

Officer Executive Decisions

Outcomes of Options Appraisal for the Sufficient Supply of Primary School Places in Strood and Gillingham

The annual review of the School Organisation Plan 2011-16, was presented to Cabinet on 30 September 2014. That document outlined the areas of emerging need in relation to the supply of school places across Medway. The Cabinet considered a report on 13 January 2015 which set out the findings of the options appraisals for the nine different primary schools in Strood and Gillingham approved at the meeting and makes recommendations to ensure that the council complies with its statutory duty to provide sufficient primary school places to meet demand.

The Cabinet agreed to give authority to the Director of Children and Adults Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services (Lead Member) to commence, at the appropriate time, the statutory processes required for each of the maintained schools to expand. Where an academy was approved as suitable for expansion it was for the Academy Trust to undertake their own consultation. However, the local authority would be expected to support these processes where necessary and as requested.

The schools referred to in this Cabinet decision were:

Blight Infant and Junior Schools (this was subsequently the subject of a separate report to Cabinet regarding prescribed alterations on 9 February 2016)

Elaine Primary Academy

St. Thomas of Canterbury RCP School

Woodlands Primary Academy

The report to the Cabinet on 13 January 2015 can be found on the Council's website:

<https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=115&MIId=2961&Ver=4>

item 7 refers

Decisions:

It is noted the Cabinet considered a further report regarding prescribed alterations in respect of Bligh Infant and Junior Schools on 9 February 2016:

<https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=115&MIId=3167&Ver=4>

item 11 refers

It is noted that St. Thomas of Canterbury RCP School provided a bulge class for September 2016. No statutory process is required for this type of temporary expansion.

The addition of the bulge class was reported to Cabinet on 27 September 2016:

<https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=115&MIId=3370&Ver=4>

item 6 refers

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Any further statutory processed undertaken in respect of St. Thomas of Canterbury RCP School will be reported to Cabinet in the Annual Review of the School Organisation Plan.

Any statutory processes undertaken by Elaine Primary Academy and Woodlands Primary Academy are a matter for the relevant Academy Trusts, rather than Medway Council.

Reasons for Decision: To act in accordance with the Cabinet decisions.

Date of Decision: NA

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Details of any other options considered and rejected None

Conflicts of Interest: None