

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker</b>	Executive Member for Education
<b>Date:</b>	11 May 2023
<b>Title:</b>	Additional Specialist Education Provision for Hampshire
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

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### 1. Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is:

- a. To gain agreement post public consultation for the Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) Resourced Provision (RP) at Guillemont Junior School, Farnborough.
- b. To gain agreement post public consultation for the redesignation of RP at Morelands Primary School, Waterlooville.
- c. To gain agreement post public consultation in relation to relocating the RP for pupils with a hearing loss, at Wallisdean Junior School to St Jude's Catholic Primary School, Fareham.

### 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1 To make the prescribed alterations to the following:

- ASC RP at Guillemont Junior School.
- The redesignation of RP at Morelands Primary School, Waterlooville.
- The relocation of the RP for pupils with a hearing impairment, at Wallisdean Junior School to St Jude's Catholic Primary School, Fareham

### 3. Executive Summary

3.1 Hampshire County Council is committed to ensuring that all children can access high-quality education, as near to their family and local community as possible.

3.2 Leaders and practitioners are highly ambitious for Children and Young people with SEND in Hampshire to succeed (Ofsted CQC (Care Quality Commission) 2020) <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/44/80472>

- 3.3 There is a statutory duty to provide school places for all children, including those who have special educational needs and/or a disability. We are obliged to further developing successful provision to meet this demand within the Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) sector.
- 3.4 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. On 31 March 2022 in Hampshire there were 13,178 children with EHCPs. An increase of 428 from January of the same year.
- 3.5 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.
- 3.6 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.

#### **4. Contextual information**

##### **Creation of an eight place ASC RP at Guillemont Junior School, Farnborough**

- 4.1 Guillemont Junior School already has an existing, established RP for twelve children for speech, language, and communication needs.
- 4.2 The proposal is to build a new classroom, sensory room, group room, and to create a secure outdoor space for eight local children with Autism.
- 4.3 Children would be on roll at Guillemont Junior 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.
- 4.4 An 8-place ASC RP was established at Pinewood Infant School from autumn 2022 and pupils will typically transition from Pinewood Infant to Guillemont Junior Schools. Pinewood Infant and Guillemont Junior Schools are federated.
- 4.5 Subject to the outcome of the consultation, it is proposed that places will be available at Guillemont Junior School RP from September 2024.

- 4.6 A total of £0.94m of Childrens Services capital funding was approved at the Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services Decision Day on 13 January 2023.
- 4.7 Cllr Roz Chadd and Rt Hon Leo Doherty MP are in full support of the application.

#### **Morelands Primary School, Waterlooville RP Change of Designation**

- 4.8 Currently the school has two established resource provisions. The Assessment Resource Provision (ARP) for 10 places with children who have a range of needs where an assessment can give accurate information on a child's needs and SEN provision required. This could be at SEN Support within a mainstream, with an EHCP in a mainstream or EHCP in specialist.
- 4.9 From September 2023 it is proposed to alter this provision to 8 places for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Condition.
- 4.10 The second provision on site for pupils with Speech Language and Communication needs will be increased from 14 to 16 pupils. The pupils who attend either provision would be from the local area and placed on roll at Morelands Primary School.
- 4.11 The County Council is proposing to refurbish and reconfigure an underutilised area of the school to create a sensory room and therapy space to support this provision. The proposed cost of the works is in the region of £230,000 and will take place in summer 2023.

#### **Relocation of Hearing Loss RP to St Jude’s Catholic Primary School, Fareham**

- 4.12 The need for this type of specialist provision remains to provide specialist teaching and support for children who have permanent, severe to profound hearing loss or moderate to profound hearing loss with additional language and communication needs.
- 4.13 The relocation of this provision is at the request of the Headteacher and the Chair of Governors of Wallisdean Junior School and, in consultation with the Headteacher and the Chair of Governors of St Jude’s Catholic Primary School to accommodate the RP.
- 4.14 The proposal is to reconfigure and refurbish an existing underutilised space to create a teaching base together with acoustic works in other key areas of the school.
- 4.15 The proposed cost of the works is in the region of £270,000 and will take place in summer 2023.
- 4.16 The Rt Hon Suella Braverman MP, is in support of this application.

