

Item No.	Classification: Open	Date: 15 January 2013	Meeting Name: Education, Children's Services and Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Report title:		Southwark Schools for the Future: New School Proposals	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Project Director, Southwark Schools for the Future	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Education, Children's Services and Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee note the briefing provided below.

UPDATE

Compass

2. Compass School have yet to identify a site and this non-identification of a site, both permanent and temporary, is a significant risk to the school opening as proposed in September 2013.
3. Their preferred site is the Bermondsey Campus of Southwark College although they continue to explore alternatives.

University Technical College (UTC)

4. The DfE has approved the deferral of the opening of the UTC to September 2013. This date is now unlikely to be achievable and there is significant uncertainty associated with the project as a result of the proposed merger of Lewisham and Southwark College and the potentially competing proposals of Compass and the potential for these issues to result in the non-availability of the site or the necessary ancillary facilities for the UTC on the College's Bermondsey site.

Southwark Free School

5. In 2011 Southwark Free School (SFS) secured Department for Education pre-opening approval to open in September 2012. At the time of this approval the school was proposed to be established at a site in Great Dover Street.
6. In March 2012 SFS initiated a public consultation process seeking feedback from local stakeholders in regard to proposals to establish a 420 place primary school at 399 Rotherhithe New Road.
7. The school has now been granted a 2 year lease from the Council for the Ledbury Estate Tenant's Hall to enable their establishment.
8. The school's permanent proposals for 399 Rotherhithe New Road are currently the subject of pre-application discussions with Southwark planners.

Other Free School Proposals

9. A German/English bilingual primary school – Judith Kerr Primary School - has been provisionally approved by the Department for Education and is exploring options for establishment in the Dulwich and Rotherhithe areas. Officers have met with representatives of the proposer and the Education Funding Agency (the body tasked with delivering the new school) to discuss their proposals and provide advice and assistance where possible. The school has currently not secured a site.
10. Another proposer will be bidding to the Department for Education to be approved in the next round of free school approvals to establish a primary school in Peckham or Camberwell for Latin-American children. The proposer has not identified a site.
11. It is also anticipated that the Harris Federation will be expressing an interest to the Department for Education to establish a primary free school. Officers are meeting with representatives of the Harris Federation in mid-January to discuss their proposals.

AUDIT TRAIL

Report Author	Sam Fowler	
Version	final	
Dated	4 January 2013	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team	10 January 2013	