	58	69	82	98	465
Marshside	119	9	3	2	5	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	119
Bridge, Barham and Adisham	105	7	-17	-14	-23	-33	-36	-39	-42	-45	-48	-52	105
Littlebourne and Wickhambreaux	30	0	-3	-5	-9	-8	-9	-9	-9	-10	-10	-11	30
Chartham and Petham	84	14	12	11	16	19	20	21	22	23	23	23	75
<b>Canterbury City and Adjoining planning Areas</b>	<b>803</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>794</b>

**Figure 3 - School-based surplus / deficit capacity summary (all primary year groups)**

Planning Group name	2021-22 capacity	2021-22 (A)	2022-23 (F)	2023-24 (F)	2024-25 (F)	2025-26 (F)	2026-27 (F)	2027-28 (F)	2028-29 (F)	2029-30 (F)	2030-31 (F)	2031-32 (F)	2031-32 capacity
Canterbury City	3,295	181	138	32	-15	-57	-58	-50	-29	36	92	166	3,295
Marshside	758	38	17	-10	-34	-45	-33	-22	-6	17	40	56	833
Bridge, Barham and Adisham	735	10	-26	-66	-108	-151	-193	-236	-291	-321	-359	-392	735
Littlebourne and Wickhambreaux	225	-7	-14	-30	-40	-50	-54	-59	-67	-73	-77	-78	210
Chartham and Petham	572	89	98	90	88	93	99	97	107	119	132	139	525
<b>Canterbury City and Adjoining Planning areas</b>	<b>5,585</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>-109</b>	<b>-211</b>	<b>-239</b>	<b>-270</b>	<b>-287</b>	<b>-222</b>	<b>-173</b>	<b>-110</b>	<b>5,598</b>

The forecast indicates that there will be a pressure for places across all year groups from 2024/2025. It is evident that there will be insufficient capacity in the local planning areas to meet the need of extra pupils from the housing development as it is built out.

