

EXECUTIVE DECISION DAY NOTICE

Executive Lead Member for Children's Services Decision Day

Date and Time Wednesday 23rd March 2022 at 2.00pm

Place Remote Decision Day

Enquiries to members.services@hants.gov.uk

Carolyn Williamson FCPFA
Chief Executive
The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UJ

FILMING AND BROADCAST NOTIFICATION

This decision day is being held remotely and will be recorded and broadcast live via the County Council's website.

AGENDA

DEPUTATIONS

To receive any deputations notified under Standing Order 12.

KEY DECISIONS (NON-EXEMPT/NON-CONFIDENTIAL)

1. APPROVAL TO SPEND FOR 2022 - 2025 – HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD PROGRAMME (HAF) (Pages 3 - 12)

To consider a report of the Director of Children's Services regarding the approval to spend for 2022 - 2025 for the Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF).

2. HOLIDAY ACTIVITY AND FOOD (HAF) - GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS EASTER 2022 (Pages 13 - 32)

To consider a report of the Director of Children's Services regarding the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme's grant recommendations for Easter 2022

KEY DECISIONS (EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL)

Not Applicable.

NON KEY DECISIONS (NON-EXEMPT/NON-CONFIDENTIAL)

3. ADDITIONAL SPECIALIST PROVISION FOR HAMPSHIRE (Pages 33 - 50)

To consider a report of the Director of Children's Services regarding additional Specialist Provision for Hampshire.

4. DETERMINATION OF POST 16 TRANSPORT POLICY STATEMENT 2022 (Pages 51 - 66)

To consider a report of the Director of Children's Services regarding the determination of the Post 16 Transport Policy Statement 2022.

5. THE FUTURE OF HATHERDEN CHURCH OF ENGLAND (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL (Pages 67 - 86)

To consider a report of the Director of Children's Services regarding the the future of Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School.

NON KEY DECISIONS (EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL)

Not Applicable.

ABOUT THIS AGENDA:

On request, this agenda can be provided in alternative versions (such as large print, Braille or audio) and in alternative languages.

ABOUT THIS MEETING:

The press and public are welcome to observe the public sessions of the decision day via the webcast.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	23 March 2022
Title:	Approval to Spend for 2022 - 2025 – Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Suzanne Smith, Assistant Director, Children's Services

Tel: 01962 846270

Email: Suzanne.Smith2@hants.gov.uk

Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to spend in relation to Hampshire County Council's expenditure on the Holiday Activities and Food Programme which has a value over £2,000,000, in accordance with the Council's Contract Standing Orders and Constitution.
2. This report seeks to
 - Give information on the value and anticipated Council spend under the Framework;
 - Request approval to spend in line with the Council's Contract Standing Orders.

Recommendation

3. It is recommended that the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services gives approval to spend up to £10.3m for a Holiday Activities and Food Programme contract for a total period of three years from 2022 and 2025. Payments under the contract will be made as and when individual school holiday provision is commissioned.

Contextual Information

4. On 8 November 2020, the Government announced that the HAF pilot programme, which had provided healthy food and enriching activities to low-income children since 2018, would be expanded across the whole of England from 2021. In October 2021 the Government announced that HAF will be funded for the three financial years from 2022-2025. Grant allocations and requirements were published by the DfE on 20 December 2021.

5. Hampshire County Council has been allocated funding of up to £3,421,210 for 2022. It is anticipated that the DfE will award similar sums in 2023/4 and 2024/5 to HCC. The Council is able to allocate 15% of funded places to other vulnerable children and young people who do not quite meet the criteria for benefits-eligible free school meals.
6. School holidays can be pressure points for some families because of increased costs (such as food and childcare) and reduced incomes. For some children that can lead to a holiday experience gap - with children from disadvantaged families less likely to access organised out-of-school activities; more likely to experience 'unhealthy holidays' in terms of nutrition and physical health and are more likely to experience social isolation.
7. Free holiday clubs are a response to this issue and evidence suggests that they can have a positive impact on children and young people. It also shows they work best when they provide consistent and easily accessible enrichment activities, when they offer more than just breakfast or lunch, and when they involve children (and parents) in food preparation.
8. The aim of the HAF programme is to make free places available to children eligible for free school meals for the equivalent of at least four hours a day, four days a week and for six weeks a year. This covers four weeks in the summer and a week's worth of provision in each of the Easter and Christmas holidays. Organisations will also be able to offer additional places to fee paying families.
9. Across Hampshire, there are currently 33,405 children who are potentially eligible to access holiday places on the HAF programme based on actual FSM eligibility numbers from school census information.
10. The desired outcomes of the programme are to encourage children and young people to:
 - To eat more healthily over the school holidays;
 - To be more active during the school holidays;
 - To take part in engaging and enriching activities which support the development of resilience, character and wellbeing along with their wider education attainment;
 - To be safe and not to be socially isolated;
 - To have greater knowledge of health nutrition;
 - To be more engaged with school and other local services.
11. The HAF programme also aims to ensure that the children and families who participate in the programme develop their understanding of nutrition and food budgeting as well as being effectively signposted towards other information and support for example health, employment and education.
12. In order to enter into timely and cost-effective arrangements with providers, the County Council intends to procure an open framework for the Holiday

Activities and Food Programme. A framework is an agreement with providers to establish terms governing individual contracts that may be awarded during the life of the agreement. An open framework enables providers to join during the life of the contract, which enables the Council to benefit from new entrants to the market.

13. Approval to procure the open framework on behalf of Hampshire County Council and Isle of Wight Council will be sought from the Director of Children's Services, in accordance with the relevant schemes of delegation. The anticipated total contract value for both Hampshire and Isle of Wight Councils is up to £11.6m over three years (2022-2025).
14. As required by Hampshire County Council's Contract Standing Orders, approval to spend is sought from the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services for spend to be committed under the open framework to the total value of £10.3m over the three year period 2022-2025.
15. The funding is provided by DfE grant, which is used for the purposes of procuring these services. The total spend figure allows for an uplift in the DfE allocation, which could increase if the number of children increases that are registered for benefits-eligible free school meals.
16. Hampshire County Council Children's Services is commissioning Holiday Activities with Food schemes for eligible children and young people. The framework will enable the HAF team to commission individual places, bespoke or specialist schemes for eligible children and their families, with the knowledge that the providers on the contract have met minimum standards and quality requirements. The process for providers being appointed to the open framework will ensure that due diligence is undertaken in advance of service delivery. The open framework will mean that pricing per place or per scheme is agreed upfront, enabling officers to call off with confidence and without the need for case-by-case negotiation with providers, which is time-consuming for both parties and can lead to delays in service delivery.

Finance

17. Hampshire County Council has been allocated funding of up to £3,421,210 for 2022 by the DfE. It is anticipated that the DfE will award similar sums in 2023/4 and 2024/5 to HCC.
18. Hampshire County Council's anticipated spend under the framework agreement is therefore up to £10.3m.

Consultation and Equalities

19. Provider engagement throughout the development and delivery of the 2021 HAF Programme has been used to inform the procurement exercise in

order to ensure that the service is designed effectively to meet need and be fit for purpose.

20. An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed for this recommendation and is included in full below.

Other Key Issues

21. The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 requires the Council as public authority 'to have regard to economic, social and environmental well-being in connection with public services contracts. The Social Value is either defined in the Service Specification for a contract, for example asking the provider to use apprentices or employ people from disadvantaged groups. Alternatively, during the tender process, the provider is asked how it adds Social Value to a service.
22. The Modern Slavery Act 2015 requires the Council to incorporate human rights due diligence within procurement practices and supply chains and establishing shared awareness and common goals with providers in tackling modern slavery.
23. The Council, as contracting authority, has an obligation to shape the tendering processes to allow small to medium businesses fair access to winning contracts.

Climate Change.

24. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience impacts of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does. The carbon mitigation tool and climate change adaptation tool were both considered but were deemed not applicable to this report because the projects detailed within will not have a carbon emissions impact and are not vulnerable to climate change.

Conclusions

25. It is recommended that the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services gives approval to spend up to £10.3m for a Holiday Activities and Food Programme contract for a total period of three years from 2022 and 2025. Payments under the contract will be made as and when individual school holiday provision is commissioned.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	Yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	No
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	Yes
OR	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
HAF Grant Recommendations	22 February 2021
HAF Grant Recommendations	8 June 2021
HAF Grant Recommendations	10 November 2021
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
Department for Education: Guidance: Holiday activities and food programme 2022	January 2022

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

Name of project or proposal (required): Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Grant Programme

Is this project a Transformation project? (required): Neither

Name of accountable officer (required): Suzanne Smith

Email (required): suzanne.smith2@hants.gov.uk

Department (required): Children's Services

Date of assessment (required): 14/02/2022

Is this a detailed or overview EIA? (required): Overview

Describe the current service or policy. This question has a limit of 700 characters; approximately 100 words (required):

The Department for Education (DfE) has provided every local authority in England funding to coordinate free holiday provision, including healthy food and enriching activities, for children eligible for benefits related free school meals. The programme covers the Easter, summer and Christmas holidays from 2022-2025. Hampshire County Council has been awarded a total of £3,421,210. This EIA covers the period from 2022-2025.

Geographical impact (required): All Hampshire

Describe the proposed change. This question has a limit of 700 characters; approximately 100 words (required):

Hampshire County Council intends to distribute its funds under an open Framework Agreement for the period from 2022-2025, rather than via termly grant rounds.

Who does this impact assessment cover? (required): Service users

Has engagement or consultation been carried out? (required): Yes

Describe the consultation or engagement you have performed or are intending to perform. This question has a limit of 700 characters; approximately 100 words (required):

Market engagement was undertaken with a range of providers and with schools to ensure that they were aware of the opportunity for funding, HAF in general and could apply for a grant, if interested. Particular focus was given to areas with known gaps in provision, such as rural areas.

Successful applicants will receive a briefing on the HAF principles and other key topics, such as safeguarding and inclusion.

Age (required): Positive

Impact (required): Children and young people (and their families) will benefit from the HAF grant programme as the funding is directed at school age children and young people.

Disability (required): Positive

Impact (required): Organisations funded by HAF are expected to offer inclusive provision so that children and young people with additional needs can attend.

Sexual orientation (required): Neutral

Race (required): Neutral

Religion or belief (required): Neutral

Gender reassignment (required): Neutral

Gender (required): Neutral

Marriage or civil partnership (required): Neutral

Pregnancy and maternity (required): Neutral

Poverty (required): Positive

Impact (required): The HAF funding is directed at children who are benefits eligible for Free School Meals and at other vulnerable children, either with an EHCP, or SEND, or known to social care, including early help, on a child protection plan or looked after. The funding will mean that they will be able to access free holiday activities and food during the school holidays from 2022-2025.

Rurality (required): Positive

Impact (required): The HAF funding is to support holiday activities throughout the county. This includes rural areas where activity schemes may not have traditionally operated. Funding will be used to prioritise these areas to encourage organisations to deliver in pockets of the county where there is a lack of existing provision.

Any other brief information which you feel is pertinent to this assessment (optional): N/A

Please confirm that the accountable officer has agreed the contents of this form (required): Yes

Appendix One

Project Title	Contract term & start date	Anticipated Hampshire County Council value (annual)	Anticipated Hampshire County Council value (total)	Total potential framework value (includes IOW spend)	Approval required
Holiday Activities and Food Programme	3 years	£3.43m	£10.3m	£11.6m	Approval to spend

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HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	23 March 2022
Title:	Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Grant Recommendations Easter 2022
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Suzanne Smith, Assistant Director, Children's Services

Tel: 01962 846270

Email: Suzanne.smith2@hants.gov.uk

Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for grant awards to organisations offering holiday activity and food schemes to benefits eligible Free School Meal (FSM) children during the Easter 2022 school holidays, funded by the Department for Education's Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme.

Recommendation(s)

2. It is recommended that the Executive Lead Member approves the award of HAF Easter 2022 grants to the organisations identified in Appendix 1 to this report up to a total value of £512,117.09.
3. It is recommended that the Executive Lead Member delegates approval to the Director of Children's Services to approve the reallocation of any HAF funds that are underspent, returned or remaining, to organisations delivering services that meet the criteria of the grant set out in paragraph 17, in consultation with the Executive Lead Member. This may include new grants to partner organisations to supplement the HAF Easter 2022 offer where gaps are identified at a local level.
4. It is recommended that the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services delegates approval to the Director of Children's Services to approve the allocation of HAF grant funds to partner organisations supporting the signposting HAF aim, up to a maximum of £8,500 to organisations delivering services that meet the criteria of the grant set out in paragraphs 17 and 18, in consultation with the Executive Lead Member. This may include new grants to

partner organisations to supplement the HAF Easter 2022 offer where gaps are identified

Executive Summary

5. The Department for Education (DfE) has provided every local authority in England funding to coordinate free holiday provision, including healthy food and enriching activities for children eligible for benefits related free school meals. The programme covers the Easter, summer and Christmas holidays in 2022. Hampshire County Council (the Council) has been allocated £3,421,210.
6. Between 17 January and 20 February 2022, the Council invited grant applications from organisations able to provide holiday activity and food schemes during the 2022 Easter holidays of 9 – 24 April. Applications had to deliver to the DfE HAF programme outcomes identified in paragraph 17.
7. Under Type A grants (further described in paragraph 21), applications were received from 42 organisations for 113 projects. Under Type B (described in paragraph 21), applications were received from 20 organisations for 44 projects. These were evaluated by a panel of council officers, resulting in recommendations contained in this report for 133 separate grant awards up to a total value of £512,117.09.
8. The total value of applications requested exceeded the budget available. Feedback will be provided to unsuccessful applicants and to those where requests for funding were only partially recommended.
9. Successful organisations will need to submit monitoring to the Council to ensure that the funding is reaching the target cohort of children and young people and that the provision is of good quality.

