

CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

JULY / SEPTEMBER 2014

(i) Financial Support to Voluntary, Community and Faith Bodies

Details of decision

1. That financial assistance be provided to Young Epilepsy in the form of an interest free loan of £800,000, for a period of up to five years, subject to satisfactory financial and legal due diligence, with repayments in three equal instalments due on 31 December 2017, 31 December 2018 and 31 December 2019 .
2. That financial assistance be provided to the Surrey Community Association in the form of an interest free credit facility up to £200,000 for a period of two years, subject to satisfactory financial and legal due diligence.
3. That officers develop a standard approach to agreeing financial assistance to the voluntary, community and faith sector in Surrey to align with existing policies on grants and report back to the Cabinet.

Reasons for decision

Voluntary, community and faith organisations provide essential services to Surrey residents that align with the council's objectives.

The loan to Young Epilepsy will enable the charity to fix costs of construction now and enable them to develop the interventions needed to enable proper care plans to be produced to cover medical, educational and social needs for young people with epilepsy. Young epilepsy has signalled an intent to pilot this national work in Surrey schools.

The loan will enable Surrey Community Association to have sufficient resources to make grants to the voluntary, community and faith sector in Surrey funded by the European Social Fund.

To ensure that future requests for financial assistance are considered in a consistent and fair manner, a standard policy will be developed.

(Decision of Leader of the Council – 22 July 2014)

(ii) Surrey Fire & Rescue - Water Response Vehicles (part 1)

Details of decision

That the business case for the replacement of the on road water tankers be approved and the contract be awarded to the preferred supplier, as agreed on the basis set out in the Part 2 report.

Reasons for decision

The proposal supports the Fire Authority's statutory requirement to provide a fire and rescue service.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Community Services – 24 July 2014)

(iii) Surrey Fire & Rescue - Water Response Vehicles (part 2)

Details of decision

That a fixed price contract be awarded to John Dennis Coachbuilders, for the purchase of three on road water tankers vehicles at a value, as set out in the submitted report.

Reasons for decision

A full tender process, in compliance with the requirement of EU Procurement Legislation and Procurement Standing Orders has been completed, and the recommendations provide best value for money for the Council following a thorough evaluation process. John Dennis Coachbuilders is a premier fire fighting vehicle and equipment supplier to Fire and Rescue Services throughout the UK and Ireland and was formed in 1985. John Dennis Coachbuilders is based in Guildford, Surrey.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Community Services – 24 July 2014)

(iv) Investment in Epsom Primary School so that two year old children can access the free early education entitlement

Details of decision

That, subject to Investment Panel approval of the business case, a grant to Epsom Primary School of £143,000 to facilitate capital investment on the site of the school so that two year old children can access the free early education entitlement be approved.

Reasons for decision

The Department of Education requires all local authorities in England to secure free early education places for two-year-old children who meet the eligibility criteria based on household income. This report will ensure that plans are in place to make provision for such places in the Epsom area of Surrey where there is a current shortfall in provision.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 26 August 2014)

(v) Contract Award for the provision of outsourced Occupational Therapy Assessments

Details of decision

That, subject to agreement of the detailed financial information and review of the procurement process followed which is set out in the submitted report, approval be given for contract awards to:

- Able 2 OT Services - East and Mid Surrey;
- SHA Disability Consultancy – North West and South West Surrey

Contracts will be for a three year period starting on 1 October 2014 with potential to extend for a further year and services need only be called off as needed.

It was requested that an update be sent to the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care six months after the commencement of the contract.

Reasons for decision

The existing contracts will expire on 30 September 2014. A full tender process, in compliance with the requirement of EU Procurement Legislation and Procurement Standing Orders, has been completed and the recommendations provide best value for money for the Council following a thorough evaluation process.

The new contracts will ensure that Surrey residents continue to receive a timely Occupational Therapy assessment and provision of service with no delay as a result of vacancies or increased demand.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care – 10 September 2014)

(vi) Spelthorne Short Stay School

Details of decision

- (1) That the business case for the project to convert Stanwell New Road to Spelthorne SSS at a total cost, as set out in the submitted report, be approved.
- (2) That the arrangements by which a variation of up to 10% of the total value may be agreed by the Strategic Director for Business Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning, the Cabinet Member for Business Services and the Leader of the Council be approved.

