

## DECISION RECORD <sup>1</sup>

Officer Key Decisions are subject to the Council's Call-In Procedure (Annex 9 of the Council's Constitution <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/freedom-of-information-and-council-data/open-data-statistics-about-hertfordshire/who-we-are-and-what-we-do/who-we-are-and-what-we-do.aspx>)

**Subject:** To formally consult on developing a new SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disability) Information, advice and support offer  
*(Please use the same title as provided in the Forward Plan)*

Staff Contact: Sue Chapman

Executive Member: Teresa Heritage

Tel: 01992 555 269

Portfolio: Services for Young People

### 1. **Decision**

To formally consult on developing a new SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disability) Information, advice and support offer

### 2. **Reasons for the decision**

2.1 Transforming SEND services are leading on the development of a new SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disability) Information, advice and support (IAS) offer. The vision and logic model for this were shared and agreed by the Children's Services Board in December 2019 and Elected Member Briefing January 2020.

2.2 Legal services advise the development of a new (IAS) offer should be considered as a review of the Local Offer, which according to paragraph 54 of The Special Educational Needs (Local Offer) Regulations 2014, indicates a need for formal consultation.

2.2 The new offer includes the following plans:

- to establish a single telephone helpline to act as a primary point for contact for families for information, advice and related support,
- to strengthen the existing SENDIASS service to develop the single information, advice and support telephone helpline within SENDIASS and
- for SENDIASS to be the provider of choice for specialist face to face information, advice, and support within Hertfordshire, simplifying the overall approach and offer.

2.3 The implications of these proposals include that the provision of Kids Hubs would not be extended further or re-commissioned, ending 31 October 2020 and the current £100k p.a. funding directed to the Kids Hubs Contract would be available in full to support an enhanced SENDIASS offer.

### 3. **Alternative options considered and rejected <sup>2</sup>**

Not applicable.

4. **Consultation**

- (a) Comments of Executive Member <sup>3 4</sup>
- (b) Comments of other consultees <sup>5</sup>

5. **Following consultation with, and the concurrence of the Executive Member, I am proceeding with the proposed decision.**

Signed: .....  .....

Title: .....Director of Children's Services ..... Date: .....4.3.2020.....

6. Copies of agreed document to:

- All consultees
- Chairman, and Vice-Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Hard & electronic copy available for public inspection both at County Hall and on [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk) Democratic Services - Room 213 County Hall. [democratic.services@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

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<sup>1</sup> for guidance see Chief Legal Officer's note "Taking Decisions"

<sup>2</sup> details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer at the time the decision was made

<sup>3</sup> record any conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member consulted. If an Executive Member declares a conflict of interest DO NOT PROCEED without seeking advice from the Chief Legal Officer

<sup>4</sup> If the matter has general significance for the Council and/or is, or is likely to be, controversial, then the officer shall consult the appropriate Executive Member before proceeding. In some cases it will be necessary to consult more than one Executive Member, and in some cases the Leader of the Council will need to be consulted

<sup>5</sup> If the matter has local significance, but no general significance for the Council and no controversial aspects, the officer shall consult or inform the local member in writing (or by e mail) and proceed. It is essential that all officers responsible for delivering services ensure that local members are kept well briefed on issues affecting their areas.