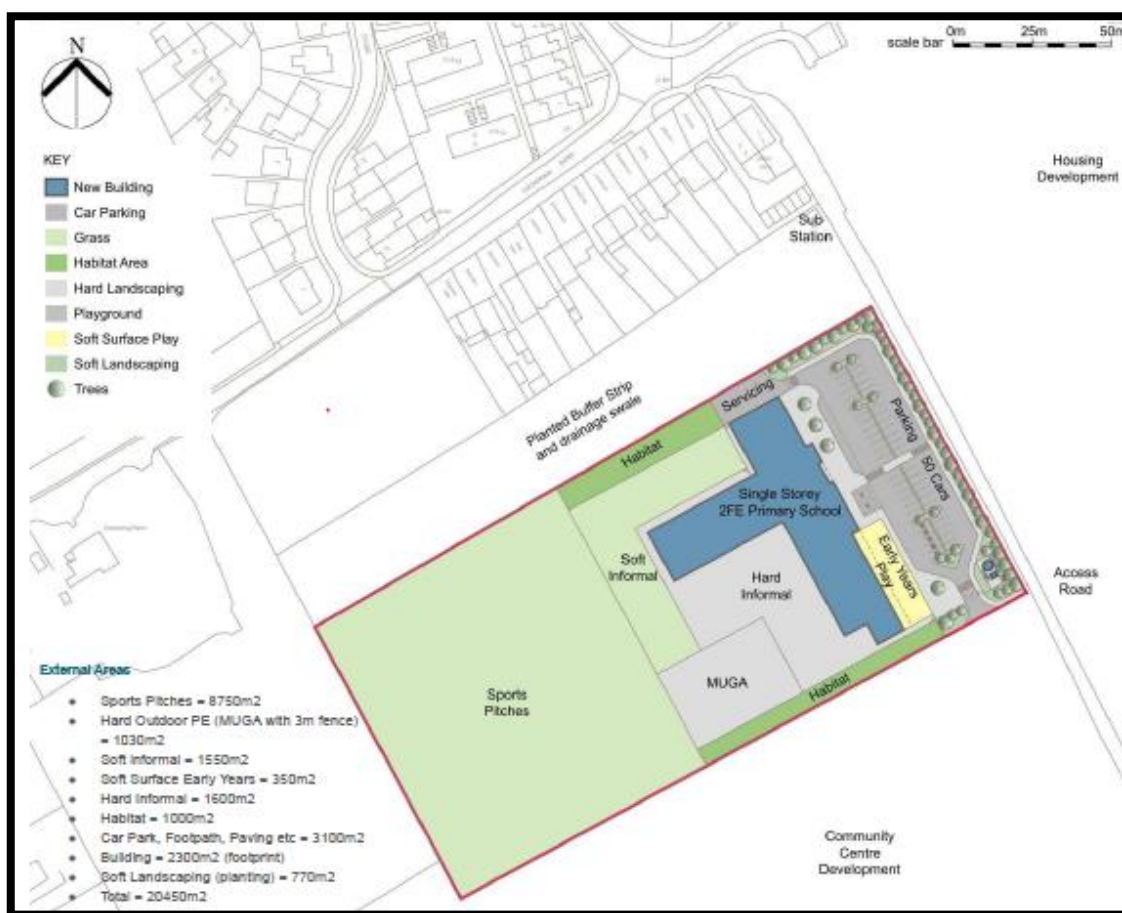
### 2.3 School Site

A site for the new 2FE primary school was identified by the developers and confirmed by KCC as suitable for the delivery of the new primary school. In 2016, Canterbury City Council granted outline planning permission for a primary school on the site proposed, as part of planning application CA/15/01479.

Figure 4 shows the location and situation of the new primary school.

Plans for the school will be refined and submitted for planning permission as the project develops and once a sponsor has been appointed to establish the school.

### Figure 4



## 2.4 The Free School Presumption process

The Education Act 2011 changed the arrangements for establishing new schools and introduced Section 6A (the academy/free school presumption) to the Education and Inspections Act 2006. This was amended in March 2015 to be only a free school presumption. Where a local authority identifies there is a need for a new school in its area it must seek proposals to establish a free school. All new free school proposals require the Secretary of State’s approval. The local authority must assess all proposals received and send the outcome of the assessment to the Secretary of State for consideration and approval. The preference indicated by the local authority will be a key factor in that consideration. We are proposing the initial timeline below (figure 5) for completing the presumption free school competition to appoint a sponsor.

**Figure 5: Proposed Timeline for the free school competition**

Event	Proposed Dates
Community Consultation	7 November to 19 December 2022.
Start of the presumption competition - Invitation to submit a proposal published	28 February 2023
Deadline for receipt of applications	28 March 2023
KCC informs DfE of all proposals received	29 March 2023
Promoter Assessment Panel meets	15 June 2023
Education Commission considers proposals	4 July 2023
KCC submits all proposals to the Secretary of State	11 July 2023

Secretary of State appoints the successful sponsor	August/September 2023
New school opens	September 2025

## 2.5 Community consultation

Before the competition is launched, it is a requirement of the free school presumption process that a community consultation is undertaken by the local authority to gather the views on the proposed new school from interested parties. A 6-week community consultation for this new school was launched on 7 November 2022 finishing on the 19 December 2022. The consultation documents were posted on the KCC website and stakeholder groups were contacted at the start of the consultation. The following stakeholder groups were identified

- Schools in East Kent including Canterbury, Swale and Thanet Districts
- Elected Members (Kent County Council, Canterbury District Council)
- Parish and Town Councils
- Local MP
- Dioceses of Canterbury and Southwark
- Children’s Centres and local Early Year providers.
- Academy Trusts

A verbal update on the consultation outcome will be given at the Children’s, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee.

## Presumptive Competition

The presumptive competition is proposed to be launched on 28 February 2023 where the specification for the school and application form will be published on KCC’s webpage. Potential sponsors are asked to complete an initial expression of interest form and a full application by 28 March 2023. The DfE will be informed of all applications received by KCC. KCC will assess the applications and invite the selected sponsors to present their application. Following the assessment KCC will recommend its preferred sponsor to the Secretary of State who will make the final decision on the sponsor for the school.

## 3. Financial Implications

### 3.1 Capital

The new school will be delivered in two phases to ensure that there will not be an overcapacity of places.

Phase	Build	Cost
Phase 1	1FE classrooms (& classrooms plus nursery class) and core facilities for the 2FE school including Hall, PE, and dining facilities	£8m
Phase 2	1FE expansion (7 additional classrooms and adjacent facilities)	£1.9m
<b>Total</b>	2FE school	£9.9m

3.2 The current predicted cost for the school at Thanington is £9.9m which is £23,581.10 per pupil, slightly lower than the DfE per pupil benchmark of

£25,880 for a Primary New School Build. Therefore, the DfE benchmark for a 2FE new primary school is currently £10,869,600.

