

# **Item 4**

## **Update on Kent Commissioning Plan following Wave 12 Free School announcement**

**Schools' Funding Forum**  
**30 June 2017**

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**Patrick Leeson**  
**Corporate Director**



# Background

- KCC has supported the DfE policy position on increasing the number of Free Schools
- Aligned with our KCP and Basic Need statutory requirement
- We have concerns over the ESFA project delivery
- Announcement of Wave 12 bids were made during the Easter break
- Lack of information about Wave 13

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KCP = Kent Commissioning Plan

ESFA = Education and Skills Funding Agency



# Key issues

- KCC officers have had numerous discussions with EFSA officials- focusing on our needs to create places in 2018, 2019 and 2020
    - EFSA have revised their policy and no longer fund site acquisition
    - Where a Wave process does not result in a sponsor, LA to run a competitive process.
    - This means site acquisition and construction costs fall on the LA.
    - Lack of urgency being displayed by EFSA regarding delivery
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# Impact of Wave 12

- 13 bids were considered
  - 7 were approved, 5 were rejected
  - No sponsors came forward for the remaining project
- Implications are that KCC will be required to run a competition process for 6 schools
  - Tunbridge Wells Secondary (6FE) – Sept 18
  - Thanet Secondary (4FE raising to 8FE) – Sept 19
  - Dartford Secondary \* (4FE raising to 8FE) – Sept 20
  - Warden Bay Primary (1FE) – Sept 19
  - Shorncliffe Primary \* (1FE) – Sept 19
  - Dartford Primary \* (1FE raising to 2FE) – Sept 19

\* Funded from developer contributions

# Financial Impact of Wave 12

- 3 unsuccessful schools which are not covered by developer contributions estimated at £91m
- In addition the temporary arrangements falling on the LA from late delivery is estimated at £37m (excluding any revenue costs such as additional Home to School Transport)
- Total cost therefore estimated at around £130m