

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,

Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

DECISION NO:

18/00006

For publication

Subject: Proposal to permanently expand Trinity School, Sevenoaks from 4FE to 6FE

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education I agree to:

- a. Allocate £8m from the Children, Young People and Education Capital Budget, to fund any necessary additional works or variations to accommodation.
- b. Authorise the Director of Infrastructure in consultation with the General Counsel to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council.
- c. Authorise the Director of Infrastructure to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts

This decision is subject to planning permission being granted.

Reason(s) for decision:

- 1.1 The Sevenoaks district section of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2018-22 identified pressure for Year 7 places in the central Sevenoaks area. The Commissioning Plan identified a need to provide 60 additional places in the area from September 2018.
- 1.2 The Knole Academy and Trinity school were both considered as a possible proposal for expansion according to several criteria, including: location, school sustainability, cost, proximity to demand and site size. Following closer analysis, on this occasion, Trinity School was considered to be the better option for expansion at this time.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1. It has been agreed by the Governing Body to permanently enlarge Trinity School increasing the PAN from 120 to 180 (4FE to 6FE) for the September 2019 intake.
- 2.2. To accommodate a need for the September 2018 intake, the school has agreed to offer an additional 60 Year 7 places as bulge years, pending the permanent enlargement decision.
- 2.3. The financial considerations are:
 - a. Capital – Kent County Council's contribution will be £8m. KCC acknowledge that the final amount may be higher or lower as the costs of the project are an estimate. 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 – For a period of three academic years, the school will receive protection for an additional 60 Year 7 students. 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 – Trinity School will appoint additional teachers, as the school size increases and the need arises.

3. Supporting Information

- 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 the Education Commissioning Plan.

- 3.2. The ‘Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision, 2018-22’ has identified a pressure on Year 7 places in the Sevenoaks district. Expansions to nine primary schools in the southern half of Sevenoaks district over the last eight years is now feeding into the secondary cohorts, creating demand in excess of capacity.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:
Children’s, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee - 8 March 2018:
(To be completed after the meeting)

Any alternatives considered:
Forecasts for Sevenoaks district indicate an increasing demand for secondary school places, due to the expansion of nearby primary schools over the last eight years. This enlargement will add an additional 60 Year 7 places to the capacity per year, in line with priorities in the Kent Policy Framework, ‘Vision and Priorities for Education and Young People’s Services’ and the ‘Commissioning Plan for Education’ (2018 – 2022).

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