Contextual information

10. On 8 November 2020, the Government announced that the HAF pilot programme, which had provided healthy food and enriching activities to low-income children since 2018, would be expanded across the whole of England from 2021. In October 2021 the Government announced that HAF will be funded for the three financial years from 2022-2025. Grant allocations and requirements were published by the DfE on 20 December 2021.
11. The HAF programme covers the Easter, summer and Christmas holidays, and the DfE will make up to £220m available to local authorities for the programme. It will be available to children in every local authority in England and will build on the success of the local holiday programmes that the Government has been funding since 2018.

12. Hampshire County Council has been allocated funding of £3,421,210. The Council is able to allocate 15% of funded places to other vulnerable children and young people who do not quite meet the criteria for benefits-eligible free school meals. For 2022, this is intended to provide free places for children with Education, Health or Care Plans, other children with SEND, looked after children and those open to social care or on child protection plans.
13. School holidays can be pressure points for some families because of increased costs (such as food and childcare) and reduced incomes. For some children that can lead to a holiday experience gap - with children from disadvantaged families less likely to access organised out-of-school activities; more likely to experience 'unhealthy holidays' in terms of nutrition and physical health and are more likely to experience social isolation.
14. Free holiday clubs are a response to this issue and evidence suggests that they can have a positive impact on children and young people. It also shows they work best when they provide consistent and easily accessible enrichment activities, when they offer more than just breakfast or lunch, and when they involve children (and parents) in food preparation.
15. The aim of the HAF programme is to make free places available to children eligible for free school meals for the equivalent of at least four hours a day, four days a week and for six weeks a year. This covers four weeks in the summer and a week's worth of provision in each of the Easter and Christmas holidays. Organisations will also be able to offer additional places to fee paying families.
16. Across Hampshire, there are currently 30,405 children who are potentially eligible to access holiday places on the HAF programme based on actual FSM eligibility numbers from school census information.
17. The desired outcomes of the programme are to encourage children and young people to:
 - a) To eat more healthily over the school holidays;
 - b) To be more active during the school holidays;
 - c) To take part in engaging and enriching activities which support the development of resilience, character and wellbeing along with their wider education attainment;
 - d) To be safe and not to be socially isolated;
 - e) To have greater knowledge of health nutrition;
 - f) To be more engaged with school and other local services.
18. The HAF programme also aims to ensure that the children and families who participate in the programme develop their understanding of nutrition and food budgeting as well as being effectively signposted towards other information and support for example health, employment and education.

19. The Council seeks to achieve these aims through the provision of holiday clubs and activities. Organisations will be grant funded to provide free of charge places at their schemes for eligible children and will be required to provide a healthy meal as part of their core delivery. They will provide a range of activities for the children and young people to engage with and participate in, with a focus on healthy eating and healthy lifestyles as a common theme. Organisations will also be expected to support the wider family and signpost to other key community resources as required.

Hampshire's Approach

20. The Holiday Activity and Food grant initiative will be delivered under the 'connect4communities' programme of work:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities>

21. The funding for the Easter holidays will be allocated across two different grant streams:

- Grant Type A – For childcare places in existing schemes/clubs or new schemes/clubs being proposed in priority and rural areas;
- Grant Type B – For Easter holiday events, short activities, innovative projects and initiatives targeting priority and rural areas, older children & young people (11–16 year olds), and families

22. Applications were invited against these two grant streams via the connect4communities website. Organisations were able to apply for one or more of the grants available depending on the type of activity they were seeking to deliver.

Finance

23. The Hampshire grant allocation from the DfE is £3,421,210. The table below reflects the actual and recommended spend to date, it includes the administration costs of managing the grant on behalf of the DfE and shows the balance remaining for the summer and Christmas rounds. The administration costs include associated staff costs, marketing and supporting costs such as the £8,500 allocated for signposting grants, referred to in paragraph 4.

24. Given the total value of the grant, and the c.30,405 Hampshire FSM eligible children, the DfE HAF programme only provides £102.42 per FSM child in Hampshire. This is not sufficient to provide access to HAF for every potentially eligible child and there is also no expectation that every single eligible child would access the programme.

25. The summer HAF programme saw 36% of Hampshire FSM children attending HAF provision and at Christmas this was 16%. Assuming similar levels of uptake over the Easter holidays, the programme needs to provide for 4,865 – 10,946 FSM children.
26. The HAF Easter programme is based on one week of delivery across four days and the minimum session each day is four hours (as per DfE requirements). Sessions could be spread across the two weeks of the Easter holiday or two sessions could be offered on one day.
27. Through the grant awards recommended in this report, the Easter Hampshire HAF Programme aims to secure 14,661 places which will provide in the order of 3,665 – 7,330 (or 12 - 24%) FSM children access to the scheme. DfE also allows councils to allocate up to 15% of the free places to other vulnerable children, which equates to a maximum of 550 individuals.

28. Table 1: Recommended and allocated spend to date, administration costs, and balances remaining:

A Easter Grants Recommended	B Summer Grants Allocation	C Christmas Grants Allocation	D Admin Forecast	E Total
£512,117 (balance remaining of £1,044)	£2,052,767	£513,161	£342,121	£3,421,210

Performance

29. All funding granted to third party organisations (including schools, and early years providers) will be supported by a grant agreement setting out the conditions of the funding as well as reporting requirements.
30. Third party organisations will be required to report to the Council on how they have spent the funding provided, in line with the DfE grant criteria.
31. The Council has developed a monitoring approach which will embed and drive quality from the outset of the project. Monitoring is completed in three phases with the first being a self-assessment process mapping provider planning against HAF standards.
32. In phase two, Council officers will review, assess, and evidence the self-assessment, challenging providers where needed and highlighting and sharing

exemplar practice. Phase two will include monitoring visits and cumulates in a HAF profile and score.

33. The final phase will pull together qualitative data in which Council officers will seek the views of children and participating families. In this phase Council officers will identify and highlight the most significant changes made to individuals, families and communities. This will form the basis for our own evaluation by the DfE.

Consultation and Equalities

34. These grants will have a positive impact on the following protected characteristics:
- Age - children and young people and their families will benefit from these grants.
 - Disability – services provided will be inclusive.
35. The grants will also have a positive impact on rural and poverty considerations as provision will be targeted where there are currently gaps in rural areas and provision will be free of charge to benefits eligible free school meals children.

Other Key Issues

36. As part of the application process, organisations were asked to detail their Covid risk assessments. They were also asked to provide contingencies to their delivery plans should face to face sessions not be possible. Online activities and resources, and home food deliveries will enable organisations to mitigate against further restrictions, if necessary, whilst still offering a level of support to eligible children and their families.

Conclusions

37. It is recommended that the Executive Lead Member approves the award of HAF Easter 2022 grants to the organisations identified in Appendix 1 to this report up to a total value of £512,117.09.
38. It is recommended that the Executive Lead Member delegates approval to the Director of Children's Services to approve the reallocation of any HAF funds that are underspent, returned or remaining, to organisations delivering services that meet the criteria of the grant set out in paragraph 17, in consultation with the Executive Lead Member; this may include new grants to partner organisations to supplement the HAF Easter 2022 offer at schemes where gaps are identified at a local level.
39. It is recommended that the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services delegate approval to the Director of Children's Services to approve the

allocation of HAF grant funds to partner organisations supporting the signposting HAF aim, up to a maximum of £8,500 to organisations delivering services that meet the criteria of the grant set out in paragraphs 17 and 18, in consultation with the Executive Lead Member. This may include new grants to partner organisations to supplement the HAF Easter 2022 offer where gaps are identified.

Climate Change

40. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience impacts of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.

41. The decision is essentially strategic/administrative in nature and does not have climate change considerations.

Appendix 1 – Recommended HAF Grant Awards

Grant Type A – Places in existing or new clubs/schemes

Basingstoke

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
MAGNA GROUPS ENTERPRISES LIMITED	St Anne's Catholic Primary Pinkerton Road, Basingstoke	5-12	400	£6,520.00
MAGNA GROUPS ENTERPRISES LIMITED	Hatch Warren Infant School, Basingstoke	5-12	400	£6,520.00
Sports Xtra Basingstoke	Everest Community Academy	4-11	280	£10,550.00
Globe Fit Ltd	Westside Community Centre	4 - 12	80	£2,720.00
Globe Fit Ltd	The Hurst Leisure Centre	4 - 14	80	£2,720.00
ActiveMe 360	Manor Field Junior School	5-14	200	£7,000.00
SCL	Hatch Warren Community Centre	5-12	192	£5,760.00
SCL	Great Binfields Primary School	5-12	48	£1,440.00
SCL	Bishopswood Junior School	5-12	48	£1,440.00
Isis Out of School Club	The Vyne Community School	4-12	120	£4,290.00

Planet Education	Chalk Ridge Primary School	5-14	120	£4,320.00
Get Active Sports	Winklebury Junior School	5-12	240	£7,344.00
Total			2208	£60,624.00

East Hants

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Active8 Minds	TPS, Petersfield	5-12	80	£2,800.00
Sport4Kids	The Holme Primary, Openfields, Headley, Bordon	5-13	40	£1,533.60
CM Sports UK Ltd	Horndean Technology College	5-13	60	£2,100.00
CM Sports UK Ltd	Alton College	5-13	120	£4,200.00
CM Sports UK Ltd	Bordon Jnr	5-11	120	£4,200.00
KOOSA Kids	Liphook Infant School	4-13	80	£2,792.00
Cm sports uk Ltd	Liss Junior school	5-13	60	£2,100.00
Cm sports uk Ltd	Herne Junior school	5-13	60	£2,100.00
Total			620	£21,825.60

Eastleigh

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
JC Sports Development	Wellstead Primary School	4-14	40	£1,300.00
4Wards Multi-Activity	Wellstead Primary School	4-14	40	£1,120.00
4Wards Multi-Activity	St James's School, West End	4-14	60	£1,680.00
Globe Fit Ltd	St Pauls Church - Bursledon	4 - 12	80	£2,720.00
Premier Sports Bournemouth LLP	Shamblehurst Primary School	5-12	120	£3,840.00
ActiveMe 360	Nightingale Primary School	5-16	240	£8,400.00
ActiveMe 360	Toynbee School	5-16	240	£8,520.00
Personal Best Education	Barton Peveril	5-12	160	£6,400.00
Planet Education	Places Leisure Eastleigh	5-14	160	£5,760.00
Planet Education	Netley Abbey Infant School	5-14	120	£4,320.00
Total			1260	£44,060.00

Fareham

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
JLMS Management Active For All	Whiteley Primary School	4-11	80	£2,200.00
Globe Fit Ltd	Crofton Hammond Infant School	4 - 12	60	£2,040.00
ActiveMe 360	Orchard Lea Infant School	5-12	120	£4,200.00
Castle Early Birds	Castle Primary School	4-11	80	£2,800.00
Superstar Sports	Northern Junior School	4 - 14	80	£2,744.00
Superstar Sports	Titchfield Primary School	4 - 12	100	£3,430.00
CM Sports UK Ltd	Fareham College	5-13	240	£8,400.00
JG Tennis Ltd	Warsash Tennis Club, Warsash	5-12	60	£2,209.80
Total			820	£28,023.80

Gosport

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Globe Fit Ltd	Newtown Primary School	4 - 12 years	100	£3,400.00
Premier Sports Bournemouth LLP	Rowner Junior School	5-12	120	£3,840.00
ActiveMe 360	Leesland Junior School	5-12	200	£7,100.00
Woodpeckers Childcare Limited	Brune Park Community School	4 -12	100	£4,200.00
Personal Best Education	Bridgemary School	5-12	100	£4,000.00
CM Sports UK Ltd	St Vincent's College	5-13	120	£4,200.00
ActiveMe 360	Alver Valley Schools	5-12	160	£5,680.00
Motiv8 South Ltd	Bridgemary Library and Gosport Discovery Centre	5-16	60	£2,400.00
Total			960	£34,820.00

Hart

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
SCL	Oakwood Infant School	5-12	48	£1,440.00

SCL	Westfields Infant School	4-12	120	£3,600.00
KOOSA Kids	Court Moor School	4 - 13	320	£11,168.00
KOOSA Kids	Hook Infant School	4-13	100	£3,490.00
Total			588	£19,698.00

Havant

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Active8 Minds	Springwood Federation Schools	5-12	60	£2,124.60
Active8 Minds	St James Primary School	5-12	20	£700.00
Active8 Minds	Warblington School	5-12	100	£3,500.00
Active8 Minds	Mill Rythe Junior School	5-12	80	£2,800.00
Active Kids Holiday Club	Park Community School	4-14	120	£8,400.00
Globe Fit Ltd	Waterlooville Community Centre	4 - 12	80	£2,720.00
Oaklands Catholic School	Oaklands Catholic School	9-11	120	£4,560.00
OSCA Childcare Limited	Mengham Infant School, Hayling Island	4-11	100	£2,160.00
CM Sports UK Ltd	Havant College	5-13	240	£4,200.00
Freedom School Holidays	Purbrook Junior School	6-11	320	£11,657.60
Cm sports uk Ltd	Riders Jnr school	5-11	120	£4,200.00
Total			1360	£47,022.20

New Forest

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
JLMS Management Active For All	Hythe Primary School	4-11	80	£2,200.00
DFJ Multisports C.I.C.	New Milton Scout HQ	5-12	100	£3,825.00
JC Sports Development	Breamore Primary School	4-14	70	£2,275.00
JC Sports Development	Testwood School, Totton	4-14	70	£2,275.00
JC Sports Development	Highcliffe School	4-14	40	£1,300.00
AJS Extra at Ashley Junior School	Ashley Junior School	4-12	20	£510.00
Globe Fit Ltd	Calmore Infant School	4 - 12	80	£2,720.00

