

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

## DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Peter Oakford – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services.

## DECISION NUMBER:

25/00027

## For publication

## Key decision:

Yes - The granting of a lease of accommodation in excess of 20 years.

## Title of Decision: Formal Lease for an Electricity Sub Station within grounds of the former Walmer Science College, Deal - to serve The Beacon and the Southwood Centre, Deal.

## Proposed Decision:

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services to agree to:

1. authorise the granting of a Lease in excess of 20 years to UK Power Networks in order that a new electricity substation can be built within the grounds of the former Walmer Science College site to serve new buildings for use by The Beacon and the County Council's operational Southwood Centre; and
2. delegate authority to the Director of Infrastructure, in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services to take necessary actions, including but not limited to entering into relevant contracts or other legal agreements, as required to implement this.

## Reason(s) for decision:

The County Council will need to grant the lease to ensure UK Power Networks have an estate interest in the land to enable them to provide and operate an existing substation to serve two other schools located within the grounds of the former College.

## Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision was discussed and considered by the Policy and Resources Cabinet Committee on 5 March 2025.

The views of the local Member have been sought and reported to both the Policy and Resources Cabinet Committee meeting and Cabinet Member taking the decision.

## Any alternatives considered and rejected:

Options were considered:

- **Do not grant the lease** - If the lease is not granted, the proposed new accommodation for use and occupation by The Beacon will have an inadequate electricity supply for its operational requirements, thereby compromising the purpose for which the buildings are being provided - **rejected**.
- **Grant the Lease** - As the substation will serve operational education properties, it is recommended that the lease should be granted. The new facilities for The Beacon cannot be operated without adequate electricity supply. The substation is necessary to ensure the development can be completed and brought into use – **recommended**.

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

.....  
signed

.....  
date