

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,

Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

14/00042(a)

For publication

**Subject: Proposal to increase the designated number at Broomhill Bank School**

Decision:

**As Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform I agree to:**

- (i) Issue a public notice to increase the designated number of places offered at Broomhill Bank School, Broomhill, Tunbridge Wells, by 56 places from 80 places to 136 places.

And, following the closure of the public notice a further Cabinet Member decision will be taken to

- (ii) Expand the school
- (iii) Allocate £1.75 million from Targeted Basic Need budget and £250,000 from the Basic Need budget.
- (iv) 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
- (v) 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 December 2014.

Reason(s) for decision:

The Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2013-18 has identified a need for 275 additional SEN places across Kent.

The expansion of Broomhill Bank School, Broomhill Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent will help to address these pressures and adheres to the principles of our Commissioning Plan as it increases capacity at a good, popular school. In reaching this decision I have taken into account:

- the views expressed by those attending the public consultation meeting on 21 January 2014, and those put in writing in response to the consultation;
- the views of the District and Parish Councils, the local County Councillor; Governing Body of the school, the Staff and Pupils;
- the Equality Impact Assessment and comments received regarding this; and
- the views of the Education Cabinet Committee which are set out below

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

**14 October 2013**

The Committee endorsed the Kent Commissioning Plan, which identified a need for additional places and recommended to the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform that a consultation takes place on the proposal to expand and redesignate Broomhill Bank School, Broomhill Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN9 1HR

**14 March 2014**

The Cabinet Committee considered the proposed decision and discussed the concerns raised. All Members of the Committee voted in favour of the proposal and resolved to recommend to the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform he agree to decision (13/0000) to

- (i) Issue a public notice to increase the designated number of places offered at Broomhill Bank School, Broomhill, Tunbridge Wells, by 56 places from 80 places to 136 places.

And, following the closure of the public notice a further Cabinet Member decision will be taken to

- (ii) Expand the school
- (iii) Allocate £1.75 million from Targeted Basic Need budget and £250,000 from the Basic Need budget.
- (iv) 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
- (v) 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

Any alternatives considered:

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2013-18 explored all options and the expansion of this school was deemed the suitable option.

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

None

Signed

Date

1 April 2014