

From: Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director for Education, Learning and Skills

To: Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

Subject: Decision Number: 13/00003 - Proposal to Enlarge Cliftonville Primary Academy

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper: Education Cabinet Committee – 27 September 2013, 14 March 2014

Future Pathway of Paper: Cabinet Member decision

Electoral Division: Margate and Cliftonville

Local Members: Mr William Scobie and Mrs Mo Elenor

Summary: Following the recommendations from Education Cabinet Committee on 14 March 2014, the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform is requested to agree to the recommendations below:

Recommendation(s):

The Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform is asked to take the decisions to:

- (i) Allocate £2,900,000 from the Education, Learning and Skills Capital Budget in order that the school may be expanded.
- (ii) AUTHORISE the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support in consultation with the Director of Law and Governance to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council
- (iii) AUTHORISE the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts

This decision is conditional upon the grant of planning permission under Part 3 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 by 1 June 2014.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Thanet district section of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2013-18 has identified a significant pressure in Reception Year places. The district of Thanet overall is forecast to have a deficit of up to 42 places in September 2016 and in the Margate planning area a deficit of 116 Reception Year places is forecast for September 2017.

1.2 It is proposed to permanently enlarge Cliftonville Primary Academy by 30 reception year places, taking the published admissions number (PAN) from

90 to 120 (four Forms of Entry) for the September 2015 intake. Successive Reception Year intake will offer 120 places each year and the school will eventually have a total capacity of 840 pupils.

- 1.3 On 27 September 2013 Education Cabinet Committee recommended to the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform that a consultation takes place on the proposal to permanently expand Cliftonville Primary Academy.
- 1.4 A consultation, carried out by The Coastal Academies Trust (formerly the Dane Court Grammar School and King Ethelbert School Trust), began on 10 January and concludes on 7 March. The Trust circulated a consultation document to all parents/carers, staff, governors and trustees and details of the proposal were published on the school's website and the kent.gov.uk website. A meeting was held at the school on 17 January.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 It is proposed to enlarge Cliftonville Primary Academy by 210 places taking the PAN to 120 (4FE) for the September 2015 intake and eventually a total capacity of 840 places.

a. Capital – The enlargement of the school requires the provision of 7 additional classrooms, as well as ancillary facilities. A feasibility study has been completed. The total cost is estimated to be in the region of £2,900,000. Appropriate funding has been identified as part of the Medium Term Capital Programme. The costs of the project are estimates and these may increase as the project is developed. If the cost of the project is greater than 10% the Cabinet Member will be required to take a further decision to allocate the additional funding.

b. Revenue – The school will receive increased funding through the Delegated Budget as follows:-

Pupil growth money: For a period of three academic years from September 2015, the school will receive protection for an additional 30 Reception Year pupils at the current primary AWPU funding rate of.

EFA Delegated Budget: Academies are funded on the academic year September to August. The pupil count used in the calculation of the budget is taken from the October census, prior to the following academic year, therefore any increase to numbers on the October 2015 census will be reflected in the academy's academic year funding September 2016 to August 2017. In acknowledgement of the lag in funding, growth funding will be provided for the period September 2015 to August 2016.

Additional Classroom funding: For each additional classroom, resulting from the expansion of the school, the sum of £6,000 will be allocated towards the classroom setup costs.

c. Human – Cliftonville Primary Academy will appoint additional teachers, as the school size increases and the need arises.

3. Bold Steps for Kent and Policy Framework

- 3.1 These proposals will help to secure our ambition “to ensure every child will go to a good school where they make good progress and can have fair access to school places” as set out in ‘Bold Steps for Kent’.
- 3.2 The ‘Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision, 2013-18’ has identified the demand for up to 536 Reception Year places within the Margate planning area. If capacity is not added at Cliftonville Primary Academy, there will not be enough places available locally to meet demand.

4. Consultation Outcomes

- 4.1 A total of two written responses were received: The responses came from Thanet District Council who fully support the provision of necessary school places in Thanet and welcomed this early engagement with local people. A response was received from a Headteacher of a primary school in Thanet who wrote that “Cliftonville Primary Academy is geographically ideally placed to provide much needed school places in an area where demand is high”.
- 4.2 The meeting held on 17 January was attended by the local member, Mr Scobie, who spoke in support of the proposal. Only a few parents attended the meeting but all spoke positively about the proposal and were excited about the future plans for the school. Concerns about the traffic increase were raised and suggestions to overcome these included a zebra crossing, installation of traffic lights, traffic calming and a decrease in the speed limit.
- 4.3 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed as part of the consultation. To date no comments have been received and no changes are required to the Equality Impact Assessment.

5 Views

- 5.1 The view of the Local Members:
The Members have been contacted regarding the proposal. Mr Scobie provided the following response: ‘I have been informed about the proposals and that I am supportive of the expansion.’
- 5.2. The view of the Academy Trust:
The Coastal Academies Trust (formerly the Dane Court Grammar School and King Ethelbert School Trust), which now includes Cliftonville Primary School, is supportive of the Local Authority's proposed plan to increase to four-form entry. There is a clear rationale in providing an additional form of entry to meet the increasing demand for places in the area.
- 5.3. The view of the Area Education Officer:
The Area Education Officer for East Kent fully supports this proposal and, having considered other commissioning options, is of the belief that this enlargement is not only necessary, but the most cost-effective and sustainable solution to increase demand in the area. All other schools in the planning area were considered.

Cliftonville Primary Academy is a popular and inclusive school and is regularly oversubscribed. The school's location means it is ideally placed to meet the forecast demand for primary school places in Margate.

6. Delegation to Officers

- 6.1 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 Property & Infrastructure Support will sign contracts on behalf of the County Council.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1 Forecasts for the planning area of Margate/Cliftonville indicate an increasing demand for primary school places. This enlargement will add an additional 30 Reception Year places to the capacity per year, in line with priorities 3, 4 and 9 of 'Bold Steps for Kent and Policy Framework' and the 'Commissioning Plan for Education – Kent' (2013 – 2018).

8. Recommendation(s)

Recommendation(s): The Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform is asked to take the decision to:

- (i) Allocate £2,900,000 from Education, Learning and Skills Capital Budget.
- (ii) AUTHORISE the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support in consultation with the Director of Law and Governance to enter into any necessary contracts/agreements on behalf of the County Council
- (iii) AUTHORISE the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts

This decision is conditional upon the grant of planning permission under Part 3 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 by 1 June 2014.

9. Background Documents

- 9.1 Bold Steps for Kent and Policy Framework
http://www.kent.gov.uk/your_council/priorities_policies_and_plans/priorities_and_plans/bold_steps_for_kent.aspx

- 9.2 Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2013-2018
<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s43253/ItemD3KentEducationCommissioningPlan20132018final.pdf>

- 9.3 Education Cabinet Committee report– 27 September 2013
<http://kent590w3:9070/documents/s42589/Item%20B2%20-%20Targeted%20Basic%20Need%20Funded%20Projects.pdf>

- 9.4 Consultation Document and Equalities Impact Assessment
<http://consultations.kent.gov.uk/consult.ti/Cliftonville/consultationHome>

10. Contact details

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