

**NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL  
DECISION**

DECISION OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HR, ASSET MANAGEMENT, CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND TRANSFORMATION AND EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES WITH ADVICE FROM THE SECTION 151 OFFICER OF THE COUNCIL, CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

**DECISION NO: P&C65****SUBJECT: St. Katherine's School Academy Conversion****BACKGROUND:**

In May 2010 legislation was introduced (The Academies Act) which allows schools to convert to academy status through a simplified and streamlined process. To enable an academy to operate successfully, the land and buildings currently used by schools need to be made available for future occupation by the relevant academy trust. Property and other assets are, therefore, required to be transferred to academy trusts as part of the conversion process. The Act provides for the transfer of publicly funded (including local authority) land to an academy trust, usually by way of a 125 year lease in order to protect the local authority on the closure of the academy and/or against disposal.

St Katherine's School is converting to an academy and joining the Inspirational Futures Multi Academy Trust. The planned conversion date will be no earlier than 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016.

The Council owns the land shown in red outline on the attached plan and will grant a 125 year lease based on the DfE model lease. The lease will be granted at a peppercorn rent with the academy being responsible for the future maintenance and repair of the buildings and site and other outgoings.

**DECISION:**

Approval is given to grant a 125 year lease of the Council-owned part of the site to the Inspirational Futures Academy Trust in accordance with the principal terms and conditions set out in this report.

**Reasons:**

To enable the conversion of the school to academy status to proceed in accordance with the Academies Act.

**Other Alternatives Considered:**

None.

**Financial Implications:**

The Council will incur some costs in undertaking legal and other work required to complete the conversion. The new Academy will receive funding from the Department for Education as a contribution towards its conversion cost.

Once the conversion is completed, the Academy Trust will be responsible for maintenance and repair of the land and buildings and all other outgoings and running costs.

**Implications for Future Years:**

None – see above.

Signed: .....  
Section 151 Officer, North Somerset Council

Dated: .....

Signed: .....  
Councillor David Pasley  
Executive Member for HR, Asset Management,  
Capital Programme and Transformation

Dated: .....

Signed: .....  
Councillor Colin Hall  
Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services

Dated: .....