

**KCC Communities
Development Contributions Assessment**

Site Name	Blackthorn Farm Wrotham Road Meopham Gravesend
Reference No.	GR20250802
District	Gravesend
Assessment Date	24/09/2025
Development Size	100
Non-Applicable Dwellings (under 56sqm GIA)	0

COMMUNITY LEARNING & SKILLS (CLS)

CLS generally operates from one central location per district owned by KCC. Many practical courses require resources (e.g., potter's wheels, kilns, stained glassing making equipment) that are not portable. Locations per district can be found on the Kent Adult Education website.

Provision of general courses (such as modern foreign languages, Maths, English and ESOL) are at capacity within these main centres. To increase capacity, CSL operates an outreach programme to bring services directly to communities: new developments will be required to contribute towards the cost of equipment and resources.

There is currently physical capacity within the hubs for specialist courses. However, increased enrolments will place additional demands on IT, learning technology and other equipment. New developments will also be expected to contribute towards this.

New adult participation from this development	5 clients
Contributions requested from this development <i>100 dwellings from this proposal</i>	£34.21 per dwelling £3,421.00
Contributions requested towards additional equipment and resources for Adult Education Centres and outreach provision serving the development.	

INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SERVICES - YOUTH / EARLY YEARS SERVICE

Historically, services for children and young people have been delivered from a static facility, typically youth/children's centres. The level of growth planned for each district will see the majority of development taking place away from the main hubs. To increase capacity and provide for the additional need created by new developments, much of the Youth/Early Years Services will be provided via Mobile/Outreach work. This will enable services to be delivered in the vicinity of new developments, increasing the likelihood of children, young people and parent/carers engaging with them. Therefore, all development will be expected to make contributions towards equipment and resources to enable Mobile/Outreach work to take place.

For expansions and enhancements of youth hubs and children's centres, including provision of specialist equipment and resources to increase capacity, this will be determined on a case-by-case basis, to mitigate the impact of growth. District provision will be assessed, and contributions requested where there is a project.

New Youth/Early Years Service participation from this development	14 clients
Contributions requested from this development <i>100 dwellings from this proposal</i>	£74.05 per dwelling £7,405.00
Contributions requested towards additional resources for Integrated Children's Services to enable expansion of capacity within the hubs and provision of outreach work in the vicinity of the development.	

LIBRARIES, REGISTRATIONS AND ARCHIVES (LRA)

New developments will place additional demands for both physical (hard copy) books and digital (eBooks/E-Audio) stock. The National Library Standard upper threshold recommends 1532 items per 1000 population; where stock levels are below this, contributions will be sought.

Library capacity has historically been based on Museums, Libraries and Archives (MLA) recommendation of 30sqm per 1,000 population – KCC does not currently meet this standard and has no plans to increase the number of libraries in Kent (the possible exception is the provision of new space on strategic sites/garden communities). In most cases, it will seek instead to meet the need generated by new growth by:

- Improving existing facilities
- Refits and reconfiguration
- Intensification of use

Library bookstock items per 1,000 population for Gravesend (Dec 2022)	915
Target: National Library Standard bookstock items per 1,000 population (upper threshold)	1,532
New borrowers from this development	29 borrowers
Contributions requested from this development <i>100 dwellings from this proposal</i>	£62.63 per dwelling £6,263.00
Towards additional resources, equipment and book stock (including reconfiguration of space) at local libraries serving the development, including Hartley and Meopham Libraries.	
Net contributions requested for KCC Communities' Services	£17,089.00