

Chief Officer Decision Notice

For non-key decisions

Notice is hereby given that the following Chief Officer Decision has been made, as delegated by the Cabinet/Cabinet Member or under their delegated authority in the Council's Constitution.

1. NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Title of decision	MEADOW HIGH SCHOOL EXPANSION: Meadow School Northwood Road Harefield Site: Variation to Construction Contract.
Name and Title of Chief Officer(s) making the decision	Corporate Director of Resident Services: Daniel Kennedy. Director of Property and Operational Assets: Gary Penticost
Directorate	Residents Services
Reference No.	1737/2026
Date of decision	10 July 2026
Relevant Ward	Colham & Cowley, Harefield Village

Details of Decision Taken

Decision	The Chief Officer agrees to: 1. The variation to John Graham Construction Limited contract for the construction of the Meadow School satellite provision at the Meadow School Northwood Road Site for the sum of £212,662.
Reason for decision	This Chief Officer decision supports the planned expansion of Meadow High School, which will increase the number of Special School places for pupils with Moderate Learning Difficulties and Autism (MLD and ASD) provided within the Borough. This is one of the projects in the Dedicated School Grant (DSG) Deficit Recovery Plan. This initiative will also help reduce the Council's reliance on expensive independent Special School places, thereby saving revenue expenditure for the Borough. In summary, the proposed works consist of the following: ○ Relocating some pupils from Meadow High School to a new two-storey teaching building and satellite school to be constructed that will replace the unused Harefield Academy residential block recently demolished (which is separate and apart from the main Academy building) at Northwood Road, Harefield. ○ Providing a new classroom block at Meadow High School to replace the existing temporary modular classrooms, which are currently in poor condition and no longer suitable for us.

	Following the original contractor ISG Construction going into administration a replacement contractor was procured to deliver the project. Following receipt of an extension of time notice from the contractor Graham Construction relating to delays to the programme, the contractor was requested to provide costs to accelerate the works to bring the works back onto programme. This report seeks approval to instruct the variation to Graham Construction contract for the construction of the Meadow School Satellite provision at the Meadow School Northwood Road Site for the sum of £212,662.
Alternative options considered and rejected	Any delay in instructing the variation will result in the completion date not being met and the building will not be available in September. Not completing the much-needed additional SEND capacity provided by the Meadow High School Scheme, at Meadow School Northwood Road, Harefield Site for the start of the new academic year in September 2026, will increase the use of expensive independent Special School places which is an additional revenue expenditure: approximate costs start around £55,000 per annum for each of the 14 pupil placed out of the Borough for INMISS (independent, non-maintained integrated special schools) based on 7 years (years 7-11 plus 6th form) that would mean a potential cost of £385,000 per pupil for this period of education.
Factors considered	To ensure that we meet the required completion, approval is required to accelerate the works.
Report Author & Directorate	Tim Martin – Resident Services Directorate.

Legal and Finance Comments

Finance comments	The report seeks the approval for a contract variation of £213k to John Graham Construction Limited for the construction of a two-storey new academic building and associated works at the Meadow School Northwood Road site Further finance comments have been added within the attached report
Finance Officer name and Title	Yasmeen Hasan Capital Finance Business Partner – 25/06/2026
Legal Comments	Legal Services confirm that the Contract with Graham Construction is via a JCT Design and Build Contract and that variations are permitted. The Contract value is £14,480,843. The original procurement exercise was conducted in compliance with the Council's Procurement and Contract Standing Orders. The proposed variation does not exceed 50% of the original contract value; and do not alter the overall nature of the Contract.

	Legal Services therefore confirms that there are no legal impediments to the Council agreeing the recommendations to ensure the programme remains on track so the building is available in September 2026.
Legal Officer Name and Title	Neena Sharma Deputy Principal Lawyer 16.06.2026

Appendices / report attached

List here any report / appendices / e.g. tender evaluations or other documentation to be included in support of this decision	N/A
Exempt Classification	That this report be declared as exempt from publication as it involves the disclosure of information in accordance with Section 100(A) and paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), in that the report contains information relating to any individual and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

Cabinet Member & other Chief Officer consultation

Name and Title of any other Chief Officer(s) you have consulted with and as per any delegation.	Michael Naughton, Assistant Director, Capital Programme Works Service
Name and Title of the Cabinet Member you have consulted, and as per any delegation	Leader and relevant Cabinet Members were consulted as part of the 7 February 2025 decision and as part of their overall project decisions and delegations shown.
Any conflicts of interest declared by the Chief Officer making this decision and/or Cabinet	N/A

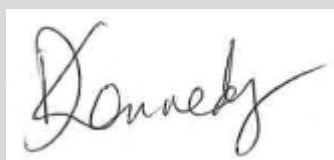
Member who is consulted by the officer which relates to the decision - or if dispensation by the CEO was granted to them.	
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Authority for this decision

Detail authority from Cabinet or under delegated authority in the Constitution / Officer Scheme of Delegations	Cabinet Members on 7 February 2025 made formal decisions on the project and, in respect of this decision, the following resolutions apply: 1. Approve the recommendation to Client-manage the remaining works at the Meadow-Royal Lane site to completion [as set out in the report] and; 2. Agreed to delegate all future decisions to procure and spend monies on the remaining works and services needed to complete the construction of the Meadow High School Expansion (2 site) Project (Meadow-Royal Lane and Meadow-Northwood Road) to the Corporate Director of Place, in consultation with the Corporate Director of Finance, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services & Property and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation.
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2. APPROVAL

Formal approval by Chief Officer making the decision



Signed Date...10.07.2026.....

Corporate Director of Residents Services