- 3.3 Developer Contributions totalling £6,396,342.88 have been requested and agreed towards the new 2FE Thanington Primary School. Of this £232,342.88 has been received to date. Trigger points in the s106 will release the developer contributions as the new houses are built and occupied. KCC will be asked to provide the residual funding from the Children, Young People and Education capital budget.

Total cost of school	£9,900,000.00
Developer contributions	£6,396,342.88
<b>KCC capital contributions</b>	<b>£3,503,657.12</b>

- 3.4 As per KCC policy, a total of £6,000 per new classroom will be provided to the school from the DSG revenue budget.
- 3.5 In line with the agreement of the Cabinet Committee on 7 May 2019, the capital figure here is an estimate, however as the DfE require confirmation that the local authority has identified the required capital to establish the new school, the amount and its source, estimated costs have been included as a key decision. Subject to Members support for the proposal to progress, these estimates will be refined as detailed work is undertaken and the scheme progresses through the planning process. Following receipt of planning permission, the refined cost estimate will be presented to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills for a further key decision to be made.

### 3.6 Revenue

A one-off £25,000 grant will be provided to the successful sponsor by the Department for Education to cover legal expenses. KCC will provide a budget of £50,000 for start-up costs which will typically commence from January through to 31 August prior to the new school opening on 1 September 2025. The school will receive funding through its GAG, via the Education and Skills Funding Agency. In accordance with the Pupil Growth Policy established by KCC and its Schools' Funding Forum, the school will receive guaranteed funding during the first three years. The growth fund will support the school financially to ensure it can put in place a staffing structure to provide the places commissioned. For the purposes of providing a guaranteed budget we are assuming the class organisation as laid out in figure 5. We will review the admission numbers and the school structure with the successful sponsor once appointed, to ensure sufficient capacity will be in place when required.

## 4. Legal implications

- 4.1 The section 106 stipulated that the build contract for the new primary school must be entered into within 2 years of the land transferring to KCC. The land transferred in July 2021.
- 4.2 The Secretary of State will make the final decision on the sponsor of the school.

## **5. Equalities implications**

- 5.1 An initial EQIA has been produced and the outcome of the EQIA advised There will be more places available to meet the demand for places in Thanington, Canterbury and the surrounding area. With the additional housing developments in Thanington and the surrounding areas families will be able to attend their local school provision and not have to travel distances to school.

The positive impacts have been identified as

- Ensure there are sufficient primary school places for children and families in Thanington and the surrounding area which are accessible and available for pupils
- Ensure that there is sufficient local provision to meet the need of new local housing.

Carefully consideration has been given to any impact that the new school may have on other primary schools in Canterbury district. The new primary school will initially open as a 1FE primary school, growing year on year, with the second reception class opening at a future date as the housing development expands and houses are occupied. This phased approach will ensure that there are not too many primary school places in Canterbury and will prevent any negative impact on existing schools in Canterbury.

## **6. Other corporate implications**

- 6.1 Planning and Highways will be consulted pre planning and during the planning application.

## **7. Governance**

- 7.1 The Officer Scheme of Delegation; under Appendix 2 part 4 of the Council's Constitution, provides a clear and appropriate link between this decision and the actions needed to implement it. For information it is envisaged, if the proposal goes ahead, that the Director of Infrastructure will sign contracts on behalf of the County Council.

## **8. Conclusions**

- 8.1 The new 2FE primary school and 26 place Nursery at Cockerling Road, Thanington will ensure that there are sufficient local primary school places for the new housing development in Canterbury. The next step in establishing the primary school is to run a competition process to select an academy sponsor for the school. The plans for the school will be developed and refined and once agreed submitted for planning permission. The proposal will return to CYPE CC once the plans and costs of the project have been finalised and final agreement will be requested for the capital funding for the project

<h2><b>9. Recommendation(s):</b></h2>
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The Cabinet Committee is asked to consider and endorse or make recommendations
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to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and agree to:

- i. Agree that a Free School Presumption Competition can commence in order to seek applications from potential sponsors to run the new 2FE Primary School in Thanington, Canterbury.
- ii. Allocate £9.9m from the Children, Young People and Education Capital budget
- iii. Authorise the Director of Infrastructure, Strategic and Corporate Services in consultation with the General Counsel and Director of Education to enter into any necessary contracts / agreements on behalf of the County Council.
- iv. Authorise the Director of Infrastructure, Strategic and Corporate Services to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts.