Reasons for decision

Spelthorne SSS is currently housed in the Sycamore Centre, Epsom which has serious building defects and continues to deteriorate. The insurance team have confirmed that we are not covered for the substantial repairs that would be required. This building was originally a domestic dwelling and is neither large enough nor suitable as an education establishment.

Riverbridge Primary School have vacated Stanwell New Road, Staines and re-located to their site at Park Avenue, Staines. This now frees Stanwell New Road for Spelthorne SSS to take up occupation in a building that is already an established education facility and will benefit the pupils by providing larger improved accommodation to deliver the curriculum.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Business Services – 11 September 2014)

(viii) Petition – Barnett Wood School

Details of decision

That the response to the petition, attached as Appendix 1, be approved.

Reasons for decision

To respond to the petition.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning– 11 September 2014)

(ix) To determine a proposal to relocate the Epsom Sycamore Centre Base of the North East Short Stay School to Stanwell New Road, Staines

Details of decision

- (1) That the Sycamore Centre in Epsom be vacated and closed.
- (2) That the short stay school provision on this site be relocated to the former Riverbridge Primary School building on Stanwell New Road in Staines.
- (3) Prior to the relocation, a modest programme of building works be completed to make the provision suitable for secondary age students.

Reasons for decision

The NE Short Stay Secondary School provision currently operates on two sites in Hersham and Epsom. The Epsom site has become unfit for purpose and requires urgent and substantial building work. The school's location is also not ideal: Spelthorne pupils attending the NE Short Stay School have no local provision and therefore have to travel out of borough to the Hersham site. As the former Infant School building on Stanwell New Road has become vacant, it is proposed to relocate the Epsom facility to this site and thus establish a base in Spelthorne Borough. The Hersham site will continue to operate as now.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 11 September 2014)

(x) To determine the publication of Statutory Notices to consult on a proposal to extend Heathside School

Details of decision

- (1) The school be enlarged by one form of entry (from seven FE to eight FE), adding a net total of 150 places in Years 7 to 11 by 2020.
- (2) The school undertakes a programme of building remodelling on its present site to add teaching accommodation and improve the use of space on campus. This will enable the school to accommodate 1200 11-16 students (PAN 240) plus its sixth form which is not due to expand under this proposal
- (3) The expansion be effective from 1 September 2016 and be funded by Surrey County Council as part of its Basic Need Capital programme.

Reasons for decision

The trend of increased demand for places in primary schools in Elmbridge is due to move into the secondary phase of education in 2015 after which there is a growing need for secondary places that the borough's schools cannot currently meet. These places are required across the borough and most secondary schools are likely to expand by a form of entry over the period 2015-2018.

Heathside is a popular and successful school which delivers high quality education. It was rated by OFSTED at its last inspection (October 2013) as a good school and it is consistently over-subscribed. The proposed provision of 150 additional places at Heathside therefore meets the government's policy position to expand successful schools in order to meet parental preferences.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 11 September 2014)

(xi) To determine the publication of Statutory Notices to consult on a proposal to expand Hinchley Wood Primary School

Details of decision

- (1) The school be enlarged by one form of entry (from two to three classes per year group), adding a net total of 210 places in Years R to 6 by 2020.

- (2) The school undertakes a building programme on its present site which would add teaching accommodation and a new kitchen and dining room.
- (3) This expansion be effective from 1 September 2016 and be funded by Surrey County Council as part of its Basic Need Capital programme.
- (4) Prior to the permanent expansion, Hinchley Wood Primary school would take one more bulge class in September 2015.

Reasons for decision

There has been an increasing trend in the demand for places in primary schools in Elmbridge. Despite the expansion of a number of local schools in The Dittons and Weston Green areas there will still be a need for one more form of entry by 2016.

Hinchley Wood Primary is a popular and successful school which delivers high quality education. It was rated by OFSTED at its last inspection (May 2012) as a good school and is consistently over-subscribed. The proposed provision of 210 additional places at Hinchley Wood therefore meets the government's policy position to expand successful schools in order to meet parental preferences.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 11 September 2014)

(xii) To proposed expansion of Stoughton Infant School by one form of entry

Details of decision

That the Statutory Notice stating the local authority's intention to expand Stoughton Infant School be determined so that the school becomes a three form entry infant school from September 2015, with a published admission number (PAN) of 90 and a total of 270 infant places.

