

## Officer Executive Decisions

### Secondary Free School in Strood

**Delegation from Leader and Cabinet and date:** On 5 March 2019, the Cabinet considered a report which provided details of the proposed acquisition of land for a secondary Free School in Strood to help meet rising demand. The Cabinet approved the underwriting of the overage held against the Manor Barn land in Strood and the Cabinet agreed that the legal agreement is in a format agreed by the Chief Legal Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holders for Children's Services (Lead Member) and Resources (decision numbers 44/2019 & 45/2019 refer).

The report may be viewed online:

<https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?Id=25413&Opt=3>

**Decision:** On 9 April 2019, the Cabinet considered a report which provided an update with regard to the acquisition of land for a secondary Free School in Strood.

This report informed the Cabinet that following notification from the Department for Education that the period of the overage was in operation until 2043, not 2033 as previously advised, the Chief Legal Officer had re-consulted the three named Cabinet Members and subsequently the Council had agreed a right of pre-emption which was extended to 2043, which did not materially impact on the risks associated with the decision. Therefore, the Chief Legal Officer had completed the agreement on 28 March 2019, in accordance with decision number 45/2019.

The report may be viewed online:

<https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?Id=25630&Opt=3>

**Reasons for Decision:** Approving the underwriting of the overage will enable the Department for Education (DFE) to agree a land acquisition with the owners of the Manor Barn site, and is a low risk high reward strategy which will provide a site for the construction of a secondary Free School, to help meet increasing demand in Medway, with all construction costs met by the DFE.

**Date of Decision:** 28 March 2019

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**Details of any other options considered and rejected:** Options considered were set out within the Cabinet reports.

**Conflicts of Interest:** None