Globe Fit Ltd	Pennington Infant School	4 - 12	80	£2,720.00
Premier Sports Bournemouth LLP	Milford On Sea	5-12	80	£2,560.00
Premier Sports Bournemouth LLP	New Milton Infants	5-12	80	£2,560.00
Premier Sports Bournemouth LLP	Ashley Infants	5-12	80	£2,560.00
New Forest Child Care CIC	Abbotswood Junior School, Ringwood Road, Totton	4-16	64	£2,355.20
360 Degree Sports Coaching CIC	Cadland Primary School	5-14	100	£3,000.00
Activate Management	Ringwood Junior School	5-14	100	£3,200.00
Educamps	Bransgore	4 - 16	200	£7,000.00
Planet Education	Wildground Junior School	5-14	120	£4,320.00
Total			1364	£45,380.20

Rushmoor

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Casa Clubs Ltd	Fernhill Primary School, Farnborough	4-12	80	£2,800.00
Casa Clubs Ltd	The Cambridge School, Aldershot	4-12	80	£2,800.00
KOOSA Kids	Alderwood Infant School	4-13	160	£5,584.00
Physical Development Ltd t/a Premier Education	Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College	5-11	384	£13,824.00
Cm sports uk Ltd	Wavell School	5-13	120	£4,200.00
Cm sports uk Ltd	Guillemont jnr school	5-11	60	£2,100.00
Total			884	£31,308.00

Test Valley

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Globe Fit Ltd	Augusta Park Community Centre	4 - 12	80	£2,720.00
Your Sports Education	Romsey Primary School	4-12	100	£2,950.00
360 Degree Sports Coaching CIC	The Romsey School	5-14	120	£3,600.00
Personal Best Education	The Mountbatten School	5-12	320	£12,800.00
Planet Education	Andover Leisure Centre	5-14	240	£8,640.00

Total	860	£30,710.00
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Winchester

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
The Carroll Centre	The Carroll Centre Stanmore	5-11	100	£3,600.00
SportSkool Ltd	John Keble School	5-13	48	£1,776.00
ActiveMe 360	Swanmore College	5-16	180	£6,300.00
360 Degree Sports Coaching CIC	Weeke Primary School	5-14	132	£3,929.64
Alresford Youth Association	Sun Hill Junior School	4-11	100	£3,275.00
Integr8 Dance	Unit 12	5-11	160	£5,200.00
DDC Holiday Club	Denmead Infant School	4-11	60	£1,980.00
YMCA Fairthorne Manor	YMCA Fairthorne Manor	5-16	40	£1,540.00
Total			820	£27,600.64

Grant Type B – Family/Community/Youth Events/Activities

Basingstoke

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Cook Stars Thatcham to Hook	Diamond scout centre, Tadley	5-16	10	£400.00
Cook Stars Thatcham to Hook	Diamond scout centre, Tadley	5-16	10	£550.00
Kala The Arts	Vyne community school and Cross House community centre Bramley	3 -16	88	£2,904.00
Teen Provision (providers to be confirmed)	Basingstoke	11-16	80	£4,000.00
Total			188	£7,854.00

East Hants

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Sport4Kids	Club 94, Budds Lane, Bordon	11-16	80	£3,391.00
CM Foundation	Bordon	11-16	30	£1,704.00

ID SSC Limited	Weyford Infant School, Mill Chase Road, Bordon, Hampshire GU35 0EP	4 - 16	120	£4,440.00
Teen Provision (provider to be confirmed)	Alton and Petersfield	11-16	160	£8,000.00
Total			310	£17,535.00

Eastleigh

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Romsey Community School Ltd	Cableworks	4-11	80	£4,628.80
Teen Provision (provider to be confirmed)	Eastleigh	11-16	80	£4,000.00
Total			160	£8,628.80

Fareham

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
ComputerXplorers Southampton	Brook Lane, Sarisbury Green, Southampton	5-16	15	£586.50
Y Services for Young People	Genesis Centre	10-16	60	£2,002.00
Teen Provision (provider to be confirmed)	Fareham	11-16	80	£4,000.00
Total			155	£6,588.50

Gosport

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Y Services for Young People	Elson Freedom centre	10-16	60	£2,002.00
Motiv8 South Ltd	Bay House School/Rowner Community School	7-16	200	£8,000.00
Motiv8 South Ltd	Lee Community Library	5-11	24	£480.00
Motiv8 South Ltd	Nimrod Community Centre	5-16	20	£800.00
Motiv8 South Ltd	Rowner Youth Centre	13-16	24	£960.00
Total			328	£12,242.00

Hart

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Cook Stars Thatcham to Hook	Elizabeth Hall, Hook	5-16	40	£800.00
Teen Provision (provider to be confirmed)	Hart	11-16	80	£4,000.00
Total			120	£4,800.00

Havant

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Hayling Island Community Centre Association	hayling college	11-14	100	£4,000.00
Hayling Island Community Centre Association	hayling college	5-11	160	£6,400.00
Park Community School	Park Community School	11-16	128	£5,469.44
Park Community School	Park Community School	5-16	280	£10,151.51
ComputerXplorers Southampton	Front Lawn Primary School / Jubilee School Waterloo	3-13	30	£1,173.00
Motiv8 South Ltd	Motiv8, The Hub, Leigh Park	10-16	72	£3,672.00
Y Services for Young People	Acorn Centre - Wecock	8-16	60	£2,002.00
Total			830	£32,867.95

New Forest

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery	Lymington Community Centre	0-16	48	£2,006.40
CM Foundation	Handy Trust Community Centre	11-16	30	£1,487.00
ComputerXplorers Southampton	Blackfield New Forest	3-13	30	£1,173.00
Testlands Holiday Club	Gang Warily Recreation Centre	5-13	160	£5,280.00
Total			268	£9,946.40

Rushmoor

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Teen Provision (provider to be confirmed)	Rushmoor	11-16	80	£4,000.00

Total	80	£4,000.00
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Test Valley

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Teen Provision (provider to be confirmed)	The Mountbatten School	11-15	80	£4,000.00
Teen Provision (provider to be confirmed)	Andover	11-16	80	£4,000.00
Family Days	Andover	4-11	52	£2,991.00
Family Days	Romsey	4-11	52	£2,991.00
Total			264	£13,982.00

Winchester

Organisation	Venue	Age Range	Number of Places	Grant Recommendation
Integr8 Dance	Unit 12	11-16	80	£2,600.00
Total			80	£2,600.00

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	Yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	Yes

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u> COVID Winter Grants COVID Winter Grants – Holiday Activities and Community Grants HAF Grant Recommendations HAF Grant Recommendations HAF Grant Recommendations	<u>Date</u> 9 December 2020 2 February 2021 22 February 2021 8 June 2021 10 November 2021
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u> Department for Education: Guidance: Holiday activities and food programme 2022	<u>Date</u> January 2022

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

0. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

Equalities Impact Assessment:

Name of project or proposal (required): Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Grant Programme

Is this project a Transformation project? (required): Neither

Name of accountable officer (required): Suzanne Smith

Email (required): suzanne.smith2@hants.gov.uk

Department (required): Children's Services

Date of assessment (required): 14/02/2022

Is this a detailed or overview EIA? (required): Overview

Describe the current service or policy. This question has a limit of 700 characters; approximately 100 words (required):

The Department for Education (DfE) has provided every local authority in England funding to coordinate free holiday provision, including healthy food and enriching activities, for children eligible for benefits related free school meals. The programme covers the Easter, summer and Christmas holidays from 2022-2025. Hampshire County Council has been awarded a total of £3,421,210. This EIA covers Easter 2022 provision.

Geographical impact (required): All Hampshire

Describe the proposed change. This question has a limit of 700 characters; approximately 100 words (required):

Hampshire County Council is distributing its DfE allocation via two grant streams for Easter provision;

Grant Type A – For childcare places in existing schemes/clubs or new schemes/clubs being proposed in priority and rural areas;

Grant Type B – For Easter holiday events, short activities, innovative projects and initiatives targeting priority and rural areas, older children & young people (11–16 year olds), and families.

Who does this impact assessment cover? (required): Service users

Has engagement or consultation been carried out? (required): Yes

Describe the consultation or engagement you have performed or are intending to perform. This question has a limit of 700 characters; approximately 100 words (required):

Market engagement was undertaken with a range of providers and with schools to ensure that they were aware of the opportunity for funding, HAF in general and could apply for a grant, if interested. Particular focus was given to areas with known gaps in provision, such as rural areas.

Successful applicants will receive a briefing on the HAF principles and other key topics, such as safeguarding and inclusion.

Age (required): Positive

Impact (required): Children and young people (and their families) will benefit from the HAF grant programme as the funding is directed at school age children and young people.

Disability (required): Positive

Impact (required): Organisations funded by HAF are expected to offer inclusive provision so that children and young people with additional needs can attend.

Sexual orientation (required): Neutral

Race (required): Neutral

Religion or belief (required): Neutral

Gender reassignment (required): Neutral

Gender (required): Neutral

Marriage or civil partnership (required): Neutral

Pregnancy and maternity (required): Neutral

Poverty (required): Positive

Impact (required): The HAF funding is directed at children who are benefits eligible for Free School Meals and at other vulnerable children, either with an EHCP, or SEND, or known to social care, including early help, on a child protection plan or looked after. The funding will mean that they will be able to access free holiday activities and food during Easter 2022.

Rurality (required): Positive

Impact (required): The HAF funding is to support holiday activities throughout the county. This includes rural areas where activity schemes may not have traditionally operated. Funding will be used to prioritise these areas to encourage organisations to deliver in pockets of the county where there is a lack of existing provision.

Any other brief information which you feel is pertinent to this assessment (optional): N/A

Please confirm that the accountable officer has agreed the contents of this form (required): Yes

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HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	23 March 2022
Title:	Additional Specialist Provision for Hampshire
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Bernadette Dawes, Inclusion Commissioning Manager

Tel: 0370 7790226

Email: bernadette.dawes@hants.gov.uk

Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is:
 - a. to provide feedback on the initial period of public consultation in relation to the proposed satellite extension of Henry Tyndale School, Farnborough, utilising accommodation at the former Park Children's Centre, Aldershot, and to seek approval for statutory public notices to be published.
 - b. to provide feedback on the initial period of public consultation in relation to the proposed expansion of Norman Gate School, Andover, and to seek approval for statutory public notices to be published.
 - c. to provide feedback on the initial period of public consultation in relation to the proposed Resourced Provision at Pinewood Infant School, Farnborough, and to seek approval for statutory public notices to be published.
2. **Recommendations**
3. That approval be given for Statutory Public Notices to be published for the expansion of Henry Tyndale School (satellite provision utilising the former Park Children's Centre, Aldershot); the expansion of Norman Gate School; and new Resourced Provision at Pinewood Infant School.
4. **Executive Summary**
5. Hampshire County Council has a statutory duty to provide school places for all children, including those who have special educational needs and/or a disability. The County Council is committed to further developing successful provision to meet this demand within the Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) sector.
6. The proposed additional SEND provision outlined within this report will help manage some of the school place pressures generated by the increase in the

number of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) maintained by the Local Authority. Since 2015-16 the number of pupils in Hampshire with EHCPs has increased from 5,558 to 12,456 in November 2021 (an increase of 124%) with approximately 33% of pupils with an EHCP in a specialist placement. This has resulted in a corresponding pressure for places in special schools and resourced provision. The County Council is committed to further developing successful provision or creating new provision where possible to meet demand for places.

7. The lack of sufficient provision within Hampshire Schools has resulted in increased placements within the independent and non-maintained sector (INMSS). The proposals contained within this report aim to build on good quality Hampshire school provision and meet the needs of children and young people within their settings. This will reduce the Local Authority's dependence upon independent and non-maintained provision (INMSS) and will aim to keep pupils as close to their home community as possible.

Contextual Information

Expansion of Henry Tyndale School, Farnborough utilising accommodation at former Park Children's Centre, Aldershot

8. The Park Children's Centre located on the Park Primary School, Gloucester Road, Aldershot site was previously used for childcare which closed on 31 August 2017. A small number of Family Support Services staff currently utilise the building.
9. The proposal is to utilise accommodation, at the former Park Children's Centre, as a specialist satellite provision, run by Henry Tyndale School, Ship Lane, Farnborough. This will provide accommodation to meet the needs of up to 35 primary aged pupils with severe learning difficulties (SLD) and Autistic Spectrum Conditions (ASC).
10. The current agreed pupil number of Henry Tyndale School is 153, therefore, their total number on roll would become 188.
11. Subject to the outcome of the consultation, it is proposed that places will be available from September 2023.
12. This is an exciting opportunity to utilise a former Children's Centre building, to provide this much needed additional specialist provision.
13. It is proposed that some internal building alterations are undertaken to create appropriate learning spaces and hygiene facilities, together with upgraded external play areas; landscaping; works to the car park entrance and car park to accommodate a turning circle, and a drop off area for the new provision.
14. A total of £1.1m of Childrens Services capital funding was approved at the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services Decision Day on 14 January 2022.

Norman Gate School, Andover

15. Norman Gate School is a primary special school for children aged 2-11 years, with moderate learning difficulties.
16. The proposal is to refurbish a food technology space into a general teaching classroom, create a food technology space elsewhere in the school and reconfigure a toilet / hygiene space. This will provide accommodation to meet the needs of an additional 12 primary-aged pupils with moderate learning difficulties (MLD) and Autistic Spectrum Conditions with places available from September 2022. A total of £160,000 of Childrens Services capital funding was approved at the Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services Decision Day on 14 January 2022.

Pinewood Infant School, Farnborough

17. Pinewood Infant School is a maintained school for children from Year R to Year 2 that has a resourced provision for children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs.
18. The proposal is to refurbish a music space into a specialist classroom and sensory space; external landscaping and relocating an area for Emotional Literacy Support. This will provide accommodation to meet the needs of up to 8 infant-aged pupils, with Autistic Spectrum Conditions, with first places available in September 2022. A total of £200,000 of Childrens Services capital funding was approved at the Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services Decision Day on 14 January 2022.

