

## **CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Children's Services, Looked after Children, Safeguarding for Children and Young People, Schools and Early Years:-

### **MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2020**

Following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Councillor Galloway | - Executive Cabinet Member – Children's Services |
| Councillor Donaghy  | - Major Opposition Spokesperson                  |
| Councillor McGeown  | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson                  |
| Councillor Sanders  | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson                  |
| Councillor Hornby   | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson                  |
| Councillor Wright   | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson                  |

#### **Officers**

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Ms. B. Brown   | - Director of People                    |
| Ms. L. Butcher | - Head of Finance                       |
| Mrs. V. Ridge  | - Democratic Services Manager           |
| Mrs. S. Bailey | - Principal Democratic Services Officer |

#### **14. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS**

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which provided an update on decisions taken at previous meetings of the Executive Cabinet Member.

**The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report.**

## **15. EXPANSION OF RUMWORTH SPECIAL SCHOOL**

The Director of People submitted a report which sought approval for additional capital funding to support the expansion of pupil place provision at Rumworth Special School in response to increased demand for places.

The report advised that demand for pupil places had significantly increased in Bolton over the last ten years which had led to the widespread expansion of many of the Borough's mainstream and special schools.

Rumworth Special School currently catered for children in years 7-14 with complex learning difficulties and had also been the subject of major expansion.

The report outlined proposals to build a new teaching block to accommodate 15 additional teaching spaces plus associated group rooms and sought approval for the allocation of monies from the Children's Capital Programme Budget to fund the project. Costs were expected to be approximately £3,660,000.

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The report went on to provide a breakdown of costs and associated timescales. Given the scale and expected cost of the scheme, it was proposed that the project be procured and delivered through the Council's Clear Futures Framework Partnership. It was anticipated that works would be completed and the facility handed over to the School by 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2021.

The report further advised that the proposed increase in pupil numbers at the School would legally constitute a Significant Change Alteration and would require a formal Statutory

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Process to be undertaken. This would involve a consultation exercise on the proposed increase in capacity with interested parties.

**The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –**

**(i) The allocation of Capital Funding of up to £3.66m to support the provision of 150 additional pupil places at Rumworth Special School; and AUTHORISED -**

**(ii) Officers to undertake the necessary Statutory Change Alteration to increase pupil numbers at the School, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted.**