



Agenda Item 9

Report Status

For information/note ☐
For consultation & views ☐
For decision ☐

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – 7 December 2017

Report Title: The Future of the PDC

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Purpose: Information only

Recommendations: Not applicable

Background

On 20 June 2017 the Council's Cabinet agreed to dispose of the Professional Development Centre (PDC). The building is held for education purposes and is a former school which has been used predominantly for training since 1993 (covering approximately half of the building). Parts of the building have been used for other purposes including temporarily as a school up to 2013. Currently the building also includes the Young Adults Service (YAS) and Children's services staff as well as training provided by Traded Services.

Cabinet agreed that the PDC was:

1. surplus to requirement as it is part vacant and not fully utilised; and
2. does not offer appropriate accommodation in line with the Council's future accommodation strategy.

It was disposed of to the Department for Communities and Local Government for the purpose of setting up special school for children with autism spectrum disorder.

The new school will be known as The Grove and delivered through the Heartlands Community Trust. It will provide up to 104 spaces for children with autistic spectrum disorder in the Borough and the current occupiers are in the

process of being relocated within existing Council buildings or alternative accommodation.

The disposal is by way of a long leasehold interest for a term of 125 years.

The Future

Future traded services and training that is currently delivered via the PDC will be delivered from a dedicated space on the first floor of Alexandra House in Wood Green.

The Local Authority has access to the PDC facilities until the end of the spring term (April 2018) after which services will be delivered from Alexandra House. There is a contingency plan for services to be delivered via separate accommodation within Stroud Green Primary School for a short period during the summer term in the unlikely event that the facilities at Alexandra House aren't ready for the first day of the summer term. This contingency allows a seamless transition of the delivery of our services to relevant bodies when use of the PDC ceases at the end of the spring term.

Full details of the Cabinet report determining the future of the PDC can be found at

<http://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/documents/s94249/PDCCabinetJune2017%20Part%20A%20final%202%20signed.pdf>