Reasons for decision

This action is reflective of the ongoing demand for school places in the North Guildford planning area, demonstrated by several years of additional 'bulge' classes. Additional classes have been provided at a number of schools, including Stoughton Infant School, which has already admitted two 'bulge' classes, increasing their current Reception and Year 1 cohorts to 90. They will admit another 'bulge' year of 90 places into Reception in September 2014, giving an overall capacity of 270.

Stoughton Infant School is an outstanding school and it is entirely appropriate to expand good schools in line with government policy. The provision of 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, meeting the wider statutory duty to offer all applicants a school place. It will also reduce the impact of school travel in the area as it will mean that an increased number of local children are able to attend a local school.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 11 September 2014)

(xiii) The proposed expansion of junior (key stage 2) provision at Worplesdon Primary School by one form of entry

Details of decision

That the Statutory Notice stating the local authority's intention to expand the junior provision at Worplesdon Primary School be determined, such that the school will admit a form of entry at junior level (Year 3) with a Published Admissions Number (PAN) of 30 from September 2016. The PAN for Reception will remain at 60 meaning that the school will have an overall capacity of 180 places in Reception – Year 2 and 360 places in Years 3 – 6.

Reasons for decision

This action is reflective of the ongoing demand for school places in the North and West Guildford planning areas, demonstrated by several years of additional 'bulge' classes. Additional classes have been provided at a number of schools, including Stoughton Infant School, which has already admitted two 'bulge' classes, increasing their current Reception and Year 1 cohorts to 90. They will admit another 'bulge' year of 90 places into Reception in September 2014, giving an overall capacity of 270.

This proposal is in conjunction with the local authority's proposal to permanently expand Stoughton Infant School from two forms of entry to three forms of entry. If agreed, the increase in places at Stoughton Infant School will reduce the number of Year 3 places available at Northmead Junior School for children attending Wood Street Infant School which has historically been the typical route of progression to Key Stage 2. The proposal to expand Worplesdon is therefore intended to provide a clear and secure route through to Key Stage 2 for all children attending Wood Street Infant School, which will be reflected in the admissions criteria established at Worplesdon for the 30 additional places.

Worplesdon Primary School is a good school and it is entirely appropriate to expand good schools in line with government policy. The provision of places 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, meeting the wider statutory duty to offer all applicants a school place.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 11 September 2014)

CABINET MEMBER RESPONSE TO PETITION

'We strongly support the expansion of Barnett Wood Infant School to incorporate a junior school'

Presented by Debbie Dalzell on behalf of Amanda Ross

Further details of petition:

'This is the only OFSTED "Outstanding" school in Ashtead and we would like to see this standard extended to juniors too under the leadership of Mrs Penny. Let's make use of the already acquired land adjacent to the school to ease the pressure of expansion on other local schools. We would like to see the expansion happen as soon as possible and would urge Surrey County Council to explore all available options.'

RESPONSE:

Thank you for your petition and your interest in Schooling in the Ashtead area.

As I am sure you are aware Surrey is experiencing a significant increase in the demand for school places and very few communities have been unaffected by this. As a Council we are undertaking a major capital programme that is providing 16,000 additional school places up to 2019. These are desperately required to ensure that all Surrey residents receive a high quality education.

There are currently two schools where consultations are being undertaken concerning their expansion within Ashtead. All schools within the planning area have been considered as part of the process, including discussions with the Planning and Highways Authority.

It is anticipated that the number of pupils requiring schooling will increase in the area to reflect changes in local demographics. In addition it is expected that future housing in the Ashtead area will significantly add to these demand patterns. If current trends continue, and with a view to further potential housing across the District, it is anticipated that demand for school places will continue to grow and that further school places will be required.

The Council has taken steps to proactively look at potential property assets that offer opportunities to meet this demand in a sustainable manner. Firstly through the provision of further additional junior places, and secondly with a view to look at the pattern of provision more widely to include the admission numbers at the existing schools, with a focus on junior provision.

As a result of this the Council has purchased a site next door to Barnett Wood Infant School with the view that this could possibly provide school places needed in the future. It would mean that Barnett Wood would have the potential to provide additional junior places in the area. Additionally the expansion of Barnett Wood is contained within the Schools Basic Need Capital

Programme. We will continue to work with the school to explore this option in detail and provide a project plan for its delivery.

It should be noted that any change to the present pattern of provision would require consultation both with schools, parents and wider stakeholders and it cannot be guaranteed that all respondents would welcome this proposal. Consultations would not start until we are sure that options are achievable and considerable work needs to take place to get to that position.

Mrs Linda Kemeny

Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning

11 September 2014

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