

**Bracknell Forest Council
Record of Decision**

Work Programme Reference	10
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1. **TITLE:** Outcome of the External Review of the use of the High Needs Funding Block (DfE funding for education services)

2. **SERVICE AREA:** Children, Young People and Learning

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

For the Executive to endorse the recommendations arising from the review and subsequent stakeholder consultation.

4 **IS KEY DECISION** Yes

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

The Executive NOTED the recommendations and rationale on which they are based.

The Executive APPROVED the implementation of the recommendations given, subject to sufficient resources.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

The recommendations contained in the report have implications for the nature of Bracknell Forest's provision for Special Educational Needs and Alternative Education.

This will affect all schools in the Local Authority and require negotiation with current specialist provision at Kennel Lane School, College Hall, out of area providers and additional resource centres regarding funding levels and provision.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

To continue with the present arrangements. This is not acceptable because:

- a. The changing educational policy landscape and the need for a higher degree of school sector driven change
- b. Proposed revisions to the way LAs are funded for High Needs pupils will reduce the flexibility the LA currently has to manage this budget alongside the schools budget
- c. Overspending within the HNBF cannot be sustained.
- d. Inefficient use of public money must be addressed.

To disregard findings from the review and seek other recommendations. This is not appropriate because:

- a. The basis for the review, procurement procedure and subsequent engagement with the consultants has been robust.
 - b. The consultants have consulted with all schools and had a high level of engagement with school leadership teams fostering confidence in the validity of the process.
9. **PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:** School leadership teams, parents, young people, appropriate heads of service/team leaders
10. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Director of Children, Young People & Learning.
11. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None.

Date Decision Made	Final Day of Call-in Period
15 February 2017	22 February 2017