

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

DATE: 24 SEPTEMBER 2013



REPORT OF: MR TONY SAMUELS, CABINET MEMBER FOR ASSETS AND REGENERATION PROGRAMMES

MRS LINDA KEMENY, CABINET MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS AND LEARNING

**LEAD OFFICER: JOHN STEBBINGS, CHIEF PROPERTY OFFICER
PETER JOHN WILKINSON, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR SCHOOLS AND LEARNING**

SUBJECT: HORLEY NE PRIMARY SCHOOL, HORLEY – NEW SCHOOL PROVIDING 210 AND 26 PRE SCHOOL PLACES

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

To approve the business case for the provision of a permanent need one form entry (210 places and 26 place nursery) Diocesan primary school as part of the Schools Basic Need Programme.

Numbers of children in Horley have been increasing for some years, due in part to large scale housing development of Horley and surrounding areas as part of the Horley regeneration plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that Cabinet approves the construction of a new primary school, as detailed in this report, be agreed in principle subject to the consideration and approval of the detailed financial information set out in Part 2 of this agenda (item 19).

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The proposal supports the Authority's statutory obligation to provide sufficient school places to meet the needs of the population in the Horley area.

DETAILS:**Background**

1. The number of school aged children in Horley has been steadily rising over the last few years. Much of the rise is due to an increase in housing development in Horley and the surrounding areas.
2. These factors feed into the forecasts of future demand on school places. Surrey County Council is predicting the need for at least 2 forms of additional entry in the Horley NE sector through to 2018. The analysis of this indicates that an expansion of primary provision is needed immediately.
3. Following the Section 106 agreement with housing developers, an area of land within the 'Acres Housing Development' has been identified as a suitable location for the new school. The land sits centrally within the 700 planned houses, and the housing development will feed approximately 75% of the available pupil places.
4. The Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning was consulted on 11 September 2012 in order to recommend the support of a preferred partner to establish a Horley NE School to provide a total of 210 places and 26 nursery places.
5. The building will comprise 7 classrooms and provision of a nursery space for 26 children. There will be suitable WC and cloak provision, a hall space with dining facilities, a kitchen, a staff room, suitable office accommodation and a practical room.
6. The expectation is that the school will be up and running from Sept 2014
7. The project is included in the County Council's School Basic Need Capital Programme as part of the 2013/2018 Medium Term Financial Plan.

CONSULTATION:

8. The results of the public consultation to provide the new school were considered in the report to Linda Kemeny, Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning on 11 September 2012.
9. The community of Horley and the governing bodies of all local schools have been consulted.
10. The Southwark Diocesan Board of Education has been fully consulted on the establishment of Horley NE School and the development of the design proposals.

Peter Boarder, Horley Regeneration Project Manger – Surrey County Council and Reigate and Banstead Borough Council has been consulted on joint issues relating to the new school.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

Risks associated with the project are identified in the individual report business case and a project risk register is being maintained and updated on a regular basis.

Financial and Value for Money Implications

11. The project is included in the County Council's schools basic need capital programme as part of the 2013/2018 Medium Term Financial Plan and is subject to robust cost challenge and scrutiny to drive optimum value as the scheme progresses.

Section 151 Officer Commentary

12. The Section 151 Officer confirms that funding for this scheme has been included in the 2013/18 Medium Term Financial Plan.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

13. Section 13 of the Education Act 1996 places a general duty on local education authorities to secure that efficient primary education is available to meet the needs of the population in its area. In doing so, the Council is required to contribute to the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community. Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 places a duty on the Council to secure that sufficient schools or providing primary and secondary education are available in its area. There is a legal duty on the Council therefore to secure the availability of efficient education in its area and sufficient schools to enable this.

Equalities and Diversity

14. The new school building will comply with DDA (Disabilities Discrimination Act) regulations. The new school will provide employment opportunities in the area.
15. The school will be for children in the community served by the school. If there is sufficient provision available, then it would be beneficial for all children, including vulnerable children.
16. The school will be expected to contribute towards community cohesion and will be expected to provide the normal range of before and after schools clubs as are provided in a typical Surrey County Council school.

Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children implications

17. This proposal would provide increase provision in the area, which would be of benefit to all in the community served by the school. This means it would therefore also be of benefit to any looked after children who will attend the school.

Climate change/carbon emissions implications

18. The design philosophy is to create a building that will support low energy consumption, reduce solar gain and promote natural ventilation. The aim is for the buildings to exceed the requirements of Building Regulations in terms of thermal insulation and energy consumption and this will be achieved by a high performance

thermal envelope which will reduce the overall heating demand with minimal heating provided to compensate for fabric losses only.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

19. Subject to Cabinet approval, the award of a contract to the contractor to deliver the works to provide a new school.

Contact Officer:

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Consulted:

Julie Fisher, Strategic Director for Business Services
Denise Le Gal, Cabinet Member for Business Services
Dorothy Ross-Tomlin, Local Member for Horley East
Kay Hammond, Local Member for Horley West
Paula Chowdhury, Strategic Finance Manager, Business Services

Annexes: None

Sources/background papers:

- The Education Act 1996
 - The School Standards Framework Act 1998
 - The Education Act 2002
 - The Education and Inspections Act 2006
 - Report to Cabinet: Schools Capital Budget Allocations 2010-2014 – 30 March 2010
 - Investment Panel: Report 28 September 2010
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