

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,

Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

DECISION NO:

18/00012

For publication

Subject: Proposal to permanently expand Dartford Grammar School for Girls, Dartford from a PAN of 160 to 180

Decision:

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

- a. Allocate £600,000 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 Dartford district section of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 20187-22 identified pressure for Year 7 places in the Dartford area. The Commissioning Plan identified a need to provide up to 60 additional places in Dartford from September 2019.
- 1.2. The increased demand is predicated on the programme of primary expansion that has been undertaken in previous years. Every secondary school in the district was considered as a possible proposal for expansion according to several criteria, including location, cost, proximity to demand, site size, willingness of the school, highways issues, Sport England and Ofsted rating. Amongst these there is an identified need for Girls Grammar places in the Dartford area. Dartford Grammar School is the only option for further expansion.
2. **Financial Implications**
 - 2.1 It has been agreed by the Governing Body to permanently enlarge Dartford Grammar School for Girls, increasing the PAN from 160 to 180 for the September 2018 intake.
 - a. Capital – Kent County Council's contribution will be £600,000. 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 20 Year 7 students. For each additional classroom, resulting from the expansion of the school, the sum of £6,000 will allocated towards the classroom setup costs.

c. Human – Dartford Grammar School for Girls 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’ identified a pressure on primary school places in the Dartford district. Changes to demographics and increased migration is leading to increased pressure on primary school places in the planning area.

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 Dartford district indicate an increasing demand for secondary school places, due to small & medium scale housing development and inward migration. The Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision explored all options and the expansion of this provision was deemed the suitable option. This enlargement will add an additional 20 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