## **10.**

### **11. Background Documents**

11.1 Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision

[www.kent.gov.uk/educationprovision](http://www.kent.gov.uk/educationprovision)

11.2 [Framing Kent's Future - Our Council Strategy 2022-2026](#)

11.3 KCC consultation page. [www.kent.gov.uk/schoolconsultations](http://www.kent.gov.uk/schoolconsultations)

11.4 DfE The free school presumption (November 2019)

[Academy and free school presumption departmental advice \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

11.5 Canterbury City Council Local Plan.  
[Local planning policies | Canterbury City Council](#)

## 12. Contact details

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# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

## DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

## DECISION NO:

To be allocated by  
Democratic Services

## For publication

### Key decision: YES

*Key decision criteria. 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); or*
- b) *be significant in terms of its effects on a significant proportion of the community living or working within two or more electoral divisions – which will include those decisions that involve:*
  - *the adoption or significant amendment of major strategies or frameworks;*
  - *significant service developments, significant service reductions, or significant changes in the way that services are delivered, whether County-wide or in a particular locality.*

### Subject Matter / Title of Decision

**Proposal to establish a new 2FE Primary School in Thanington Canterbury for September 2025.**

### Decision:

9.1 Agree that a Free School Presumption Competition can commence in order to seek applications from potential sponsors to run the new 2FE Primary School in Thanington, Canterbury.

9.2 Allocate £9.9m from the Children, Young People and Education Capital budget

9.3 Authorise the Director of Infrastructure, Strategic and Corporate Services in consultation with the General Counsel and Director of Education to enter into any necessary contracts / agreements on behalf of the County Council.

9.4 Authorise the Director of Infrastructure, Strategic and Corporate Services to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts.

### Reason(s) for decision:

#### Background

Canterbury City Council's current Local Plan, adopted on 13 July 2017, proposed a total of just over 16,000 new homes during the Plan period up to 2031. The Canterbury Infrastructure Delivery Plan (2019) identified the provision of a 2FE Primary School within the strategic site allocation at Cockerling Farm, Thanington (Policy SP3, Site 11). This is critical infrastructure needed to support the delivery of the 2017 Canterbury District Local Plan. The new 2FE Primary School in Thanington was included in the Kent Commissioning plan and stated it would be need as and when the new housing developments progressed.

In order to establish the new 2 FE primary School in Thanington, Canterbury. Kent County Council is required to run a Free School Presumptive competition to secure an Academy Sponsor. The Education Act 2011 changed the arrangements for establishing new schools and introduced Section

6A (the academy and free school presumption) to the Education and Inspections Act 2006. This was amended in March 2015 to be only a free school presumption. Where a local authority identifies a need for a new school in its area, it must seek proposals to establish a free school. All new free school proposals require the Secretary of State's approval.

## Financial Implications

### *Capital*

The current predicted cost for building the new school at Thanington is £9.9m which is £23,581.10 per pupil, slightly lower than the DfE per pupil benchmark of £25,880 for a Primary new school build. Therefore, the DfE benchmark for a 2FE new primary school is currently £10,869,600.

The new school will be delivered in two phases to ensure that there will not be an over-supply of places.

Phase	Build	Cost
Phase 1	1FE (7 classrooms) plus core facilities for the 2FE school including Hall, PE, and dining facilities	£8m
Phase 2	1FE expansion (7 classrooms and adjacent facilities)	£1.9m
<b>Total</b>	2FE school	£9.9m

Developer Contributions totalling £6.4m have been requested and agreed towards the new 2FE Thanington Primary School. Of this £0.2m has been received. Trigger points in the s106 will release the developer contributions as the new houses are built and occupied. KCC will be asked to provide the residual funding from the Children, Young People and Education capital budget. This is subject to further key decision by the Cabinet Member for Education & Skills following planning permission and refinement of costs.

### *Revenue*

Revenue costs are expected to be met through the ring-fenced Dedicated Schools Grant: Schools Block in accordance with the prevailing Kent County Council School's Growth Funding Policy. The current funding offer includes:

- £6,000 per new classroom to support set up costs.
- New School Set Up Funding of up to £50,000 towards the setup costs prior to the opening of the school. This is based on the typical costs associated with a setup of a new primary school. To access this funding the new school must submit a plan of expenditure to the AEO for authorisation.
- Guaranteed funding for the first three years to support the school financially to ensure it can put in place a staffing structure to provide the school places required (this will be reviewed closer to the time of opening).

The ongoing annual revenue budget for the school will be allocated in accordance with the prevailing Government requirements for setting the Local Funding Formula for Schools Budgets in Kent. Free schools are not controlled by a Local Authority and future revenue financial implications, including the management of the school budget, will be responsibility of the future Trust.