Finance

19. Creating additional specialist places in Hampshire schools has both revenue and capital finance implications. Revenue funding is provided through the Dedicated Schools Grant, with funding coming from the High Needs Block and the Schools Block.
20. From a revenue perspective, it is more cost effective to increase in-house provision, rather than place children in expensive independent provision as shown in the following table:

21. **Table 1 – cost comparison**

Type of provision	Average revenue cost per place
Special school	£15,200
Resourced provision	£15,168
Independent and non-maintained special school place	£61,700

22. Funding from the High Needs Block is calculated by the government using a national funding formula, which includes population and proxy factors of need based on children living in Hampshire and a basic entitlement factor.
23. The annual revenue cost of the proposed additional places has been calculated based on the average funding rates for the schools that are expanding:
24. **Table 2 - Additional annual revenue cost**

Name of school	Number of new places being created	Average cost per place*	Estimated Revenue Cost
Henry Tyndale at Park CC	35	£16,900	£591,500
Norman Gate School	12	£14,100	£169,200
Pinewood Infant	8	£19,800	£158,400

*These figures include the £4,000 funding from the mainstream school budget share.

25. The total revenue cost of £919,100 for the in-house places compares to an estimated £3.4m for the same number of places in independent and non-maintained special schools using the average cost of an SEN only funded day placement. This equates to approximately £2.5m of cost avoidance on the High Needs Block.
26. There could be some additional revenue costs required to support the setting up of new provisions and to ensure viability as the provisions build up to capacity. This is dependent on if the SEN Service expect to fill the provision straight away.
27. Estimated capital costs for the proposed projects are outlined below and in Appendix 2.

Name of school	Project	Number of new places being created	Estimated Capital Cost
Henry Tyndale Satellite @ Park CC	Internal and external works	35	£1,100,000
Norman Gate School	Internal works	10	£160,000
Pinewood Infant School	Internal works	8	£200,000
Total			£1,460,000

Performance Impact – none

Consultations

28. The consultation for the expansion of Henry Tyndale School utilising accommodation at former Park Children's Centre took place between 23 November and 21 December 2021.
29. The consultations for the expansion of Norman Gate School, and the establishment of resourced provision at Pinewood Infant School took place between 2 February and 2 March 2022.
30. Letters with details of the proposals were sent to the following stakeholders. Feedback was invited by email and letter and meetings with officers offered if requested:
 - Parents of children attending the schools
 - Headteachers, school staff and Governing Body of the schools
 - Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of neighbouring schools
 - Borough, district, and parish Councils – Local Councillors
 - Trade union representatives
 - Local Dioceses
 - Local MPs
 - HCC Elected Members
 - Residents of the immediate areas
 - Other relevant community stakeholdersCopies of the consultation letters are attached under appendix 1.
31. The proposals were also included on the Hampshire County Council's consultation website:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations>

Consultation Responses Received – Henry Tyndale School (satellite at Park Children's Centre).

32. The consultation for the expansion of Henry Tyndale School utilising accommodation at former Park Children's Centre took place between 23 November and 21 December 2021.
33. Six responses were received to the consultation. Five were from County and local Councillors and one was from the Park Primary School Governing Body.
34. One local Councillor was in full support of the proposal. The other Councillors and Park Primary Governors raised issues surrounding:
 - a. The speed at which the proposal was being developed together with lack of early discussion with the Park Primary Headteacher and Governing Body;
 - b. Local traffic, entrance and exit from the site, and road safety;
 - c. Car park spaces and turning circle within the site;
 - d. Staggered Start/Finish Times for the two provisions;
 - e. Fire Safety Assembly Point;
 - f. Loss of early years space and facilities.

35. Following the consultation period and feedback received, plans have been further developed and meetings held on site with the Park Primary Headteacher and Chair of Governors and with the four of the local councillors.
36. The current proposed cost of the works – internal improvements, external landscaping, and highway works, is estimated at £1.1m – a total of £1.1m capital spend was approved at the Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services Decision Day on 14 January 2022.

Speed of the proposal and lack of communication with Governors – there is significant pressure on SEN school places especially in the Rushmoor area, with Henry Tyndale School already fulfilling a large outreach programme for pupils held in mainstream schools who preferably would have a specialist placement. The accommodation available at the former Park Childrens Centre offers four good classrooms, a hall, reception area, and appropriate ancillary facilities such as sensory rooms and soft play space together with external play areas. The spaces can cater for up to 35 primary SEN pupils. Since the start of the consultation period, meetings have been held with the Governors and Headteacher and plans further refined following their feedback. The Park Primary Headteacher has also met with the Henry Tyndale leadership team to discuss joint working and how the provisions can work successfully alongside each other. Henry Tyndale already has an established satellite provision at Cherrywood Primary School in Farnborough, the Park Head and Governors have been invited to visit to discuss with Cherrywood how their relationship with Henry Tyndale is working and how some of the practical issues of operating such a remote facility have been overcome. The proposed opening date for any new provision has been pushed back to September 2023 to ensure all stakeholders are in agreement, positive relationships established and operational models agreed.

Local traffic, entrance / exit, car park and road safety – Hampshire Property Services, Highways and School Travel Team colleagues have visited the site and undertaken surveys and observations at school drop off and pick up times. The proposed school road entrance improvements have been further developed to accommodate issues raised by the school and local councillors. Off-site traffic regulation options will also be investigated as the project proceeds. The current designs are attached with this briefing note and actions being undertaken outlined below

- **School Travel Plan Team:** To develop the Travel Plans for both schools and facilitate safe and sustainable routes to school. Existing vehicle movements and parking beat surveys to be undertaken.
- **Highways:** To develop the Transport Statement which predicts the ‘net impact’ of expected number of traffic movements in the nearby area.
- **Engineered Highways Changes:** To develop an effective Traffic Regulation Order strategy which can be implemented and enforced. Advise on any off-site construction highways works which may need consideration.
- **Home to school Transport Team:** To coordinate the volume, timings, contracts and the staggering of Henry Tyndale Escorted Passenger Transport Taxi and Mini buses with Park Primary Vehicle movements.

- **Pre-Application Advise from Highways Development Control** to be sought.
- **Henry Tyndale and Park Primary-** To coordinate school consumable delivery and refuse collection contracts.

An additional on-site meeting with two local Councillors was held in February where school pick up was observed and two local parking areas were identified. The local Councillors agreed to approach the owners of these sites to help negotiate use by parents for pupil drop off and pick up.

Car park and turning circle – Park Primary School has a large car park, part of which is assigned to the children’s centre. A new design to allow for additional parking and a drop off area and turning circle has been developed, appreciating that many of the pupils attending this new provision will be transported by taxi or minibus. Governors are concerned about the number of parking spaces provided and space for large delivery vehicles. An estimated 30 vehicle movements are anticipated at the site at any peak time - property and highways colleagues feel the design can cope with this. The Henry Tyndale Leadership Team is currently putting together their business plan and staff numbers. The current design aims to meet or exceed Hampshire parking standards for both provisions when combined.

Staggered Start/Finish Times for the two provisions – it is agreed that staggered start and finish times will be established to aid in safeguarding, pupil safety and traffic movements. The Heads of Park Primary and Henry Tyndale Schools have met to discuss, and detailed operational guidelines will be developed.

Fire assembly point – the fire assembly point for the Children’s Centre has always been on the Park Primary playground accessed through an external gate for use only in emergency. With the new proposed SEN provision, it is requested that this access is retained, with fobbed electronic access, for use in event of a fire evacuation or other emergency. The Park Primary Head and Governors are concerned this would raise a safeguarding issue and have requested an alternative fire assembly area – this point remains under discussion and resolution sought.

Loss of early years space and facilities – the Childrens Centre was previously used for childcare which closed on 31 August 2017. The primary school has also made some use of the building during the Covid pandemic for its pupils. In 2019 the space was tendered to the childcare market with an offer being made to an early year’s provider in September 2019. Providers who viewed the site felt it was a great opportunity but, due to the size of the building the required investment costs were too high and therefore a new provider could not be secured for the site. The selected provider withdrew once they had quotes for the work that was required. The rateable value and the business rates were also an issue.

The school raised interest in utilising part of the children’s centre for a new pre-school run by themselves. This provision would require a minimum of 1

classroom from the children's centre and would require c 26-30 children to be financially viable. Locally available provision in Hampshire extends to 3 nurseries within 1 mile and another 4 within 1.5 miles of the school. The small area population forecast trend for the Aldershot Park ward area shows the number of 0 – 4-year-olds reducing. The adjacent Hampshire wards of Manor Park and North Town also do not show an increase in population and consequently estimated demand for the same period. Take up data for 2, 3 and 4-year-olds relating to the ward, however, is lower than average for Hampshire. Despite this, there is no evidence of unmet demand. Further information is being sought from Surrey regarding cross boarder take up at settings surrounding the area to validate this. Therefore, currently the data does not support the need for additional childcare in the ward however support for vulnerable families in this area has been highlighted. The Family Support Service currently located in the Children's Centre accommodation will continue to provide services to meet local demand from existing HCC offices in Cambridge Road.

Additional Information:

- The Council has committed to c£20k of improvements to Park Primary School kitchen, including two new electric ovens and a dishwasher. The Park Primary kitchen can cater for daily school meals to be delivered to the SEN provision.

Consultation Responses Received – Expansion of Norman Gate School

37. Six responses were received about the proposed expansion of Norman Gate School:
 - a. Two responses received were from other local schools and fully supportive.
 - b. One response received was concerned that all class sizes were going to be increased – this is not the case as the proposal is to create one new classroom for a new class of 10 pupils. Two other classes are proposed to have one additional pupil in each.
 - c. Three responses received were highlighting local traffic and parking issues along Vigo Road particularly during drop off and pick up times. Two of these were supportive of the expansion overall but wanted the drop off and pick up arrangements to be reviewed. One was an objection to the expansion. We will be working closely with the School Travel Team, Highways and Home to School Transport colleagues to undertake surveys and work with both Norman Gate and Vigo Primary Schools, who share the site, to endeavour to improve the current situation through updated School Travel Plans. In particular, we will target to reduce 'car alone' journeys where possible, and where there are essential car users, encourage them to use the Park and Stride options available and to park safely and considerately. Three additional on-site staff parking spaces are planned for Norman Gate as part of the works.

Consultation Responses Received – Resourced Provision at Pinewood Infant School

38. Four responses were received about the proposed resourced provision at Pinewood Infant School:

- a. Two responses received were supportive of the proposal and pleased that the new facilities would be of benefit to all pupils at Pinewood Infant School.
- b. One response wanted confirmation that contractors would not be parking on local roads when works undertaken. This was confirmed – work is planned to be undertaken during the summer break and contractors will be able to park on site.
- c. One response received was concerned about the amount of funding allocated for this new provision and believed that there was sufficient local provision for pupils with autism. Whilst Samuel Cody School in Farnborough has a small primary provision for pupils with MLD/ASC, there is still pressure within the Hart & Rushmoor areas and hence this additional resourced provision will help meet this demand.

Climate Change and Impact Assessment

39. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience impacts of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.

Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

40. Not relevant in regard to the content of this report or decision being sought.

Carbon Mitigation

41. Not relevant in regard to the content of this report or decision being sought.

Conclusions

42. In considering all the responses received, approval is sought to publish statutory public notices for:
 - a. the development of the satellite to Henry Tyndale School, at former Park Children's Centre, Aldershot.
 - b. the expansion of the Norman Gate School, Andover.
 - c. the establishment of an ASC resourced provision at Pinewood Infant School, Farnborough.
43. Notices will be published for a period of 4 weeks in April 2022 and displayed at the schools, circulated to relevant stakeholders, and published on the Council's Public Notice Portal. A further report following the closure of the public notice periods will be brought to a future Decision Day.

Appendix 1



Children's Services Department
Elizabeth II Court North,
Winchester
Hampshire SO23 8UG

Telephone 01962 841841
Textphone 0845 603 5625

Park Primary Parents, Local Residents
& other Consultees

<i>Enquiries to</i>	Claire Campling	<i>My reference</i>	Henry Tyndale / Park CC
<i>Direct Line</i>	01962 832206	<i>Your reference</i>	
<i>Date</i>	23 November 2021	<i>E-mail</i>	strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dear Consultee

Former Park Children's Centre - Proposal to host a satellite provision for pupils from Henry Tyndale Special School - Consultation

The purpose of this letter is to ask for your views and consult on the proposal that accommodation at the former Park Children's Centre at Park Primary School, Gloucester Road, Aldershot is used as a specialist satellite provision run by Henry Tyndale School, Ship Lane, Farnborough. This will provide accommodation to meet the needs of up to 35 primary aged pupils with specific learning difficulties (SLD) and Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC). The current agreed pupil number of Henry Tyndale School is 153 – therefore their total on roll would become 188 utilising the former Park Children's Centre site. Subject to the outcome of the consultation, it is proposed that the first additional places are available at this site in September 2022 and plans to be full within 2 years.

This is an exciting opportunity to utilise this accommodation at the former Children's Centre building to provide this much needed facility for local children. It is proposed that some internal building alterations are undertaken to create appropriate learning spaces and hygiene facilities together with upgraded external play areas. Also landscaping and works to the car park entrance and car park to accommodate a turning circle and drop off area for the new provision – this element of the works will be subject to a planning application in due course. You can find the draft drawings for these works at the end of this letter.

Hampshire County Council is committed to expanding successful provision where possible to meet demand. Currently there is an increased need to provide support for pupils with complex learning needs in this area of the county. This proposal will provide much needed specialist educational capacity to meet this increased demand.

