Appendix A

Schools to serve the Bishop's Stortford North Development Area

1. Cabinet has authorised negotiation of arrangements that would provide a more sustainable arrangement of primary schools to serve this area. The relevant reports and decisions can be seen at:

https://cmis.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hertfordshire/Calendarofcouncilmeetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/6/Committee/8/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx

Item 9 and the related Part II agenda report, and:

https://cmis.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hertfordshire/Calendarofcouncilmeetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/339/Committee/8/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx

Item 13 and the related Part II agenda report.

- 2. Whilst those negotiations are still in hand, recent information indicates that during 2017/18 land and planning contracts could be exchanged that would be the major springboard to enable the County Council to be able to consider formally moving from the developers' planning permissions established position of three schools of 1fe, 2/3fe and 1fe capacity to the desired strategy of a 2fe school to serve the western neighbourhood and a 3fe school to serve the eastern neighbourhood and the further area north-east of Farnham Road. In those circumstances it is appropriate for the capital programme provision for the primary schools to reflect the costs of the established position and the potential preferred alternative schemes. Accordingly the estimates of costs and incomes that support the schemes have been updated and are [referred to in the Part II report schedule]. It is proposed that the capital programme contains provision for both options, with decisions to be taken once revised and new land planning agreements are in place.
- 3. Additional new information is that EHDC has, unexpectedly, proposed in its Local Plan Review that the planning policy for the phase 2 land at Hadham Road be changed from its current Development Plan policy of a reserve housing site, not to be released until sufficient secondary school places have been provided for Bishop's Stortford, to a policy that the land be allocated for use for recreation and open space purposes. That policy could affect the prospects for EHDC agreeing to grant a residential planning permission and so impede a sale receipt in line with the estimates. As the planning application for housing on the phase 2 site has not been determined by EHDC, the County Council has appealed the application and in the appeal papers it would be very helpful to have a clearer Cabinet authorisation tying the receipt to the schools capital funding. The suggested resolution has been framed accordingly:

That the proceeds of sale from the Land at Hadham Road, Bishop's Stortford, be used to support the capital funding of the primary and secondary schools to be developed to serve the Bishop's Stortford North development area.