

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	20 January 2016
Title:	Proposed closure of Residential Provision at Osborne Special School
Reference:	7002
Report From:	Interim Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Christine Jones

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1. The decision:

1.1. That the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services agrees to the publication of the formal statutory notice on the proposed closure of the residential provision at Osborne Special and the increase in places in the post 16 provision from 20-50.

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

2.1. It is considered by Officers and the Leadership of the school that the funding of the residential provision is not an efficient use of resources. The unit has 10 beds and is funded for this number on a per bed basis but it has never been full. A significant amount of funding (2014/15 £330,000/2015/16 £300,000) from high needs block is allocated to the provision annually. The residential provision is also not fit for purpose and would require financial investment to make the required alterations to accommodation. It is considered that this funding would be better allocated to support educational provision for children with special educational needs across the county.

2.2. The Leadership of the school were particularly concerned about the inequity of the provision and the fact that with only 10 places available the provision is not available for all the children in the post 16 provision.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

None.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:

None

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

None

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

20 January 2016

**Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Councillor Keith Mans**