Headteachers and governors will work closely together to ensure all pupils benefit regarding this joint project, however the new provision will be run by Henry Tyndale School. As such the admissions process for each school is entirely separate. Discussions are also underway with the Hampshire School Travel Team to look at the practicalities of the start and end of the school day and potential different timings for each provision – the safety and safeguarding of pupils and staff at both provisions is paramount.

Director of Children's Services
Steve Crocker OBE

The Consultation

The purpose of this consultation is to seek the view of all stakeholders on the principle of increasing the school capacity of Henry Tyndale School to meet the demand for additional special school places in the Farnborough and Aldershot area.

The consultation and decision-making process is outlined below:

- This initial consultation will run from the 23 November to 21 December 2021.
- A report outlining the consultation responses received will then be taken to the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services in February 2022 to decide if the proposal should continue to the formal statutory consultation stage.
- If approved, a statutory Public Notice would be published in February/March 2022 setting out Hampshire County Council's intent to increase the capacity of the school. This is a four week period in which any representations can be made to the local authority.
- A final report would then be taken to Executive Lead Member for Children's Services Decision Day in April 2022 who will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal.

Further Information

Due to Covid-19 restrictions and ensuring public safety, unfortunately we are unable to hold a public drop-in event at the school. However please send in your views and queries by email to strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

If you would like to speak to an Officer then please make that request by email, briefly outlining your query so we can arrange a mutually convenient time for you to speak to an appropriate officer, either via conference call or telephone.

A website has also been set up with the details of the consultation which includes some 'Frequently Asked Questions' that may address any queries you have. To access this website please go to the online address below: <http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx>

If you are unable to email or visit the above website and wish to make a comment then please write to Claire Campling, Assistant SEN Service Manager, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG by **21 December 2021**.

Yours sincerely,



Claire Campling
Assistant SEN Service Manager
Children's Services Department



- KEY**
- ① Various works to shared access road, barrier and gates at entrance
 - ② Existing Primary School staff car park (unaffected)
 - ③ Expanded new school car park (increased to 17 spaces including 2 accessible bays)
 - ④ Proposed drop off and collection vehicle layby
 - ⑤ Proposed dual use paving area for vehicle parking and pedestrian access
 - ⑥ Potential location for replacement bin store
 - ⑦ Potential entrance canopy and cycle hoops for four cycles
 - ⑧ External play spaces require new fencing, repaired safety surfacing and some replacement furniture
 - ⑨ Existing Primary School outdoor play spaces (unaffected)
 - ⑩ Highways line markings - potential alterations under separate review



Issued For Consultation

Notes	
1 This drawing is © copyright Hampshire County Council 2016. No unauthorised reproduction permitted. All rights reserved.	3 This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. (100019180), (2016).
2 No dimensions are to be scaled from this drawing.	

rev	description	date	by
P1	Pre Planning App Consultation Issue	05.11.21	crf

PROJECT				SHEET CONTENTS	
Henry Tyndale SEN @ Park Primary Gloucester Road, Aldershot Hampshire, GU11 3SL				Proposed Site Strategy	
SCALE 1:200 @ A1 1:400 @ A3				DRAWING No P13061-HCC-DR-L-7001	
DATE 21.06.21				REVISION P1	
DRAWN crf				FILE REF. <i>File name</i>	
CHKD.				Property Services	





Hampshire
County Council

Children's Services Department
Elizabeth II Court North,
Winchester
Hampshire SO23 8UG

Telephone 01962 841841
Textphone 0845 603 5625

<i>Enquiries to</i>	Claire Campling	<i>My reference</i>	Norman Gate School
<i>Direct Line</i>	03707 795312	<i>Your reference</i>	
<i>Date</i>	2 February 2022	<i>E-mail</i>	strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dear Consultees

Proposal to increase the capacity of Norman Gate School, Andover – Consultation

I am writing to invite your views in respect of Hampshire County Council's proposal to increase the capacity of Norman Gate School.

Norman Gate School is currently a 93 place special school for 2-11 year olds with moderate learning difficulties (MLD) and Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC). The County Council is proposing to increase the capacity of the school by adding an additional 12 places though a phased increase over the coming 2 years. This will give a final overall capacity of 105 places at Norman Gate School.

To accommodate the increased number of places, it is proposed that an existing food technology classroom is converted into generic teaching accommodation. The food technology teaching kitchen will be replaced in another area of the school. The proposed works will include refurbishment of the spaces to provide an appropriate learning environment. In addition, a toilet / hygiene area will be remodelled and refurbished. Parking spaces for staff will also be reviewed. The cost of the capital works is estimated to be c.£160,000.

Reason for proposal

Hampshire County Council is committed to expanding successful provision where possible to meet demand. Currently there is an increased need to provide support for pupils with moderate learning difficulties and Autistic Spectrum Condition in this area of the county. This proposal will provide much needed specialist educational capacity to meet this increased need.

Director of Children's Services
Steve Crocker OBE

Where a Local Authority proposes to permanently enlarge a special school's capacity by 10% or more, it must follow a procedure set out by the Department for Education. This information and some Frequently Asked Questions are available on the following website; <http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx>

The Consultation

The primary purpose of this consultation is to seek the view of consultees on the principle of increasing the school capacity to meet the demand for additional special school places in the local area. It is important to hear your views at this stage so we can consider them as part of the detailed work to be undertaken should approval to increase the capacity of the school be obtained.

This consultation will run from the Wednesday 2 February to Wednesday 2 March 2022. Officers will then take into consideration all the consultation responses received before deciding whether the proposal should continue to the formal publication stage. If so, a statutory Public Notice will be published, setting out Hampshire County Council's intent to increase the capacity of the school. It is anticipated that this will be published in April 2022.

After the date of publication there will be a four-week period in which any representations can be made to the local authority. After the conclusion of this period the County Council will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal. It is anticipated that a decision will be made in May/June 2022.

Further Information

Due to Covid-19 restrictions and ensuring public safety, unfortunately we are unable to hold a public drop-in event at the school. However please send in your views and queries by email to strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk.

If you would like to speak to an officer, please make a request by email, briefly outlining your query so we can arrange a mutually convenient time for you to speak to an appropriate officer, either via conference call or telephone.

A website has also been set up with the details of the consultation which includes some 'Frequently Asked Questions' that may address any queries you have. To access this website please go to the online address below:

<http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx>

If you are unable to email or visit the above website and wish to make a comment, please write to Claire Campling, Assistant SEN Service Manager, Children's Services Department, E11 Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG by **Wednesday 2 March 2022**.

Yours sincerely



Claire Campling
Assistant SEN Service Manager

Children's Services Department
Elizabeth II Court North,
Winchester
Hampshire SO23 8UG

Telephone 01962 841841
Textphone 0845 603 5625

Consultee

Enquiries to Claire Campling

My reference

Direct Line 03707 795312

Your reference

Date 2 February 2022

E-mail strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dear Consultee

Proposal for developing a resourced provision at Pinewood Infant School, Farnborough for pupils with autism - Consultation

I am writing to invite your views in respect of Hampshire County Council's proposal to create a new small resourced provision for pupils with autism at Pinewood Infant School - this would sit alongside their established resourced provision for pupils with speech, language and communication needs. The school contacted the SEN Service to explore the possibility of creating such a provision and so we are looking into the feasibility of this.

Children with an autism diagnosis can have difficulties with social interaction, communication and can also have speech and language needs and the school already support a number of children with such needs. It has been identified that there are an increasing number of children in the county who are being diagnosed with this condition and we are working towards expanding our offer of support to these children.

The pupils who would attend this new provision would generally be from the local area. They would be on roll at Pinewood Infant School and the school would receive additional resources to ensure that the children's needs are well supported so that they can successfully access the mainstream environment and curriculum, when appropriate.

The County Council is proposing to refurbish an underutilised area of the school and outdoor space to create a designated area for this new resourced provision. These works will allow the school to add a resourced provision which will add an additional up to 8 places over 2 years starting from September 2022. The proposed cost of the works is in the region of £200,000.

Director of Children's Services
Steve Crocker OBE

The Consultation

The purpose of this consultation is to ask for your views and consult on the development of a new resourced provision for pupils with autism at Pinewood Infant School from September 2022. It is important to hear your views at this stage so we can consider them as part of the work to be undertaken, should approval be obtained.

This consultation will run from Wednesday 2 February to Wednesday 2 March 2022. Officers will then take into consideration all the consultation responses received before deciding whether the proposal should continue to the formal publication stage. If so, a statutory Public Notice will be published setting out Hampshire County Council's intent to increase the capacity of the school. It is anticipated that this will be published in April 2022.

After the date of publication, there will be a four week period in which any representations can be made to the local authority. After the conclusion of this period, the County Council will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal. It is anticipated that a decision will be made in May/June 2022.

Further Information

Due to Covid-19 restrictions and ensuring public safety, unfortunately we are unable to hold a public drop-in event at the school. However, please send in your views and queries by email to strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk.

If you would like to speak to an Officer then please make that request by email, briefly outlining your query so we can arrange a mutually convenient time for you to speak to an appropriate officer, either via conference call or telephone.

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<http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx>

If you are unable to email or visit the above website and wish to make a comment then please write to Claire Campling, Assistant SEN Service Manager, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG by **Wednesday 2 March 2022**.

Yours sincerely,



Claire Campling
Assistant SEN Service Manager
Children's Services Department

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	Yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	Yes

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u> Children’s Services Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25	<u>Date</u> Jan 2022
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u> None	<u>Date</u>

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- (a) The recommendation in this report will have no impact on groups with protected characteristics.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL Decision Report

Decision Maker	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Title	Determination of Post 16 Transport Policy Statement 2022
Date	23 March 2022
Report From	Director of Children's Services

Contact: Martin Goff (Head of Transport and Admissions)

Tel: 01962 846185

Email: martin.goff@hants.gov.uk

1. Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is to determine the County Council's 2022 Post 16 Transport Policy Statement (the Policy). As required by law the necessary consultation has been followed; some changes to the 2021 policy were proposed. The 2022 Policy is now being presented for approval to the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services

2. Recommendations

That the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services approves the attached 2022 Post 16 Transport Policy Statement (Appendix B) which incorporates all elements of the previous year's policy.

3. Executive Summary

The proposed 2022 policy was subject to a consultation running from 11th January until 21st February 2022. The consultation was carried out on the Council's public website and directly with schools and colleges. The consultation proposed some changes from the 2021 policy as detailed below.

The Post 16 Transport Policy Statement recommended for approval provides details of the service available to eligible Post 16 learners and enables Hampshire County Council to continue to meet its statutory requirements.

There were three proposed changes made to the policy:

- a) To update the text within the policy regarding "Waiting times", to better inform young adults and parents/applicants that transport cannot be arranged around individual student timetables and only one journey will be provided at the beginning and end of the school/college day.
- b) A reduction in the distance a student is required to walk to a pick-

- up point from 1.5 miles to 1 mile.
- c) To increase the parental contribution amount payable towards post-16 transport assistance in line with inflation set at 2.7% as per table below:

Distance to travel	Annual charge
Up to 5 miles	£616.20
5.01 miles to 7.5 miles	£853.44
7.51 miles to 10 miles	£1195.43
Over 10 miles	£1365.91

4. Contextual Information

This report includes the comments received in response to the annual consultation on the Post 16 Transport Policy that is required by statutory guidance. As the Policy Statement is determined annually, parents and young adults make a new application each year and eligibility for support is decided each academic year. The newly determined policy statement will be used for all new applications for assistance for the 2022/23 academic year.

The Policy details the offer for sixth form age students and adult students with an Education Health and Care Plan up to the age of 25. The proposed Policy Statement explains that the County Council will provide local authority funded transport, when it is necessary, to facilitate attendance. It also explains, that where the young person is aged under 18, the expectation of the County Council is that parents or carers will be responsible for transporting their child, but individual circumstances of families will be considered when making eligibility decisions.

The Policy Statement recommended for approval enables Hampshire County Council to continue to meet its statutory requirements.

The Policy Statement is determined within a statutory timetable before the end of May each year. It will be published for parents following the decision day at which point the application round will be opened to receive applications in time for the new school year start in September.

5. Finance

Current expenditure on the home to school transport service is approximately £34 million, of which £1.3 million was spent on Post 16 transport assistance. The changes proposed in the 2022 policy may result in a small increase in income but do not directly impact on the forecast expenditure. Transport costs, including those for Post 16 transport assistance, are rising nationally; the County Council's home to school transport service is experiencing this pressure.

6. Consultation and Equalities

The public consultation on the 2022 Policy ran from 11th January until 21st February 2022. Schools, colleges and the public were all invited to make

comments via a publicly available website. Schools and colleges were contacted to draw the attention to the public webpage.

There were six responses to the consultation; four of which asked (on behalf of young people attending Alton College) to increase the public bus services available at the start and end of the college day; a further two responses were asking for a direct and more frequent public bus service to Havant and South Downs colleges. These references to the commercial public bus service in two areas identify where residents feel local buses do not give students enough choice in journeys to and from college. These commercial services are run by commercial bus providers and there is no basis for providing changes through this Policy.

An Equality Impact Assessment has been submitted for the 2022 Policy and is provided in [Appendix A](#).

7. Climate Change Impact Assessment

Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience impacts of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does

The carbon mitigation tool and climate change adaptation tool were not applicable because the decision relates to the annual determination of a statutory policy for determining the eligibility for local authority funded transport assistance for students aged 16 to 25. This is the first administrative step in meeting the duty to support Post 16 students' journeys to and from their educational setting as it will ensure that help is provided when it is necessary to facilitate attendance

The policy is important for meeting Hampshire County Councils' strategic priorities as it provides an opportunity for local authority funded transport that enables young people to get a good start in life and assists in overcoming inequality. Also, the Post 16 Transport Policy helps people with special educational needs and/or a disability to find and access support within the community

8. Conclusion

The proposed policy aids parents/carers and users of the service to understand the service available and who may be entitled to support. The Post 16 Transport Policy Statement recommended for approval provides details of the service available to eligible Post 16 learners and enables Hampshire County Council to continue to meet its statutory requirements.

