

**CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS**

**DECEMBER 2013**

**(i) APPROVAL TO PURCHASE EARLY YEARS LEARNING RESOURCES FOR TWO YEAR OLDS**

**Details of decision**

That the provision of early learning resources to settings across Surrey at a cost of £210,000 be approved.

**Reasons for decision**

In order to meet the statutory duty of building sufficient places for two year old children entitled to access Free Early Education, the Early Years and Childcare Service (EYCS) is working with providers across Surrey.

The aim of the service is to encourage providers to offer places to FEET children, ensuring they have resources which promote a quality early learning environment.

EYCS has managed to grow the market to 1100 places without any capital investment as there is already some capacity to pick up these two year olds, combined with some direct work provided by EYCS. EYCS is now at the point where further incentives are required to build capacity to 3000 places by September 2014. The gap in provision is 1,900 places and investment in the market is needed in order to bridge the gap.

By investing £630 with 340 settings, each provider will commit to providing places for two year olds so that the target of 3000 places can be achieved. This represents good value as there is an investment of £630 per setting with the potential to achieve between five and six places per setting.

The equipment that is being purchased is of the highest quality and providers will undertake a specific training programme regarding providing a high quality environment for two year olds before they are allocated any resources.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 3 December 2013)

**(ii) LANGSHOTT INFANT SCHOOL, HORLEY**

**Details of decision**

The Statutory Notices determining that the upper age limit of Langshott Infant School is increased so that it becomes a Primary School from September 2014, be approved.

### **Reasons for decision**

This action is reflective both of an increasing demand for school places in the Horley area, resulting from an increase in birth rate and significant house building, and an opportunity to provide primary school structure throughout the town.

The provision of additional junior places both meets the increased demographic pressures in the area and will allow the Council to admit those people who name the school as their preferred option, thus meeting the wider statutory duty to offer all applicants a school place.

It will enable a diversity of provision to be maintained within the Horley area and be part of a strategy that enables Horley residents access to a local Primary School.

A programme of building works at the school will improve the general fabric of the school buildings and enhance the learning experience for pupils, parents and staff.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 3 December 2013)

### **(iii) PROPOSED EXPANSION OF WEST BYFLEET INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS**

#### **Details of decision**

To approve the publication of statutory notices indicating the Local Authority's intention to expand the schools from two to three forms of entry from September 2015.

#### **Reasons for decision**

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places in Surrey. Permanent expansions have been recently commissioned at a number of primary schools in Woking including Maybury Primary School, Beaufort Primary School, Goldsworth Primary School, Brookwood Primary School, The Marist Primary School and St Dunstan's Primary School. Even with these additional places, most primary schools in Woking are expected to be full and to continue to be full in the future and more schools places are needed. This is the case in the West Byfleet and Byfleet primary planning area.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 3 December 2013)