

# EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a **Cabinet Member**




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

Executive Decision Reference Number – L10 25/26

Decision				
1	<b>Title of decision:</b> Longcause Special School expansion of SEND capacity - Phase I			
2	<b>Decision maker:</b> Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council)			
3	<b>Report author and contact details:</b> Jacqueline Keith (Project Manager) <a href="mailto:jacqueline.keith@plymouth.gov.uk">jacqueline.keith@plymouth.gov.uk</a> – 01752 307762			
4	<b>Decision to be taken:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To approve the Business Case Change Request;</li> <li>To allocate an additional £208,000 to the approved budget of £192,000 for the project into the Capital Programme, funded by the SEN / High Needs Grant.</li> </ol>			
5	<b>Reasons for decision:</b> The allocation of additional funding will enable eight further SEND places at Longcause Special School to be available for the 25/26 academic year intake on 8 September 2025, through creation of a new classroom.			
6	<b>Alternative options considered and rejected:</b> Not increase SEND provision: Rejected - If this work is not carried out, the Council is at risk of not meeting its statutory obligation to provide pupil places.			
7	<b>Financial implications and risk:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An allocation of an additional £208,000 to the approved budget of £192,000 for the project into the Capital Programme, funded by the SEN / High Needs Grant.</li> <li>The estimated cost avoidance of schooling eight pupils at Longcause compared to independent specialist providers out of Plymouth is c. £360,000 per annum.</li> <li>An additional contingency sum has been included in the £208,000 to allow for any unexpected cost increase once works commence.</li> </ul>			
8	<b>Legal Implications</b> None arising from this report.			
9a	<b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b> (Please contact <a href="#">Democratic Support</a> for further advice)	Yes	No	<b>Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:</b>
			x	in the case of <b>capital</b> projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of <b>£3million</b> in total
			x	in the case of <b>revenue</b> projects when the decision involves entering into new

				commitments and/or making new savings in excess of <b>£1 million</b>
			<b>x</b>	is <b>significant</b> in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising <b>two or more</b> wards in the area of the local authority.
	If yes, date of publication of the notice in the <b>Forward Plan of Key Decisions</b>		N/A	
<b>10</b>	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:		Keeping children, adults and communities safe; Green investment, jobs, skills and better education; Spending money wisely.	
<b>11</b>	Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)		A Climate Impact Assessment is attached.	
<b>Urgent decisions</b>				
<b>12</b>	Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?		<b>Yes</b>	(If yes, please contact Democratic Support ( <a href="mailto:democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk">democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk</a> ) for advice)
<b>No</b>			<b>x</b>	<b>(If no, go to section 13a)</b>
<b>12a</b>	Reason for urgency:			
<b>12b</b>	Scrutiny Chair Signature:		Date	
	Scrutiny Committee name:			
	Print Name:			
<b>Consultation</b>				
<b>13a</b>	Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?		<b>Yes</b>	<b>x</b>
			<b>No</b>	
<b>13b</b>	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?		Councillor Sally Cresswell (Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships)	

<b>I3c</b>	<b>Date Cabinet member consulted</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> July 2025						
<b>I4</b>	<b>Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision?</b>	<b>Yes</b>		If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer 2				
		<b>No</b>	<b>x</b>					
<b>I5</b>	<b>Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?</b>	<b>Name</b>		David Haley				
		<b>Job title</b>		Director of Children's Services				
		<b>Date consulted</b>		4 <sup>th</sup> August 2025				
<b>Sign-off</b>								
<b>I6</b>	<b>Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:</b>	<b>Democratic Support (mandatory)</b>			JS27 25/26			
		<b>Finance (mandatory)</b>			ITG.25.26.039			
		<b>Legal (mandatory)</b>			LS/00001312/1/AC/24/7/25			
		<b>Human Resources (if applicable)</b>			n/a			
		<b>Corporate property (if applicable)</b>			n/a			
		<b>Procurement (if applicable)</b>			n/a			
<b>Appendices</b>								
<b>I7</b>	<b>R e f .</b>	<b>Title of appendix</b>						
	<b>A</b>	Briefing report for publication						
	<b>B</b>	Equalities Impact Assessment						
	<b>C</b>	Climate Impact Assessment						
<b>Confidential/exempt information</b>								
<b>I8a</b>	<b>Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>X</b>	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 <b>I8b</b> below.  (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)				
		<b>No</b>						
		<b>Exemption Paragraph Number</b>						
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>

<b>18b</b>	<b>Confidential/exempt briefing report title:</b>  <b>Business Case Change Request – Longcause SEND Phase I</b>			<b>X</b>				
<b>Background Papers</b>								
<b>19</b>	<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						
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Cabinet Member Signature</b>								
<b>20</b>	<p>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.</p>							
<b>Signature</b>				<b>Date of decision</b>		21/8/25		
<b>Print Name</b>		Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council)						