There are no revenue Council General Fund implications expected from this proposal.

## Legal implications

The section 106 stipulated that the build contract for the new primary school must be entered into within 2 years of the land transferring to KCC. The land transferred in July 2021.

The secretary of State will make the final decision on the sponsor of the school.

## Equalities implications

An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced and the assessment identified the following positive impacts:

- Ensure there are sufficient accessible primary school places for children and families in Thanington and the surrounding area.
- Ensure that there is sufficient local provision to meet the need of new local housing.

Consideration has been taken of any impact that the new school may have on other Primary Schools in the Canterbury district. The new Primary school will initially open as a 1FE primary school growing year on year and the second reception class will open at a future date as the housing development expands and houses are occupied, this is to ensure that there are not too many primary school places in Canterbury and will prevent any negative impact on existing schools in Canterbury.

Other Alternatives Considered and risks if decision isn't taken.  
Other options have not been considered as this school is to serve the new housing development in Thanington and forms part of a s106 agreement.

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**  
**The Children's and Young People Cabinet Committee consider the decision on 17 January 2023.**

**Any alternatives considered and rejected:**

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

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signed

.....  
date

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## Teynham Parochial CEP Primary School Consultation Outcome Report



**Consultation on the Proposal to rebuild and expand Teynham Parochial CEP Primary School from 210 places to 420 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 30 to 60 for September 2025.**

### 1. Introduction

This report sets out and evaluates the responses received from the consultation on the Proposal to permanently expand Teynham Parochial Church of England Primary School from 210 places to 420 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 30 to 60 for Reception entry in September 2025.

A public consultation was held from the 3 November to 1 December 2022 and a consultation drop in event was held on the 10 November 2022 at Teynham Primary School.

The public consultation was undertaken to gain the views on the proposal to expand Teynham Parochial CEP Primary School from 210 places to 420 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 30 to 60 for September 2025 by rebuilding and expanding the school to meet increasing demand arising from new housing planned for the local area. The current building is now approximately 50 years old and shows many symptoms associated with being beyond economic repair, making it difficult and costly to expand and more cost effective to re-build.

36 people attended the drop in event.

A total of 19 response forms were completed and returned, either online or in person at the drop in event.

14 agreed with the proposal to expand Teynham Primary School, whilst 3 were undecided and 2 disagreed.

### 2. Consultation process:

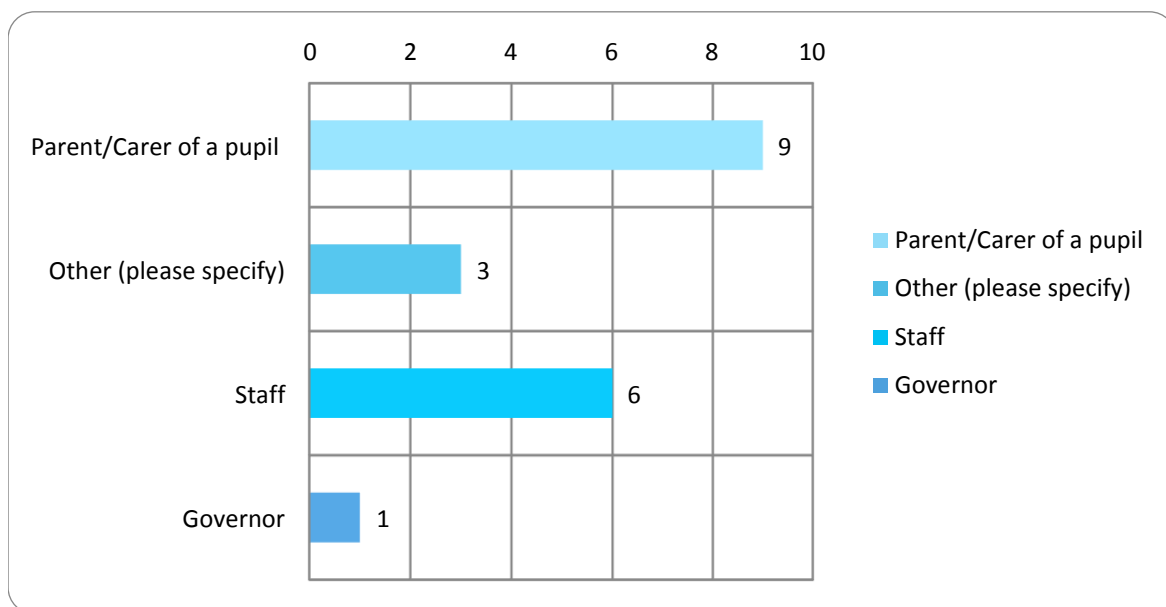
The consultation took place from 3 November to 1 December 2022. Stakeholder groups were identified and were contacted at the start and during the consultation period. The following groups were identified:

