

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,
Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

For publication

Subject: The Expansion of Halfway Houses Primary School to 3FE

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform I note the governing body's decision to expand the school and agree to:

- i. Allocate £1,384,353.56 from Education & Young People's Services Capital Budget being Kent County Council's contribution towards the priority school building scheme which has been agreed with the EFA.
- 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

Reason(s) for decision:

The Swale district section of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2013-18 has identified a significant pressure on Reception Year places, especially on The Isle of Sheppey. The expansion of Halfway Houses Primary School to 3FE 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:

1. the views expressed by those attending the consultation meeting on 25 September 2014, and those put in writing to the governing body in response to the consultation;
2. The Governing Body's decision following the consultation to continue with the proposed expansion of the school
3. the views of the Area Education Officer
4. the Equalities Impact Assessment and any comments received regarding this; and
5. the views of the Education Cabinet Committee.

Financial Implications:

It is proposed to permanently enlarge Halfway Houses Primary School, increasing the PAN to 90 (3FE) for the September 2016 intake and eventually a total capacity of 630 places.

- a. Capital – Kent County Council's contribution towards the priority school building scheme

will be £1,384,353.56 which has been agreed with the EFA. This is an estimate and KCC has acknowledged that the final amount may be higher or lower. The EFA will work with KCC throughout the process to ensure that any contribution for Additional Works is minimised as far as possible, but if this increases by more than 10% the Cabinet Member will be required to take a further decision to allocate the additional funding.

b. Revenue – For a period of three academic years, the school will receive protection for an additional 30 Reception Year pupils at the rate of £2,727 per pupil. 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 – Halfway House Primary School will appoint additional teachers, as the school size increases and the need arises.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

27 September 2012

The Committee endorsed the Kent Commissioning Plan, which identified a need for additional places in the Swale District.

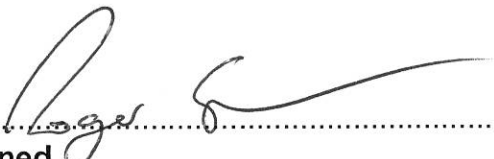
8 July 2015

1. RESOLVED that the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee endorsed the decision to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform to:
 - a) allocate £1,384,353.56 from the Education and Young People's Services Capital Budget, being Kent County Council's contribution towards the priority school building scheme which has been agreed with the Education Funding Agency (EFA), subject to any necessary additional works or necessary variations.
 - b) The Corporate Director for Education and Young People's Services in consultation with the Cabinet for Education and Health Reform be authorised to negotiate with the EFA as to the necessity and cost of any additional work or variations identified, to ensure that any further contribution is minimised. Any agreements will not exceed current approved financial limits; and
 - c) The Executive Scheme of Delegation for Officers set out in Appendix 2 Part 4 of the Constitution (and the directorate schemes of sub-delegation made thereunder) provides the governance pathway for the implementation of this decision by officers. In this instance the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support is expected 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 for providing additional primary school places. This proposal to expand Halfway Houses Primary School was deemed the suitable option.

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


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Signed

10th August 2015
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Date

