

Cabinet

CAB Min (13) 2/7

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Minute of Decision

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Greater Christchurch Education Renewal Process

Portfolio:

Education

On 4 February 2013, following reference from the Cabinet Business Committee, Cabinet:

- 1 noted that the Minister of Education (the Minister):
 - 1.1 continues to be mindful of the significant impact of the 2010-11 earthquakes on children, parents, school staff and the wider community in greater Christchurch;
 - 1.2 is committed to ensuring appropriate support continues to be provided to students, their parents and teachers as the closure and merger process continues;
- 2 noted that the submission under CAB (13) 40 outlines the process of consultation which the Minister has undertaken with the 38 schools in greater Christchurch proposed for closure or merger;
- 3 noted that the Minister intends to decide that:
 - 3.1 Branston Intermediate School, Glenmoor School, Greenpark School, Kendal School and Richmond School should close;
 - 3.2 Burnham School, Burnside School, Duvauchelle School, Okains Bay School, and Ourhuia Model School, should remain open;
 - 3.3 further consultation be undertaken on Year 7 and 8 provision before a decision is made about Linwood Intermediate School and Manning Intermediate School;
- 4 noted that the Minister will further consider Shirley Intermediate School and the location of Burnham school;
- 5 noted that the Minister intends to decide that:
 - 5.1 Burwood and Windsor Schools, Central New Brighton and South New Brighton Schools, Lyttelton Main and Lyttelton West schools, North New Brighton and Freeville Schools, and Phillipstown and Woolston Schools, should merge; and that Unlimited Paenga Tawhiti and Discovery One Schools will merge;
 - 5.2 the mergers of Bromley and Linwood Avenue Schools, and Gilberthorpe and Yaldhurst Schools do not proceed;

- 5.3 the merger of TKKM o Waitaha and TKKM o Te Whanau Tahi does not proceed, but that further consultation is undertaken about the relocation of one of the kura;
- 6 noted that of the 31 schools considered for closure or merger at this stage, the Minister intends to proceed with 19, and not to close or merge 12, subject to paragraph 4 above;
- 7 noted that the 28 days of further consultation required by the Education Act 1989 will conclude on 22 March 2013, with final decisions being announced on 13 May 2013;
- 8 noted that the submission under CAB (13) 40 outlines timelines for further consultation, future decisions and announcements and that the Minister will be working to rationalise the number of announcements in the coming months;
- 9 noted that in August 2012, Cabinet invited the Minister of Education to present a detailed implementation plan to the Cabinet Committee on Canterbury Earthquake Recovery in February 2013 that will include:
 - 9.1 financial implications for schools being restored and implications for Budget 2013;
 - 9.2 a progress update on the engagement with boards of trustees and principals on consolidation and rejuvenation options;
 - 9.3 recommended next steps;

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- 10 agreed that Cabinet consideration of the full business case referred to in paragraph 9 above take place in August 2013;
- 11 noted that:
 - 11.1 the capital requirement for the Education Renewal Process is dependent on the Ministry's insurance settlement;
 - 11.2 the Ministry of Education will prepare a Budget 2013 bid to address any immediate capital requirement;
- 12 noted that Environment Canterbury is leading work on a draft Land Use Recovery Plan, and that this may have implications for the school network;
- 13 noted that a draft communications plan is attached at Appendix 3 to the paper under CAB (13) 40, relying on advice from local professional organisations and the schools themselves, giving full consideration to the manner in which affected schools are informed about decisions, and provides transparency about the decision-making process.

Secretary of the Cabinet

Reference: CAB (13) 40

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