- Parents/carers of pupils at Teynham Primary School
- Staff and governors at Teynham Primary School
- All primary and secondary schools in Swale
- Early years providers in Teynham area
- Children Centres in Teynham and Sittingbourne.
- KCC Members
- District council
- Parish Council
- Local residents

The consultation documents were posted on the KCC website, the school's website and a consultation drop in event was held at the school on 10 November 2022.

### 3. Respondents

A total of 19 responses were received, 8 via the KCC website and 11 from the drop in event. No responses were received via post or email. The following table shows the capacity in which they were completing the questionnaire:



### 4. Consultation response

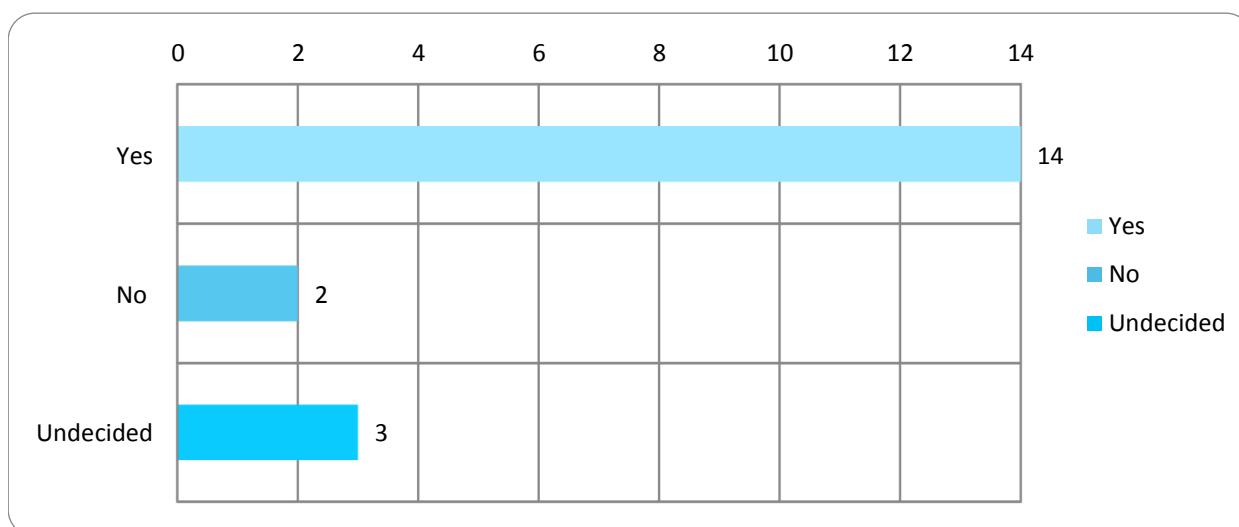
Analysis of survey question

**Question: Do you agree with the plan to rebuild and expand Teynham Primary School from 210 to 420 pupils (1FE to a 2FE)?**

A total of 19 response forms were completed and returned, either online or in person at the drop in event.

14 agreed with the proposal to expand Teynham Primary School, whilst 3 were undecided and 2 disagreed. Of the two respondents who disagreed one stated concern over traffic and the other did not provide a reason for the objection.





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There were a range of comments in support of the proposal, including support for the designs and layout of the school and the need for the expansion of the school. However, the main theme, including amongst those who supported the expansion, related to concerns with traffic issues on Belle Friday Close and Station Road and the need for additional car parking facilities for the school to help sort out traffic issues which already exist.

### 5. Equality analysis

An Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) was produced for the proposal. The assessment identified the following positive impact:

- Sufficient local Primary provision for children in Teynham and local area.

### 6. Conclusions and next steps

The key findings from the consultation show that the majority of respondents (14 out of 19 responses) agreed with the proposal to expand Teynham Primary School.

A report on the proposal, the outcome of the consultation and recommendations will be submitted to the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee on the 17 January 2022, following which the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills will take a decision on the proposal. If the decision is made to proceed with the proposals, the design of the school will be developed, and planning permission will be sought. Once planning permission has been granted, a Public Notice will be issued to finalise the expansion. If the proposal goes ahead, the intention would be to implement the change for September 2025.

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