

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
<b>Date:</b>	15 January 2018
<b>Title:</b>	Proposals to close two overnight residential respite homes for children with disabilities as the County Council moves towards a wider range of overnight respite services.
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

**Contact name:** Amber James

**Tel:** 01962 845973

**Email:** Amber.james@hants.gov.uk

#### 1. The decision:

- a) That, taking into account relevant information and the outcomes of the public and staff consultation, and the petition received, the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services gives approval that Merrydale and Sunbeams residential respite homes for disabled children close in Spring 2018.
- b) That a regular report is produced showing whether children currently receiving respite care at Merrydale and Sunbeams have been found suitable alternative arrangements for their care, including travel provision between their homes, their school and the care location.

#### 2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1. Approval is a legislative requirement.
- 2.2 Hampshire County Council's strategic approach to meeting the needs of disabled children and their families who meet the need for overnight respite is to develop a wider range of options than purely support from overnight residential respite provision to provide a sustainable offer to disabled children and their families now and in the future.

#### 3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. Investing in the current buildings of Merrydale and Sunbeams.
- 3.2. Building a new purpose built facility.
- 3.3. Converting Merrydale to a long stay residential home.
- 3.4. Keeping Merrydale and Sunbeams open.

#### 4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

**5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.**

**6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.**

**7. Statement from the Decision Maker:**

In reaching this decision, I have taken into account the pre-scrutiny of the recommendations undertaken by the Children and Young People's Select Committee. I also note the Equality Impact Assessments that have been carried out, as referenced in the report.

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

-----

**15 January 2018**

**Councillor Keith Mans,  
Executive Lead Member for Children's Services**