9. Supporting information

- a) Equality Assessment – [Appendix A](#)
- b) Proposed Post 16 Transport Policy Statement – [Appendix B](#)

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	Yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	No
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	Yes

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s76301/Report.pdf	7 July 2021
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/772913/Post16_transport_guidance.pdf	January 2019

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

Equalities Impact Assessment: [Appendix A](#)

Equality Impact Assessment

Name of project or proposal (required): Post 16 Transport Policy Statement 2022

Is this project a Transformation project? (required): Neither

Name of accountable officer (required): Martin Goff

Email (required): martin.goff@hants.gov.uk

Department (required): Children's Services

Date of assessment (required):

Is this a detailed or overview EIA? (required): Detailed

Describe the current service or policy. This question has a limit of 700 characters; approximately 100 words (required): The Post 16 Transport service provides transport for about 330 users each day and costs £1.3m p.a. The policy statement details when and how the Council will support attendance in Post 16 education where travel/transport is perceived as a barrier. It allows parents/carers and users to understand how young people aged over 16 and in education may be eligible for a local authority funded transport service.

Geographical impact (required): All Hampshire

Describe the proposed change. This question has a limit of 700 characters; approximately 100 words (required): The 2022 Post 16 Transport Policy Statement has three changes from the 2020 Policy. It details the duty to provide transport where necessary to facilitate attendance but explains to parents that for those young people under 18, the Council has an expectation that parents will provide transport assistance themselves.

Who does this impact assessment cover? (required): Service users

Has engagement or consultation been carried out? (required): Yes

Describe the consultation or engagement you have performed or are intending to perform. This question has a limit of 700 characters; approximately 100 words (required): The Council carried out an open public consultation designed to give Hampshire residents and wider stakeholders the opportunity to have their say about proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy and Post-16 Transport Policy. In total there was 6 responses. The consultation ran from 11th January until 21st February 2022.

Age (required): Medium

Impact (required): The established policy and legislation affect learners at specific ages differently, particularly those aged 16 on 1st September 2022 and those aged 17 on that date, although only until their 18th birthday. Therefore, the impact on age identified here is in respect to the legislative requirements and the subsequent considerations made by the Council when deciding on the support necessary in relation to travel and transport to facilitate a young person's attendance at their place of education. As a young person becomes a Post 16 learner, the Council considers transport support is only necessary if it is essential to enable them to attend their programme of study. If the young person is able to access other forms of travel, support/funding, and has the available means to access their education setting, then they would be expected to use these in the first instance.

Mitigation (required): Where transport is necessary to facilitate attendance, the Council will provide transport assistance. Each young person will be considered on a case by case basis to ensure provision reflects actual need.

Disability (required): Medium

Impact (required): The vast majority of young people over the age of 16 in education will attend placements which are accessible from their home address. However, where a young person or a family member (with responsibility for the young person) has SEND, a health issue/concern, or disability this may make accessing an education placement difficult or impossible without the Council providing support with travel/transport arrangements. The proposed policy concerns provision for this cohort of learners (and their families) and ensures support is available if it is considered necessary in order for the young person to attend their education placement / training. Where possible and where appropriate, the Council will support young people to use public transport and make their own journeys independently, and will expect parents to provide transport assistance.

Mitigation (required): Where transport is necessary to facilitate attendance, the Council will provide transport assistance. Each young person will be considered on a case by case basis to ensure provision reflects actual need. Where support is necessary to facilitate attendance due to the needs/circumstances of the young person and or their families, then appropriate provision will be made. The possible savings identified allows for 70% of 16 year olds still retaining access to LA funded transport support.

Sexual orientation (required): Neutral

Race (required): Neutral

Religion or belief (required): Neutral

Gender reassignment (required): Neutral

Gender (required): Neutral

Marriage or civil partnership (required): Neutral

Pregnancy and maternity (required): Neutral

Poverty (required): Neutral

Rurality (required): Medium

Impact (required): Families living in rural areas often face a longer journey and journey time to access post 16 provision. Public transport may be a more restricted offer. The longer journey and restricted public transport may limit families' capacity to support their child's travel.

Mitigation (required): Where transport is necessary to facilitate attendance, the Council will provide transport assistance. Each young person will be considered on a case-by-case basis, including the proposed journey and any limitations on infrastructure, to ensure provision reflects actual need.

Any other brief information which you feel is pertinent to this assessment (optional): The changes to the Policy Statement are designed to explain to parents / carers that when the Council considers whether it is necessary to provide transport assistance to a young person aged under 18, the Council expects that parents will provide transport assistance unless the specific circumstances mean that the Council need to provide

transport assistance to facilitate attendance. The changes also make it clear that when a young person is aged 18, parents will not be expected to provide transport assistance.

Please confirm that the accountable officer has agreed the contents of this form (required): Yes

2022 Transport policy statement for students in further education aged 16–18 and continuing students aged 19.

Name of LEA: Hampshire

Department Responsible: Education

Hampshire County Council 2022/2023 Transport Policy Statement for students in further education aged 16-19, continuing students and young people aged 19-24 with learning disabilities.

1. Commitment

Hampshire County Council (HCC) and its post 16 providers are committed to ensuring transport is available to enable students to access education and training as set out in this policy statement. Support is provided either by the County Council or post 16 providers. This policy statement applies for 2022/2023 only and sets out the support available.

There is no automatic entitlement to free home to school or college transport once a student is over 16. The County Council has considered its resources and the travel to college opportunities for students. Students can attend a college of choice and, if needed, apply to their college's student support for assistance. The cost and mechanical process of transporting young people with special educational needs is greater and more complex. HCC recognises that families may need a transport service to ensure that 16+ special needs or disabled students can access a place that is suitable for their needs and so do offer, under discretionary powers, a transport service that requires an annual parental contribution.

2. General transport available

There are a number of public transport service providers in Hampshire. Colleges and schools in Hampshire have their own transport arrangements but the situation does vary. Students should check with their setting about the transport arrangements and ticketing prices that can apply to both bus and train travel. The following link provides the information supplied by colleges and sixth form establishments.

College and School Details

Will be added as a number of links to the various college websites.

10. Other transport support

Post 16 education providers and other agencies provide support with transport in certain cases, for example:

- Cycle schemes
- Care to Learn - <https://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn/overview>
- Wheels to Work - <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/wheels-to-work>
- Brain in Hand - <http://braininhand.co.uk/>

3. Qualification for support from Hampshire County Council for students attending colleges and schools with sixth forms (including academies)

HCC will assist with travel expenses for post-16 students with special educational needs or a disability. A parental contribution towards the cost of this transport will be required; the cost will be decided by applying the following charging schedule:

Distance to travel	Annual charge
Up to 5 miles	£616.20
5.01 miles to 7.5 miles	£853.44
7.51 miles to 10 miles	£1195.43
Over 10 miles	£1365.91

Transport will normally only be offered if the student has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or if the student has a disability which means he/she requires transport arrangements to be provided. The student or their parents will need to apply for transport and evidence that HCC must provide transport to facilitate attendance, and evidence that without transport assistance, the student will be unable to attend the educational placement.

When assessing an application for transport assistance, HCC will refer to the criteria provided in [Appendix 1](#).

4. Post 16 training providers and apprenticeships

The same qualifications as set out in paragraph 3 apply for students attending post-16 training providers. Students in apprenticeships with employed status do not qualify for any assistance with travel costs.

5. Qualification for support from colleges and schools with sixth forms including academies

In addition to the support available from HCC, post-16 providers may also provide financial support towards transport costs for certain students such as young parents, those from low-income families, those at risk of being Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs). This is determined by the provider and is often based on how they have locally determined to use 'hardship' funds.

Please follow the link below to information provided by post-16 providers regarding transport services [College and School Details](#)

6. Assistance with transport for students over the age of 19 with learning difficulties or disabilities

Students over the age of 19 may qualify for transport assistance if they are subject to an Education, Health and Care Plan. It will then be provided either up until the age of 24 or until the student completes the course, whichever is the earliest. A new application will need to be made each year to access the service.

The student or their parents will need to apply for transport and evidence that HCC must provide transport to facilitate attendance and evidence that without transport assistance, the student will be unable to attend the educational placement.

When assessing an application for transport assistance, HCC will refer to the criteria provided in [Appendix 1](#)

7. Independent Travel Training

The County Council provides some mobility/independence training for students with learning difficulties or disabilities. Children in special schools will be subject to transition plans in year 9 and independence training can form part of that plan. Some colleges also provide mobility/independence training.

8. Students attending providers outside Hampshire

The County Council may provide assistance with transport to support students attending

providers outside of the county, but students need to qualify for support against the criteria outlined in paragraph 3. The provider attended may also be able to provide some support, see paragraph 5.

9. Students attending providers in Hampshire but living outside the county

Such students should apply to their home Local Authority for assistance. However, providers themselves may provide assistance and are not bound by county boundaries.

10. Applying for assistance with transport

Students wishing to apply for help with transport can do so by accessing the HCC website where further details are available: <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture.htm>.

Students may also wish to apply to colleges direct for help. Paragraph 12 provides details of the colleges and their contact details together with an outline of the assistance they provide.

Please be aware that eligibility for transport assistance is re-assessed annually and a new transport application is required each academic year if assistance is still required. If the student's personal circumstances change within an academic year, their eligibility for transport assistance will need to be re-assessed and a new application required.

11. Appeals/Complaints

Complaints regarding any aspect of the policy statement must first be taken up with HCC. If these do not result in a satisfactory outcome, young people or their families may complain to the Secretary of State for Education.

Students wishing to make a complaint or an appeal regarding a transport entitlement decision, or subsequent transport arrangements or the requirement to make a contribution to the cost of travel should write to the Head of Information Transport and Admissions, Children's Services Department, Hampshire County Council, The Castle, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8UG. The appeals process is provided in [Appendix 1](#).

12. College and School Details

To be added when published; this includes school and college organised transport. The information is supplied directly by schools and colleges and will not be amended

Appendix 1

Criteria applied to determine eligibility to transport to a Post 16 provider

1. The following criteria apply to all students:

Necessity: The Council will provide transport assistance when it is necessary to facilitate the student's attendance at their educational setting.

Minimum distance: The journey from home to school/college must be more than three miles, measured by the nearest available walking route.

Eligible but living within walking distance? Transport may be provided within the walking distance if it is necessary to facilitate attendance. Factors that may be taken into account include:

- c) The student's ability to walk
- d) The student's need to be accompanied by an adult.

Which college or school? Travel assistance will be given to the nearest school or college considered to be the most suitable placement for the student and which offers a course or programme which is designed specifically to meet the special needs of the student concerned. If the course or programme is not specifically designed to meet the needs of those with SEN, travel assistance will be given to the nearest college offering an appropriate course. A course is deemed appropriate where it enables a student to meet his or her career objectives.

A student attending their nearest special school or school with a sixth form named in his or her EHCP may qualify, subject to the other criteria detailed in this Appendix.

Pick-up and drop-off points: Where the distance between a nearest pick-up or drop-off point and home or college is less than 1 mile, HCC will not normally provide transport for that part of the journey. However, transport may be provided for students within these distances where this is recommended following an assessment of their individual needs. The criteria used to determine entitlement within walking distance apply in these circumstances.

Journeys to and from other destinations: Transport is not offered to or from points other than the college and home.

Waiting Time: The expectation is that students will share transport and the drop off and collection arrangements are made in line with the college start and finish times. Transport is not able to take into consideration individual student's timetables and where appropriate, the transport arrangement may include a waiting time at the start and/or end of the day.

Residential Placements: Some students with complex and/or severe needs are placed in a residential out of county special school or college because there is no appropriate provision available locally. Such students will receive transport at the start and end of each term, half term and at other school/college closures. Any additional transport will be the responsibility of parents/carers.

2. The following apply additionally to student's aged 16 or 17 in September 2022:

Parental Assistance: The Council expects that parents and carers take responsibility for facilitating their child's attendance in education where they are able to do so. Families/applicants may apply for transport and explain their circumstances which make support from HCC with transport necessary to enable their child to attend their place of education or training. All requests for transport will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Charges: If transport is provided by HCC, a parental contribution may be levied.

When the student's parents are in receipt of Income Support; income-based Jobseekers Allowance; income-related Employment and Support Allowance; support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit; Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190); Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit; or Universal Credit, the charge will be waived.

Families in receipt of free school meals (due to low income) are not required to pay the contribution.

Families with a low income, but not in receipt of the above benefits, where the imposition of the charge would reduce their income to around £16,190; or those with exceptional circumstances, may apply for a discretionary waiver or reduction in charge.

3. The following apply to student's aged 18 when the transport starts in September 2022 or already 18 at the time of application or 19 or over and continuing on a course that they started before their 19th birthday:

Parental assistance: There will be no expectation that a parent will assist with their adult child's transport arrangement, although parents who wish to do so will be welcome to support their adult child's transport arrangement.

Charges: If transport is provided by HCC, a parental contribution may be levied.

When the student's parents are in receipt of Income Support; income-based Jobseekers Allowance; income-related Employment and Support Allowance; support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit; Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190); Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit; or Universal Credit, the charge will be waived.

Families in receipt of free school meals (due to low income) are not required to pay the contribution.

Families with a low income, but not in receipt of the above benefits, where the imposition of the charge would reduce their income to around £16,190; or those with exceptional circumstances, may apply for a discretionary waiver or reduction in charge.

4. The following applies to students aged 19 or over and starting a new course:

Charges: If transport is provided, no contribution towards the cost of transport will be levied .