## 5. Finance

### 5.1 Table 1 – cost comparison

Type of provision	Average revenue cost per place (2022)
Special school	£18,079
Resourced provision	£17,636
Independent and non-maintained special school place	£65,800

5.2 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.

5.3 The annual revenue cost of the proposed additional places has been calculated based on the average funding rates for the schools that are expanding:

### 5.4 Table 2 - Additional annual revenue cost

Name of school	Number of new places being created	Average cost per place*	Estimated Revenue Cost
Guillemont Junior School ASC RP	8	£17,636	£141,104
Morelands ASC RP	8	£17,636	£141,104
St Judes HI RP	6	£17,636	£105,828

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

5.5 The total revenue cost of £388,036 for the in-house places compares to an estimated £1.5m 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 £1.1m of cost avoidance on the High Needs Block.

5.6 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.

5.7 Estimated capital costs for the proposed projects are outlined below

Name of school	Project	Number of new places being created	Estimated Capital Cost
Guillemont Junior ASC RP	Extension and external works	8	£940,000

Morelands ASC RP	Internal works	0	£230,000
St Jude's Hearing Loss RP	Internal works	8	£270,000
<b>Total</b>			£1,440,000

## 6. Performance Impact – none

## 7. Consultation and Equalities

7.1 The consultations for the projects took place between Friday 17 March and Friday 14 April 2023.

7.2 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 stakeholders

Copies of the consultation letters are attached under appendix 1.

7.3 The proposals were also included on the Hampshire County Council's consultation website:  
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations>

7.4 All stakeholders were also invited to drop-in sessions held at each School to discuss the proposals in person.

## 8. Consultation Responses Received

### 8.1 New RP at Guillemont Junior School, Farnborough

No responses were received during the Public Notice period for the proposed new resourced provision at Guillemont Junior School.

### 8.2 Redesignation of RP at Morelands

No responses were received during the Public Notice period for the proposed change of designation at Morelands.

### 8.3 Re-location of Hearing Loss RP to St Jude's Catholic School, Fareham

No responses were received during the Public Notice period for the proposed change of location of the hearing Loss resource provision from Wallisdean Junior School to St Jude's Catholic primary School, Fareham.

*If equality impacts have been identified in the Equality Statement in integral Appendix B highlight any particular issues, explain any proposed mitigation and consider any other relevant factors that have been taken into consideration in formulating the recommendation.*

## **9. 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.

## **10 Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation**

10.1 Not relevant regarding the content of this report or decision being sought.

## **11 Carbon Mitigation**

11.1 Not relevant about the content of this report or decision being sought.

## **12 Conclusions**

- In considering the lack of responses received, approval is sought to pursue:
- The ASC resourced provision at Guillemont Junior School
- The change in designation at Morelands RP
- The relocation of the hearing loss RP from Wallisdean to St Jude's Catholic Primary School

**REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Strategic Plan**

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

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>	
<u>Title</u> Children’s Services Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25	<u>Date</u> Jan 2022
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>	
<u>Title</u> Right Support, Right Place, Right Time – The SEND Review <a href="#">Summary of the SEND review: right support, right place, right time - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	<u>Date</u> May 2022

*NB: If the ‘Other significant links’ section below is not applicable, please delete it.*

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>	
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<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>

<b>Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents</b>	
<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:

See guidance at <https://hants.sharepoint.com/sites/ID/SitePages/Equality-Impact-Assessments.aspx?web=1>

Insert in full your **Equality Statement** which will either state:

- why you consider that the project/proposal will have a low or no impact on groups with protected characteristics or*
- will give details of the identified impacts and potential mitigating actions*



## **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**

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**

Not relevant regarding the content of this report or decision being sought.

### **Carbon Mitigation**

Not relevant about the content of this report or decision being sought.

### **Conclusions**

- In considering the lack of responses received, approval is sought to pursue:
- The ASC resourced provision at Guillemont Junior School
- The change in designation at Morelands RP
- The relocation of the hearing loss RP from Wallisdean to St Jude's Catholic Primary School