

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: Roger Gough Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform					DECISION NO: 13/0008 (b)
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Unrestricted

Non-Key decision

Subject:

Revocation of decision to expand Ospringe CE Voluntary Primary School, Faversham

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform, I agree to withdraw the decision to expand Ospringe Primary School owing to the refusal of relevant planning permission and support the notice issued by officers revoking the proposal.

Reason(s) for decision:

- 1.1 The original proposal was published on 7 July 2013. The proposal was to enlarge the school to provide 45 places per year group, taking the total capacity of the school to 315 places. It was proposed to admit 45 children into the Reception Class in September 2014 and subsequent years.
- 1.2 A Planning Application for a 4 classroom extension to the school was withdrawn following objections raised by the Highways Authority. The full reasoning for the objection is contained in the report attached as an appendix to this decision sheet.
- 1.3 It was therefore proposed to revoke the notice published on 7 July and the published admission number for the school will return 30 from September 2014. However, the school has agreed to admit over this number for Reception Year entry in September 2014 in order to ensure that sufficient places are available for families applying for a place at a Faversham School. The revocation notice was published on 5th March 2014.
- 1.4 In reaching this decision I have taken into account:
 - the views expressed the Highways agency;
 - the views of the AEO;
 - the Equality Impact Assessment and comments received regarding this; and
 - the two objections received to the Revocation Notice

Financial Implications

- 2.1 Capital: As the school will admit up to 45 pupils in September 2014 before reverting back to its PAN of 30 for entry in September 2015, two additional classrooms will be provided so that the school has sufficient accommodation. Had the school expansion been able to proceed, the school would have been provided with four additional classrooms at an estimated cost of £650k
- 2.2 Revenue: The school will receive increased funding through the Delegated Budget on a 'per pupil' basis and protection will be provided to ensure the school receives funding for 45 pupils for entry in September 2014 should numbers fall short of this. The school receives £6k for each additional class opened during the period of temporary expansion. As the school roll reduces when the PAN reverts to 30, the school's Revenue funding will decrease.

2.3 Human: The school may have to reduce staffing for the 2015/16 academic year when the PAN returns to 30

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

27 September 2013

The Committee endorsed the Kent Commissioning Plan on 27 September 2013, which identified a need to commission additional primary capacity across the whole of Swale, including the Faversham locality.

21 June 2013

The Committee RESOLVED to recommend the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform take the decision to issue a public notice to expand Ospringe CE (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School, Ospringe, Faversham

Any alternatives considered:

The Swale section of the Commissioning Plan indicates a need to commission additional primary capacity across the whole of Swale, including the Faversham locality.

Further discussions will now be held with Faversham primary schools to consider how to provide additional provision in the future.

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

None

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Signed

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date