

ODD/34/2018

Record of a Decision by the Executive Director (People)

SPECIALIST EDUCATION PROVISION: SATELLITE FACILITY (ARDSLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE)

Details of the Decision

The enclosed report outlines the purpose and importance of satellite facilities in relation to the educational placement of pupils with special educational and/or complex needs, particularly at the Greenacre Special Academy.

Such facilities are crucial to the objectives of the recently approved Placement and Sufficiency Strategy concerning the provision of educational placements for pupils with SEN(D) namely to improve the capacity of local provision in meeting the needs of such pupils and at the same time, avoid placing pupils in more costlier out of authority provision.

One facility is currently located at Hoyland Springwood Academy which forms part of the Every Child Matters Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). However, due to reasons outlined in the report, there is a risk that this MAT is unable to assure the continuation of this facility. As a result, an alternative location has emerged in the form of the Ardsley Community Centre which forms part of the site of the Oakhill Primary Academy whose sponsoring multi academy trust is the Wellspring MAT which is, also, the sponsoring academy for the Greenacre Special Academy. At its most recent short inspection, in January 2018, Greenacre was judged to be 'Outstanding' by Ofsted.

It is considered that with the appropriate capital funding, details of which are indicated Section 7.0 of the enclosed report, this community centre could be adapted not only to meet the needs of pupils who are at risk of being displaced at the current Hoyland Springwood satellite facility but also become a site that is able to meet rising demand in the long term, thereby supporting the vision and objectives of the SEN Pupils School Placement and Sufficiency Strategy.

In securing this exclusive use, it will mean that Barnsley MBC will need to, as far as possible, find an alternative venue(s) for the three existing users of the Ardsley Community Centre.

Authority

The decision to authorise this proposal is taken in accordance with the Council's revised scheme of delegation limits, originally agreed by Full Council, at its meeting held on 24th November 2014. The proposal is derived from the recent approval by Cabinet of the Borough SEN(D) Pupils Education Placement Sufficiency Strategy

(2017-20) in which a primary objective is to improve the capacity of both mainstream and specialist local provision in order to best meet the specific needs of pupils whilst also ensuring value for money and the most effective use of available resources
(Cabinet Minute Reference 122, Barnsley SEN(D) School Placement Sufficiency Strategy (2017-20) (Cab. 15.11.2017/10)

Decision Taken

To approve the recommendations outlined in Paragraphs 2.1 – 2.3 of the enclosed report.

Date of Decision

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Elected Member Conflict of Interests

The elected Members representing the Stairfoot Ward have been consulted on the proposal and no conflict of interest has arisen in the recording of this Decision.

Executive Director (People)



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(Signature)



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(Date)