

**Record of
Executive
Decisions
published
22/Aug/2014**

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**Civic Centre
Sunderland**

22 August 2014

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Decision Taker: School Organisation Committee of Cabinet **Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

02/Sep/2014

Date of decision:

21/Aug/2014

Full description of decision:

The Committee approved the following proposals to (i) establish an ASD provision at Usworth Colliery Primary School from 1 September 2014; and (ii) discontinue the sensory provision at George Washington Primary School on 31 August 2014.

Reasons for decision:

The proposals respond to the identified need and demand for places for pupils with ASD and sensory impairment. The proposals are consistent with the requirements identified under Annex B of the School Organisation: Maintained Schools - Guidance for Decision-Makers with the outcome of the proposals weighted against the SEN Improvement Test and the Council's own aims of increasing access to mainstream educational settings for young people with SEN.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Given the demand for additional ASD primary places across the city, an alternative could be to establish a new full special school for those pupils with ASD. However, establishing provision within an existing school was sufficient to meet demand at the current time and provides a more flexible and cost effective solution. The proposal to discontinue sensory provision at George Washington Primary School is the preferred option given the decline in demand for sensory places.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Proposal to establish a Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision for pupils with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at Usworth Colliery Primary School and to discontinue SEN sensory provision at George Washington Primary School, Executive Director of People Services

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Is this a key decision: Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None