5. Home to School Transport - Review/Appeals Process

Parents and /or Young People who wish to challenge a decision about:

- a) the transport arrangements offered
- b) their own or their child's eligibility
- c) the distance measurement in relation to minimum distances; and
- d) the safety of the route
- e) cost

may do so by writing to The Transport Team, Elizabeth II Court North (2nd Floor), Children's Services Department, Hampshire County Council, The Castle, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8UG or emailed to school.transport.cse@hants.gov.uk.

In the first instance, a case will be reviewed by a Senior Officer of HCC. In cases against refusal of a transport service, there is recourse to a further appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel.

For concerns about the transport arrangement offered, a senior officer outside of the School Transport Team and who holds a comprehensive understanding of the transport policy and legislative framework will make decisions on appeals.

The full Review/Appeals Process in relation to assistance with travel and eligibility is detailed within Hampshire County Council's Home to School Transport Policy, a link to which is included below. The process by which Home to School Transport appeals are handled for a young person attending a post-16 provision matches that detailed in this Policy.

[Home to School Transport Policy](#)

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HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	23 March 2022
Title:	The Future of Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Brian Pope

Tel: 02392 441471

Email: brian.pope@hants.gov.uk

Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to set-out the feedback received and recommend a way forward following a four-week period public of consultation about the future of Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School.

Recommendation(s)

2. That the publication of a Public Notice be approved to close Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School with effect from 31 August 2022

Executive Summary

3. On the 10 November 2021 a consultation on the future of Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School was approved. This consultation ran from 12 November 2021 until 10 December 2021. A public meeting was held at the school on 24 November 2021 to allow parents and other stakeholders to put forward their views on the consultation directly to officers, offer alternate proposals and ask any questions they might have had.
4. This report sets out the feedback from that consultation, analyses the feedback and recommends that, on balance, the best way forward in terms of the education of children in this area, is to close the school and make provision elsewhere for the small number of children affected.

5. The report therefore seeks approval to publish a Public Notice to close Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School with effect from 31 August 2022.

Contextual information

6. Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School is a small rural Church of England school. Its performance, as rated by Ofsted, has been inconsistent. Over the past seven years it has been judged to be inadequate in two separate Ofsted judgements, the most recent being in July 2019.
7. The school has received Ofsted monitoring visits in February 2020, November 2020, January 2021 and May 2021. Following these visits, the school remains in a category of concern, despite improvements that have been noted. These improvements rely heavily upon external support.
8. The Education & Adoption Act 2016 places a duty on the Secretary of State to issue an academy order to all inadequate maintained schools and secure a sponsored academy solution for the school. The school was judged inadequate in July 2019 and the academy order was served on the school by the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) on 25 September 2019. Efforts to secure an academy sponsor with the appropriate experience and credentials required to effectively support the school have been ongoing, however declining pupil numbers and financial viability concerns have proved a major obstacle for those trusts who considered taking on the school.
9. Throughout the pandemic, officers in the RSC's office have met with the Local Authority on a weekly basis. Finding a sponsor to take on Hatherden Primary School has been a very regular feature of these meetings. Following the initial consultation period, officers fed back to the RSC's office that there had been public disquiet that a sponsor had not been found. However, the lack of a credible plan for sustained viability has prevented the RSC's office from securing a sponsor solution.
10. Specific discussions have taken place with the RSC about the potential of federation with another local school, however, the RSC has determined that this is not an option, and the academy order must remain in place.
11. Discussions had been held with the RSC and Diocese about the future of the school and it was collectively agreed that a consultation process with regard to the closure of the school should be held. Both the Diocese and the RSC have been kept informed throughout the consultation period and their views on the recommendation within this report are attached at Appendix A.

12. The school had 47 pupils on roll in the October 2020 census, but this has reduced over the last year to 33 pupils at the October 2021 census as parents continue to choose other schools. Four pupils have joined in the Early Years reception age range this year so far against a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 16, (7 December 2021). There are indications that the number of pupils joining the school in September 2022 may exceed this low number but will still fall well short of the PAN.
13. Budget reductions, driven by smaller pupil numbers, have led to a restructuring of the staff team and this has resulted in fewer staff taking on a wider set of management responsibilities which reduces management capacity.
14. In October 2014 Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School was categorised 'Inadequate' by Ofsted. Although a subsequent inspection in September 2015 rated the school as 'Good', following a period of Local Authority (LA) support, the school has been unable to sustain this rating. It was last inspected in July 2019, when inspectors judged the school to be 'Inadequate'. The inspectors noted that safeguarding arrangements required urgent review and sharpening. In addition, inspectors noted that leaders needed to improve the leadership and management of the school, including governance, the quality of teaching and learning, and the progress made by pupils in writing and mathematics.
15. The school has benefitted from intensive, and largely funded, support from Hampshire Inspection and Advisory Service (HIAS) in order to improve the educational experiences and safeguarding of children in the school. Further support has also been provided through the Diocese of Winchester and via the DfE funded school to school support through a local Teaching School.
16. Since the inspection in 2019, Ofsted have monitored the school four times. At each of the monitoring visits where Ofsted made a judgement, inspectors noted that leaders, and those responsible for governance were taking effective action. Despite this, inspectors also noted that the impact of the extensive external support provided to the school, by the LA and the local teaching school, has been impeded by ongoing changes in the school's structure and leadership related to the fall in pupil numbers, as well as the challenges of the pandemic.
17. In the January 2021 monitoring visit, it was acknowledged that leaders and those responsible for governance are taking effective action to provide education in the current circumstances. It was also noted that a number of pupils had left the school and the school was now running two classes for the number of pupils on roll.

18. A monitoring visit in May 2021 concluded that leaders and managers are taking effective action towards the removal of the serious weaknesses designation. However, it also explained that ‘leaders’ work to improve the curriculum remains ongoing. A number of factors have impeded the pace of this urgently needed work. Managing changes to the school’s structure and leadership led to some initial momentum being lost.’ It further comments, ‘The Local Authority and Diocese continue to invest heavily in supporting the school. By coordinating their work, this is enabling leaders to concentrate on a streamlined set of school-improvement priorities. Currently, local authority and diocesan support are focused on curriculum planning. This work is freeing up school leaders’ capacity to focus on other priorities and the day-to-day running of the school.’
19. It is also the view of the Local Authority School Improvement Team that the changes in staffing related to falling numbers, and associated budget pressures, has an adverse effect on leaders and teachers’ collective capacity to improve the school at a sufficient pace, despite the considerable external support they receive. In addition, when the school is once again good, and no-longer receives additional support, it will be challenging for a school of this size, with the related reduced leadership and teaching capacity, to respond to the common place challenges faced by schools on a regular basis, such as the recent review of the primary curriculum. Similarly, the many and various leadership and management roles that are typically shared out amongst a range of school staff will, in this school, sit with only the interim acting headteacher and one other teacher.
20. This presents leaders and governors with challenges around the effectiveness of leadership and management in addition to the workload and wellbeing of individual staff. There are also implications for the curriculum experience for children as a result of very small numbers in some year groups. The school has already lost pupils because parents want them to attend a school with children their own age and this leaves those pupils who remain at Hatherden increasingly isolated from their peers.

Finance

21. Set out in the table below is the budgetary position for the school up until the end of the financial year 2023/24.

<i>Financial year</i>	<i>In Year +surplus / -deficit £</i>	<i>Cumulative position £</i>
<i>Balance from 2020/21</i>		+88,222
<i>2021/22</i>	+45,227	+133,449
<i>2022/23</i>	+17,704	+151,153
<i>2023/24</i>	+14,642	+165,795

22. The in-year surplus for 2021/22 is because the school received funding for 47 pupils as per the October 2020 census and the school has run less classes with the Headteacher teaching for part of the time.
23. However, it is the governing body's intention to recruit a part time member of staff up to 0.6fte in addition to the two existing members of staff.
24. The in-year surplus for 2022/23 and 2023/24 assumes the school will be funded for sufficient pupils for this scenario to unfold and the teaching costs are also assessed to reduce. The funding for 2022/23 is based on 33 children in attendance at the school at the October 2021 census and the funding for 2023/24 is based on estimated pupil numbers of 35 children. The school are assuming seven children will join the Early Years reception class in September 2022 however the school is losing pupils across other year groups.
25. The number of on-time first preference applications for a place in the Early Years reception in September 2022 is five, therefore there is some risk that the actual numbers on roll for funding purposes will be lower than the forecast of seven. Any reduction in pupils will reduce the level of funding received (average funding per pupil is £3,659) which will need to be met from the school's balance.

Consultation

26. Comments and questions were received during the consultation process and are set out below:
27. Q: Why is this being proposed now particularly given the impact of Covid over the last 18 months?
 A: Despite all the external support put into the school through the Local Authority, Teaching School and Diocese, the evidence suggests that sustained improvement will not be maintained once this support is reduced / removed. The challenges the pandemic has brought to all schools over the past 18 months is fully recognised however, they cannot be allowed to mask the continuing issues faced by the school, prior to and following the issuing of the Academy Order on 25 September 2019.

 It was only after lengthy discussion between the Local Authority, Diocese, DfE and RSC that a decision was taken to open a consultation on the future of the school.
28. Q: The school provides a wonderful education and environment for those children to attend
 A: The issue faced is related to the quality of education currently being provided to children in the school not the environment. The level of quality

can only be sustained with significant on-going input from the Local Authority, Teaching School and Diocese. Without this input and, as a result of low numbers reducing staff numbers, the school does not have the leadership capacity to sustain a high quality of education to children in the school.

29. Q: Small is good and allows some children to flourish who would not in a larger setting

A: Small schools can be good in many ways and provide the right environment for many children to thrive and achieve. However, all schools must have the capacity to run successfully under their own leadership and management and this is the particular element that cannot be sustained at Hatherden.

30. Q: If we give the school time, the school will recover

A: The current situation has not suddenly appeared; it has been on-going for over two years now, arguably for eight, and solutions explored within the conditions set by the Department for Education. To date no solution has been found and there is little prospect for one being agreed within these current regulations.

31. Q: How many potential sponsors were approached by the DfE/RSC?

A: Eight separate Trusts were approached to sponsor the school, but all declined owing to their lack of capacity plus concerns around the school's financial viability and its declining pupil numbers. In addition, the non-faith Trusts were also concerned about the need to make changes to their articles to reflect the religious ethos of the school.

32. Q: What will be the future impact of housing in the area?

A: The forecast level of housing in the area can be managed through existing provision in the area should a decision be taken to close Hatherden.

33. Q: There are very few pupil places available in the area so how will the Hatherden pupils be accommodated if the school closes?

A: Discussions have been held with a local school and it has been agreed that the school will be able to accommodate any Hatherden pupils who would like a place at that school.

34. Q: Why is the Local Authority and the Diocese not drumming-up interest with prospective parents?

A: Schools individually promote their provision and do so in a framework of co-operation with all schools in the area so that schools are not seen to be directly competitive with each other but, still meet the expectation that parents can make choices in their children's access to education. The Local Authority performs its statutory function in the admissions process, publishing its

statutory composite prospectus of all schools in its administrative area that carries the required information about all schools.

35. Q: What has the Local Authority and the Diocese done to find a potential sponsor?

A: The Local Authority has liaised closely with the RSC's office who has responsibility for finding a suitable academy sponsor. Since the consultation has ended Hampshire County Council has been in contact with the RSC regarding the possibility of the school becoming federated with another school or another Academy Trust being found to run the school. The reply from the DfE states 'the department does not consider a federation a suitably resilient and stable option for Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School, however they would be happy to consider a strong school converting to become an academy to sponsor the school if Hampshire can identify a suitable school'. Similarly, on the potential of an Academy Trust being found, the DfE stated 'the feedback (from another Academy Trust) is that the school would only be considered if Hampshire was able to develop a credible plan for sustained viability (effectively increasing pupil growth). As this is not the case, the option of the school joining this Academy Trust will not be taken forward'.

36. Q: What support has the school received from Hampshire County Council, the Diocese and the Teaching School over the last couple of years?

A: The equivalent of 15 officer days from the Diocese together with over 30 officer days of support from HIAS. This support has included

- Safeguarding, support and advice for school leaders and staff.
- Leadership support for school leaders and governors from the LA officers, the Executive Headteacher of a Teaching School, a National Leader of Governance and the headteacher of an effective local school.
- Curriculum support and guidance for leaders and teachers particularly focussed on English and mathematics. In addition, LA advisors developed a three class and then a two class curriculum because school staff did not have the capacity to undertake this work in a timely manner and fulfil all their other responsibilities.
- Early Years leadership and teaching guidance and support.
- Regular monitoring and evaluation of the work of leaders and governors to improve the provision they make for the education of their pupils.

37. There were also some questions about decision-making process, and it was explained which DfE guidance is being followed with this proposal.

Current DfE policy was explained that any school judged to be inadequate by Ofsted has an academy order placed upon it leading to the school being removed from the Local Authority and placed into a Multi Academy Trust.

Kit Malthouse MP has written to the Local Authority following receipt of a number of letters from constituents. Replies have been sent that detail the background to the proposal and the process being followed.

38. Comment: Expression of love for small village primary schools. Vital to community, centre of village, nice all ages can mix (not a parent of a child in Hatherden themselves).

Response: Small schools can be good in many ways and provide the right environment for many children to thrive and achieve. However, all schools must have the capacity to run successfully under their own leadership.

39. Comment: The children are happy at the school and enjoy the forest school teaching provided by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. The school place an emphasis on pupil lead learning and the children receive a well-rounded education.

Response: The pupils are happy at the school, but the school does not have the sustainable leadership capacity to deliver a high quality of education to children in the school.

40. Comment: The church is in support of the school staying open, the school is financially healthy, closure would lead to the demise of the village / church.

