

**Decisions taken at the CPH Children and Education Decision Session
Meeting held on Tuesday 14 February 2023**

Title	Decision Taken	Reasons	Date Effective
Apologies and Substitutions	Cllrs Groom and L McCarthy submitted their apologies and Cllrs Allen and Thomas attended as substitutes respectively.		
Declarations of Interests	None received.		
Questions and Deputations	None received.		
Foster Carer Allowances, Fees and Charges to Other Authorities and Other Care Payments/Allowances 2023/2024 Annual Rate Review	<p>The Cabinet Member RESOLVED to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Approve the proposed allowances, fees, payment rates and charges to other Local Authorities from 2nd January 2023 (2022/23 in-year recommended change) and from 10th April 2023 for 2023/24 - Appendix A; (ii) Approve the Guidance for Foster Carers on appropriate use of the Foster Allowance - Appendix B; (iii) Approve the proposed Financial Support for SMBC Foster Carers - Appendix C; and (iv) Approve the Fostering Fee Scheme for SMBC Foster Carers - Appendix D 	The recommendations follow relevant guidance, meet with regulatory requirements and where applicable, for the child foster allowances, exceed national minimum standards. Section 5 of the report provided further detail.	22 February 2023
School Funding and Dedicated Schools Grant 2023-24	<p>The Cabinet Member RESOLVED to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) <i>Approve the application of the national funding formula at the local level is 100% NFF emulation for factors and unit rate values, with the per pupil unit rate adjusted to fit with the total grant available, and the minimum funding guarantee at 0.5%, resulting in the funding for each school as set out in Appendix 1 to the report;</i> 	Section 5 of the report provided full details for the reasons behind the decision.	22 February 2023

**Decisions taken by the CPH Children and Education Decision Session on Tuesday 14
February 2023**

Title	Decision Taken	Reasons	Date Effective
	<p><i>(ii) Approve increase in per pupil top-up rates of 3% for all Solihull special and alternative provision and an increase of 8% for moderate learning difficulty (MLD) schools in order to meet the required MFG;</i></p> <p>(iii) Approve increase in mainstream top-up rates for pupils with an EHCP of 6.1%, in line with the overall increase in school funding;</p> <p>(iv) Approve the incorporation of teacher pension grant element, but not the teacher pay element into a funding supplement payable in relation to a qualified teacher present in a grant eligible early years session;</p> <p>(v) Approve the early years hourly rates as set out in paragraph 3.7.4 of the report;</p> <p>(vi) Approve a subsidy to school commissioned places at Solihull Academy of £1,000 per place from April 2023;</p> <p>(vii) Approve a requirement for schools to provide a contribution towards local authority commissioned and funded alternative provision from April 2023. The contribution to be based on the per pupil funding the mainstream school receives for the duration the pupil is in the local authority funded setting; and</p> <p>(viii) Thank Solihull School Forum for their continued positive and productive working with the local</p>		

**Decisions taken by the CPH Children and Education Decision Session on Tuesday 14
February 2023**

Title	Decision Taken	Reasons	Date Effective
	authority.		
Revenue and Capital Monitoring 2022/23 as at 31 December 2022	<p>The Cabinet Member RESOLVED to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Note the financial position for the Portfolio as at Period 9, 2022/23 and endorse the actions as set out to mitigate the identified risks; (ii) Approve the grant submission for £1.0 million under the Delivering Best Value programme (DBV), to support building capacity in places and improve inclusion for Solihull Children and Young People with SEND; and (iii) Approve delegated responsibility for appropriate officers to sign the DBV grant terms and conditions, which have not yet been made available, subject to being satisfied that the Council can meet those terms and conditions. 	The current forecast 2022/23 expenditure is necessary to fund the improvement journey that the Service is undertaking and necessary to safeguard children.	22 February 2023
Expansion of Special School places	<p>The Cabinet Member RESOLVED to:</p> <p><i>Approve a period of consultation with schools, parents and the wider community on a proposal to expand Forest Oak and Merstone Special Schools from 1 September 2023.</i></p>	Subject to the outcome of the consultation process, it is considered that the proposals set out in the report will provide a cost-effective solution to the creation of additional special school places in time for September 2023.	22 February 2023
Primary Alternative Provision	<p>The Cabinet Member RESOLVED to:</p> <p><i>Approve that Officers work with Solihull Alternative Provision Multi Academy Trust to develop and consult on a proposal to create a primary alternative provision and submit a business case to the DfE Regional Director.</i></p>	<i>Initial analysis suggests that the use of spare capacity at the Daylesford Infant School site combined with the change of</i>	22 February 2023

**Decisions taken by the CPH Children and Education Decision Session on Tuesday 14
February 2023**

Title	Decision Taken	Reasons	Date Effective
		<p><i>age range at Solihull Alternative Provision Academy could provide a cost effective and deliverable solution to create primary alternative provision in Solihull. Making no changes to the breadth of alternative provision places available in Solihull will leave the Council at risk of not being able to meet its statutory duty.</i></p>	