

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: To agree to the statutory proposal to open a Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) at The Priory School, Hitchin, from September 2022, taking into consideration the outcome of the statutory notice period.

Staff Contact: Samantha Young Tel: 01992 555754

Executive Member: Terry Douris

Portfolio: Executive Member for Education, Libraries & Lifelong Learning

1. Decision

The Director of Children's Services agrees to the proposal to open a Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) at The Priory School, Hitchin, from September 2022.

The proposal is to open an SRP at The Priory School for up to 20 pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) to meet the needs of children and young people with social communication difficulties, including autism, in addition to children with severe speech disorders and developmental language disorder.

2. Reasons for the decision

On 14 December 2020, Cabinet¹ considered a proposal to develop a countywide pattern of Specialist Resource Provision in mainstream schools and to commence public consultation on the specific proposals at the four secondary schools in Phase 1 of the SRP strategy, including The Priory School, Hitchin. Having considered the outcome of that consultation, Cabinet² subsequently, on 22 March 2021, decided to publish a statutory notice. No objections were received to that notice and the Director of Children's Services is therefore making the decision using her delegated powers.

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

¹ [Agenda and minutes for Cabinet on Monday, 14 December 2020, 2.00 pm | Hertfordshire County Council](#)

² [Agenda and minutes for Cabinet on Monday, 22 March 2021, 2.00 pm | Hertfordshire County Council](#)

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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: 2 July 2021

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) – Councillors Terry Douris and Teresa Heritage
- Deputy Executive Members - Councillors Fiona Hill and Mark Mills-Bishop
- Local Members - Councillors Judi Billing MBE, Paul Clark and David Barnard
- Chair (Councillor David Andrews), and Vice-Chairs (Councillors Richard Butler and Sandy Walkington) of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Office of the Schools Adjudicator (osa.team@osa.gsi.gov.uk)
- The governing body – email to school head teacher to forward to the governing body
- The trustees of the school (if any)
- 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 - Peter Sweeney, Interim Director, Diocese of Westminster Education Service (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)