

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a **Cabinet Member**




REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER

Executive Decision Reference Number – L58 24/25

Decision			
1	Title of decision: Woodlands School SEND expansion (Early Years)		
2	Decision maker: Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council)		
3	Report author and contact details: Nathan Sanders, Programme Manager, 01752 307780; Nathan.sanders@plymouth.gov.uk		
4	Decision to be taken: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To approve the Business Case To add £728,392 to the Capital Programme, funded from the SEN / High Needs Grant 		
5	Reasons for decision: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The project will provide additional Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) capacity creating 10 nursery assessment places and an additional 8-10 places within Woodlands School. The project will entail the fit-out of an unused space in the school following the closure of the Short Break provision on the site. 		
6	Alternative options considered and rejected: Not proceed with project: Rejected because this would not increase SEND capacity or facilitate the nursery assessment unit. Create additional places at an alternative site: This would be a more costly option and would not be taking advantage of the currently available vacant space at Woodlands School.		
7	Financial implications and risk: An addition of £728,392 to the capital programme, which is to be funded from the SEN / High Needs Grant. Risks of the project identified are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to complete the works by 2nd November (end of the half term holiday), meaning that SEND places will be limited for the 25/26 intake. Mitigation: proceed with project as soon as possible upon approval Project costs exceed budget. Mitigation: contingency included within budget 		
8	Legal Implications The works are being undertaken under by the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Contractor under the existing PFI Contract by way of a notice of change.		
9a	Is the decision a Key Decision?	Yes	No Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:

	(Please contact Democratic Support for further advice)		X	in the case of capital projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of £3million in total
			X	in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1million
			X	is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the local authority.
If yes, date of publication of the notice in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions		N/A		
10	Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council's corporate plan/Plymouth Plan and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget:	This proposal supports the <u>Send Sufficiency Plan</u> and the Corporate Plan priorities of: Keeping Children, Adults and Communities Safe; Green Investment, Jobs, Skills, and Better Education; Spending Money Wisely.		
11	Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)	A Climate Impact Assessment is attached		
Urgent decisions				
12	Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?	Yes		(If yes, please contact Democratic Support (democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk) for advice)
		No	X	(If no, go to section 13a)
12a	Reason for urgency:			
12b	Scrutiny Chair Signature:		Date	
	Scrutiny Committee name:			
	Print Name:			
Consultation				
13a	Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?	Yes	X	
		No		(If no go to section 14)

13 b	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?	Councillor Sally Cresswell (Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships)		
13 c	Date Cabinet member consulted	2 May 2025		
14	Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision?	Yes		If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer
		No	X	
15	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Name	David Haley	
		Job title	Director of Children's Services	
		Date consulted	2 May 2025	
Sign-off				
16	Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	JS137 24/25	
		Finance (mandatory)	ITG.25.26.008	
		Legal (mandatory)	LS/00001312/1/AC/7/5/25	
		Human Resources (if applicable)	n/a	
		Corporate property (if applicable)	n/a	
		Procurement (if applicable)	n/a	
Appendices				
17	Ref.	Title of appendix		
	A	Briefing report for publication		
	B	Equalities Impact Assessment		
	C	Climate Impact Assessment		
Confidential/exempt information				
18 a	Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?	Yes	X	If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in 18b below. (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)
		No		

		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18 b	Confidential/exempt briefing report title: Business case Woodlands School SEND expansion (Early Years)			X				
Background Papers								
19	<p>Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below.</p> <p>Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based. If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</p>							
Title of background paper(s)		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cabinet Member Signature								
20	I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget. In taking this decision I have given due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.							
Signature			Date of decision		14/05/2025			
Print Name	Councillor Tudor Evans OBE, Leader of the Council							