Response: The school is financially healthy at present, but this is based on a small number of teachers. To improve the educational standards at the school additional leadership is required and this would then push the budget into an annual deficit. Although the church is in support of the school remaining open the Diocese fully supports the consultation around school closure.

41. Comment: Concerns about closing the school and young families not being attracted to the area/ having to travel to get to school thus creating a larger carbon footprint. Urged to consider wider consequential impact.

Response: Many pupils already travel to other surrounding schools for their education. The provision of one bus to take all pupils to a neighbouring school could reduce the overall carbon footprint.

42. Comment: Ex teacher with increasing concerns re: educational standards, safeguarding and finances. Only option is for the school to close.

43. Additional responses were received through the on-line response form. Respondents were asked to identify how they were connected to the school, which option would be their preference and any further comments they wished to make about the consultation.

44. Of the 254 responses received about how they were connected to the school, 72 were parents, five were members of staff, 19 were pupils, seven were

governors and 151 described themselves as something other than those three categories, including members of the community.

45. Of the three preferences available to the respondents 324 wished to leave the school open, 41 sought to seek an academy sponsor and 17 wished to see the school closed.
46. Other comments received through the on-line process are as follows:
47. 79 people said that the school should remain as it is an integral part of the village community, with a further 10 saying that the school was an asset for the church.
48. 45 people stated that, in their opinion, a small school was better for the children at the school with many parents choosing to send their child(ren) to a small school.
49. 39 respondents were happy with the education being received by the pupils.
50. 34 people suggested that the school be given a chance to improve.
51. 31 commented that as Covid had adversely affected the school the consultation should not be happening now.
52. Nine wished to wait for a new Ofsted judgement before a decision on the future of the school was decided.
53. 52 people said that the school had failed the pupils, mostly due to the poor leadership in the school and time should be given to the school to improve.
54. 25 people commented on the way in which the school delivers well rounded pupils with the ability to hold adult conversations on a number of topics.
55. 28 remarked that the school was a happy place for the children.
56. 38 people identified that the staff are working incredibly hard to provide a good education for the pupils.
57. 44 respondents stated that the mixed age teaching worked well in the school and it allowed each child to mix with both older and younger pupils.
58. 41 people suggested that the school should be federated with another school or to seek an academy sponsor. Four people suggested that the County

Council should try and get the academy order revoked to allow federation. One response suggested that the County Council should be challenging the DfE on the proposed academisation ruling and that the consultation should be paused until answers had been received from the RSC.

59. 29 people said the school was a nurturing place for the children with 55 suggesting that the pupils were flourishing in the school.
60. 13 thought the school was improving under the new leadership and that this should be given time to see if this improvement remains.
61. 12 people said that the school has an excellent learning environment with a further 12 stating that the Forest School element is an asset that many schools do not have.
62. 17 people remarked on the opportunity of the pupils to learn Spanish.
63. 21 respondents said that the school needed to remain to attract younger families to the village and a number of these respondents made reference to the proposed housing development in the village.
64. 27 people said that the school is welcoming, and the pupils are well behaved, including older pupils looking after younger ones.
65. 13 people agreed that the children have a great experience at the school.
66. Eight respondents said that closing the school is a great upheaval for all concerned.
67. Nine people suggested that the County Council should promote the school in order to attract more pupils into the school which was a question also asked at the meeting with the response set out in section 29.
68. Five people asked where the children will go to school should the closure happen, and this is laid out in the admissions section below.
69. Eight responses were received by email directly after the consultation had closed. These responses are set out below:
70. HCC need to support the school. Closing would remove local choice. Leadership at the school needs to be better.

71. Local school is vital. Should try to find academy sponsor now Covid is settling down.
72. My child is happy in a small school and feels valued.
73. Queries information provided at the meeting, states that families will not be drawn to the village if there is no school.
74. Email asking why we're consulting to close now after two years of a pandemic? More time needs to be spent finding a sponsor.
75. Children are happy, are being well educated and things have changed since the 2019 Ofsted report.
76. School should be given a reprieve and an opportunity to build.
77. My child is happy, well-educated and making progress.

Legal implications

78. The Council has the power to make a proposal to close a maintained school under the Education and Improvement Act 2006. When formulating any closure proposals in relation to a rural primary school the council must have regard to:
 - (a) The likely effect of the discontinuance of the school on the local community
 - (b) The availability, and likely cost to the local authority, of transport to other schools,
 - (c) Any increase in the use of motor vehicles which is likely to result from the discontinuance of the school, and the likely effects of any such increase, and
 - (d) Any alternatives to the discontinuance of the school.
79. In addition, the Council is also required to have regard to the statutory guidance issued by the DfE when deciding whether a maintained school should close. The relevant statutory guidance is 'Opening and closing maintained schools' dated November 2019 and 'The making significant changes (prescribed alterations) to maintained schools' dated October 2018.

80. The guidance states that the Council should be satisfied that there are sufficient surplus places elsewhere in the local area to accommodate the displaced pupils, and the likely supply and future demand for places in the medium and long term. The Council should also take into account the overall quality of alternative places on the local area and the popularity of other local schools.
81. The guidance states that the Council should adopt a presumption against the closure of rural schools. However, this does not mean that a rural school will never close, but the case for closure should be strong and a proposal must be clearly in the best interests of educational provision in the area. When producing a proposal to close a rural primary school, the proposer must consider:
- *the likely effect of the closure of the school on the local community;* the closure of Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School can be mitigated by the proposed relocation of pupils to Appleshaw, St Peters Primary School if parents wish to have their children educated at the school.
 - *the proportion of pupils attending the school from within the local community, i.e., is the school being used by the local community;* Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School is not the school of choice by the majority of its community.
 - *educational standards at the school and the likely effect on standards at neighbouring schools;* Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School was last inspected by Ofsted in July 2019. The school was graded as Inadequate. At the four monitoring visits undertaken by Ofsted since then the inspectors noted that leaders, and those responsible for governance were taking effective action towards the removal of the serious weaknesses designation and providing education in the current circumstances. Despite this, inspectors also noted that the impact of the extensive external support provided to the school, by the LA and the local teaching school, has been impeded by ongoing changes in the school's structure and leadership related to the fall in pupil numbers (with the school reducing to two classrooms), as well as the challenges of the pandemic. It is likely that, following the pattern seen before, when the LA reduces its support, the school will be unable to maintain the progress it has made to date. The Section 8 inspection in May 2021 concluded that leaders and managers are taking effective action towards the removal of the serious weaknesses designation. However, it also explained that 'leaders' work to improve the curriculum remains ongoing. A number of factors have impeded the pace of this urgently needed work. Managing changes to the school's structure and leadership led to some initial momentum being lost.' It further comments, 'The Local Authority and Diocese continue to invest heavily in supporting the school. By coordinating their work, this is enabling leaders to concentrate on a streamlined set of school-improvement priorities. Currently, local authority and diocesan support

are focused on curriculum planning. This work is freeing up school leaders' capacity to focus on other priorities and the day-to-day running of the school.'

- *the availability, and likely cost to the LA, of transport to other schools;* the closure of Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School will incur some additional transport costs to provide Home to School Transport for children living in the catchment area of Hatherden Primary School. Each child's transport eligibility will be assessed; transport is provided if the journey to the new catchment school, Appleshaw, St. Peter's Primary School, for an 8 year-old child is more than 2 miles or for children aged 8 and over the journey is more than 3 miles. Children living outside Hatherden's catchment area will also have their transport eligibility assessed, in line with the Home to School Transport policy, based on their home address and the school they attend.
- *whether the school is now surplus to requirements (e.g. because there are surplus places elsewhere in the local area which can accommodate displaced pupils, and there is no predicted demand for the school in the medium or long term);* there are sufficient surplus places in Appleshaw, St Peters Primary School to accommodate the displaced pupils Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School now and also the longer term.
- *any increase in the use of motor vehicles which is likely to result from the closure of the school, and the likely effects of any such increases;* currently some families travel to Hatherden for their educational needs. The closure of Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School and the subsequent relocation of pupils to Appleshaw, St Peters Primary School will not necessarily increase the overall use of the motor vehicle for the school run as parents drive their children to Appleshaw instead of Hatherden.
- *any alternatives to the closure of the school;* As the school has an academy order against it the only other option is for the school to become an academy. As set out earlier in the report specific discussions have taken place with the RSC about the potential of federation with another local school, however, the RSC has determined that this is not an option, and the academy order must remain in place. The local authority believes the closure of Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School provides the best opportunity to stabilise the educational offer in that part of the county.
- *transport implications i.e., the availability, and likely cost of transport to other schools and sustainability issues;* Hatherden catchment resident pupils will be entitled to local authority funded transport to their new catchment school, Appleshaw, St Peters Primary School, if Hatherden

Church of England (Aided) Primary School closes. Children living outside the Hatherden catchment area will have their eligibility assessed in line with the Hampshire County Council Home to School Transport policy.

- *the size of the school and whether it puts the children at an educational disadvantage e.g., in terms of breadth of curriculum or resources available;* with a possible number on roll of 32 for the 2022/23 academic year the school is likely to be able to run two classes, one for Key Stage 1 pupils and the other for Key Stage 2 pupils. Running one class across three (KS1) or four (KS2) years will impact on the breadth of curriculum that can be offered at the school.
- *the overall and long-term impact on the local community of the closure of the village school and of the loss of the building as a community facility;* no decision has been made about the future of the Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School site and it may be possible to make it available for the community.
- *wider school organisation and capacity of good schools in the area to accommodate displaced pupils;* pupil numbers in the area are forecast to fall over the next few years so it is anticipated that there will be places available at good schools in the area.

Personnel Implications

82. Staffing implications will be considered subject to the outcome of the consultation. This, if required, will be done in accordance with the Council's and School's Restructuring, Redundancy and Redeployment Policy, including a duty to consult with those staff potentially affected by any proposed closure or transfer. Details of staff consultations will be set out, including the timetable for formal discussions with staff and unions. Any TUPE implications will also be considered at that stage.

Admissions

83. The number of pupils offered a place for Year R in September 2021 for Hatherden Primary School was 4 (against a PAN of 16) and for Appleshaw, St Peters Primary School was 8 (against a PAN of 15).

84. The number of on-time first preference applications for a place in Year R in September 2022 for Hatherden Primary School was 5 and for Appleshaw, St Peters Primary School was 8.

85. Children currently attending Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School and those due to be on roll in September 2022, will be accommodated in Appleshaw, St Peters Primary School. Parents can express preferences for

other school places at any time and those requests will be handled by the Schools Admission Team in line with published policies.

Transport

86. Subject to the outcome of the consultation any Transport issues arising will be managed in-line with the County Council's Home to School Transport policy.

Conclusions

87. The RSC has been unable to find a suitable academy sponsor for Hatherden CE (Aided) Primary School and has confirmed that federation is not an option the DfE would support. The small size of the school means it is unable to sustain a leadership model capable of providing the breadth of leadership needed within a primary school that could deliver high quality education. Consequently, a Public Notice should be published to commence the statutory consultation to close Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School with effect from 31 August 2022.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	Yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	Yes
OR	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u> The Future of Hatherden Church of England Primary School	<u>Date</u> 10 November 2021
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. **Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA):**

The EIA can be found at the link below:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/equality/equality-impact-assessment/children-services>

Appendix A



Director of Education
Jeff Williams

Steve Crocker
Director of Children's Services
Hampshire County Council
Winchester
SO23 8UG

10th March 2022

Dear Steve

Hatherden Church of England Primary School

Further to our previous correspondence, and my close liaison with senior colleagues in HIAS, I acknowledge the delay in the process of decision-making around the future of Hatherden School, and the added uncertainty and concern this has unavoidably caused for current and potential parents, staff and the community.

The Directive Academy Order resulting from the Inadequate finding by Ofsted has been a focus for the Regional Schools Commissioner, her team, and myself. Together and independently we have sought solutions, particularly in finding a Multi Academy Trust as a home for the school with the irreversible requirement to academise.

This has not resulted in securing a MAT home for the school, as potential MATs comment on the declining pupil numbers and the consequent impact on a sustainable budget, coupled with the vulnerability of staffing and changes in senior leadership that will inevitably impact on sustainable education. Equally, Ofsted's judgment regarding a lack of capacity is important.

Although aware of the policy, I nonetheless requested a consideration of Federation for the school, but this was turned down by the DfE, understandably, in the policy context.

While acutely aware of the impact the decision will have on the community in the immediate and long-term, unfortunately there appears to be little option but to publish the notice to consult on closure, if this is the Cabinet Member's decision. It is rare for a school to be closed,

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and in the Hatherden situation, an historic presence, deeply embedded in a host of aspects of life in the village, would be sorely missed and greatly regretted.

Such decisions are not easy, but in the current situation, we appreciate the RSC's and LA's decision and sadly realise that this would need to be implemented for the future education and flourishing of children in the area.

We will continue to work closely with the LA and school, along with other CofE schools in the area to ensure that transition happens in a timely and sensitive manner. The pastoral welfare of those impacted is important, and we again will work alongside others in this respect.

Yours sincerely

Jeff Williams
Director of Education





Regional Schools Commissioner's Office
South East and South London
Trafalgar House, 1 Bedford Park,
Croydon, CR0 2AQ

Email: RSC.SESL@education.gov.uk

Brian Pope - Assistant Director, Education and Inclusion
Hampshire County Council and Isle of Wight Council
3rd Floor, Ell Court North
Winchester SO23 8UG

11 March 2022

Email: brian.pope@hants.gov.uk

Dear Brian,

Hatherden CofE Primary School

Thank you for your email of 8 March about Hatherden CofE Primary School.

As stated in my letter dated 23 July 2021, despite our ongoing efforts, it has not been possible to find a suitable sponsor for Hatherden due to viability concerns and declining pupil numbers. I, therefore, have no objections to Hampshire County Council continuing with the closure process.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Claire Burton".

Claire Burton
RSC South East and South London
Department for Education