

**Single Member Cabinet Decision****Executive  
Forward Plan  
Reference****E3445****E3445 – Bath College SEND Residential Provision**

<b>Decision maker/s</b>	<b>Cllr Paul May, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services</b>
<b>The Issue</b>	<p>To meet the priorities outlined in the Council's Corporate Strategy 2020 to 2024 the LA have worked in conjunction with Bath College on the proposal to build a specially designed residential provision at the Somer Valley Campus. The new build unit and provision would meet the needs of young people with SEND needing to prepare for independent living, who would otherwise attend provision out of B&amp;NES. Once built, the offer will be to provide a registered care provision, both Ofsted and CQC registered to deliver personal care and education activity, for 12 high needs young people that would be linked to courses at the existing Bath College SEND Centre. The proposal has included social care teams who jointly fund high cost out-of-county educational placements. To progress this, the requirement is for a council project of £4m to build the SEND residential unit at the Somer Valley Campus.</p>
<b>Decision Date</b>	26th September 2023
<b>The decision</b>	<p>The Cabinet Member agrees to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 Give full approval to the capital project of £4m as a grant allocation to Bath College to build a 12-bed residential unit on the College land at the Somer Valley campus. This is within the spend set by the Council.</li><li>2 Delegate to the Director of Education &amp; Safeguarding, in consultation with the 151 Officer, to enter into capital grant and operating agreements with Bath College for the provision of SEND residential placements - through a new build unit.</li></ol>
<b>Rationale for decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To reduce the large overspend in Children's Services on high cost out-of-county special independent colleges for Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). These placements are funded by Joint Agency Panel and SEN/Adult Social Care. This unit will enable young people with complex needs aged 16 to 25 to remain in their local community to receive their education and</li></ol>

	<p>build independence and life skills in support of Education, Health and Social Care outcomes.</p> <p>2. The 12-bed residential unit will meet the priorities outlined in the Council's Corporate Strategy 2020 to 2024 as follows: The unit will improve the lives of young people with SEND, by providing a much needed local residential educational facility in the Radstock area, as well as increasing economic benefits by enabling the young people to build contacts and gain employment in their local area.</p>
<b>Financial and budget implications</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There is an estimated £1.951 million combined high needs education/social care savings per annum, based on current cohort in out-of-county independent sector provision. This is sufficient to provide the annual cost of borrowing for the build of £342,000 per annum. In addition, interest costs incurred of £399,000 during construction will be funded from the Capital Financing Reserves and will be repaid from the balance of savings in the first full year of operation. Of the balance of savings, £1.11m will contribute to the Dedicated Schools Grant/High Needs Budget, and the remainder to Social Care budgets.</li> <li>2. Once the unit is built, the ongoing maintenance and running costs including staffing will be the responsibility of the college so no revenue implications ongoing for the Local Authority.</li> <li>3. The unit will meet the priorities outlined in the Council's Corporate Strategy 2020 to 2024 in that it will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improve the lives of young people with SEND</li> <li>• increase economic benefits by enabling the young people to build contacts and gain employment in their local area.</li> <li>• address the climate crisis by reducing the need for out-of-county travel.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Issues considered</b>	Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Sustainability; Property; Young People; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation); Human Rights; Corporate; Health & Safety; Other Legal considerations
<b>Consultation undertaken</b>	Ward Councillor; Cabinet colleagues; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Local Residents; Community Interest Groups; Stakeholders/Partners; Other Public Sector Bodies; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer
<b>How consultation was carried out</b>	In writing and in person
<b>Other options considered</b>	None
<b>Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision:</b>	None

<b>Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:</b>	None
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<b>Name and Signature of Decision Maker/s</b>	Councillor Paul May Cabinet Member for Children's Services Bath and North East Somerset Council
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<b>Date of Signature</b>	26 September 2023
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**Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision**