

**Record of
Executive
Decisions
published
11/Jan/2024**

**Sunderland
City Council**

Elaine Waugh
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Sunderland

11 January 2024

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 11 January 2024

Decision Taker:

School Organisation Committee of Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

19 January 2024

Date of decision:

11 January 2024

Title and author(s) of written report:

Proposal to Increase the Number of Specialist Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Places at Usworth Colliery Primary School – Director of Children's Services.

Full description of decision:

To note the responses to the statutory and pre-publication consultations and consider the statutory proposal which is to:

Increase the capacity of the existing Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision at Usworth Colliery Primary School from 12 places to 26 places with effect from 11th January 2024.

Under the provisions of the relevant Regulations, the Authority may approve published proposals with or without modification or may reject them.

The Committee approved the proposal as detailed above.

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

The proposal will increase the number of local SEN school places in an area where there is a defined deficit in capacity. It will enable children who require additional support to access a school place in their home locality while subsequently reducing waiting times at other special school settings.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Retain the existing number of local special school places – This will result in an ongoing projected deficit in appropriate provision for residents, will lead to ongoing oversubscription at other local SEN settings or will require young people to travel out of area to access suitable school places.

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Is this a key decision:

Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:

No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

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Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

19 January 2024

Date of decision:

11 January 2024

Title and author(s) of written report:

To establish a resourced Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Unit at Hudson Road Primary School – Director of Children's Services.

Full description of decision:

To note the responses to the statutory and pre-publication consultations and consider the statutory proposal which is to:

Develop a 16 place Special Educational Needs (SEN) unit at Hudson Road Primary School for primary aged pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs with effect from 1st September 2024.

Under the provisions of the relevant Regulations, the Authority may approve published proposals with or without modification or may reject them.

The Committee approved the proposal as detailed above.

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

The proposal will contribute to the sufficiency of SEN school places across the city. This will increase the number of high quality, local SEN places, reduce waiting times for special schools, allow Sunderland based children to access appropriate provision within their localities and create efficiencies in the wider cost of delivering a SEN infrastructure in Sunderland.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Retain the existing number of SEN places. A deficit in local, specialist places will remain resulting in children either not being expediently placed in an appropriate school setting or being placed in a setting that requires travel outside their locality and will result in greater cost pressure on the Council.

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Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:	None