



Decision Ref. No.

B078/20

DECISION RECORD

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:

Whether to agree to the statutory proposal to close the Primary Support Base at Andrews Lane Primary School taking into consideration the outcome of the statutory notice period. Agreement would also lead to the associated change in the age range for Rivers Education Support Centre.

Staff Contact: Samantha Young

Executive Member: Terry Douris

Tel: 01992 555754

Portfolio: Executive Member for Education, Libraries & Localism

1. Decision

The Director of Children's Services agrees to the proposal to close the Primary Support Base (PSB) at Andrews Lane Primary School by 1 January 2021, as no objections were made to the associated statutory notice.

The proposal involves the commissioning of a new primary behaviour support service for the area, including outreach support to mainstream schools and intensive short-stay schooling, from Rivers Education Support Centre (Rivers ESC) in Hoddesdon, from January 2021, for which Cabinet, on 21 September 2020, approved the change in its age range conditional upon this subsequent approval to close the PSB.

2. Reasons for the decision

In Hertfordshire, specialist support for primary-age pupils with emotional and behavioural needs in mainstream schools is delivered through a range of services.

In some areas the intensive short-stay schooling services are provided by a PSB. This has been the case in the Borough of Broxbourne, where these services had been delivered from a PSB, located at and managed by Andrews Lane Primary School. Other areas have successfully enhanced provision by moving to a model where primary behaviour services are provided by the local ESC. Since 30 September 2019 there have been no children receiving intensive short-stay schooling at the PSB located at Andrews Lane Primary School.

Following a review of primary behaviour support services in the Borough of Broxbourne, the county council and the local DSPL (Delivering Special Provision Locally) partnership, consider that moving to the ESC model would have a positive impact for pupils and schools in the area. The proposal will provide enhanced education opportunities in improved facilities and the capacity will increase to 12 pupils.

There were no objections received following the publication of the statutory notice.

3. **Alternative options considered and rejected**

None

4. **Consultation**

(a) Comments of Executive Member

The Executive Member has no comments other than to concur with the Director's decision to agree to the proposal.

(b) Comments of other consultees

None

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

Signed:

Title: Jenny Coles, Director of Children's Services Date: 13 November 2020

6. Copies of agreed document to:

- Democratic Services, Room 213, County Hall (signed paper original).
Electronic copy to: Democratic.Services@hertfordshire.gov.uk
(for public inspection both at County Hall and on www.hertfordshire.gov.uk)

and following the expiry of the call-in period to:

- Executive Member(s) - Councillor Terry Douris and Councillor Teresa Heritage
- Local Members – Councillors Lesley Greensmyth, Dee Hart, Dave Hewitt, Tim Hutchings, Paul Mason and Mark Mills-Bishop
- Chair (Councillor David Andrews), and Vice-Chairs (Councillors Nigel Quinton and Lynn Chesterman OBE) of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC)
- Office of the Schools Adjudicator (osa.team@osa.gsi.gov.uk)
- The Governing Body of Andrews Lane Primary School and the Management Committee of Rivers ESC – email to school head teacher to forward to the governing body
- The local Church of England diocese - Canon David Morton, Director of Education, Diocese of St Albans (dde@stalbans.anglican.org)
- The local Roman Catholic diocese - Mr JP Morrison, Director of Education, Diocese of Westminster (jpmorrison@rcdow.org.uk; education@rcdow.org.uk)
- Department for Education (DfE)
(SchoolOrganisation.NOTIFICATIONS@education.gov.uk)
- Herts Parent Carer Involvement (HPCI); Carol Kelsey
(coordinator@hertsparentcarers.org.uk; contact@hertsparentcarers.org.uk)