

**EXECUTIVE
21 MAY 2024
5.30 - 6.04 PM**



Present:

Councillors Temperton (Chair), Bailey, Gillbe, Jefferies, Purnell and Wright

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillors Neil and Bidwell

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive on 23 April 2024 together with the accompanying decision records be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

Executive Decisions and Decision Records

The Executive considered the following items. The decisions are recorded in the decision sheets attached to these minutes and summarised below:

3. Approval of the Youth Strategy 2024-2027

RESOLVED that

- 1 the feedback received from young people, families, communities, and professionals as part for the development of the Youth Strategy be noted
- 2 the Youth Strategy 2024-2027 for Bracknell Forest and the supporting action plan be approved to ensure identified actions are taken forward.
- 3 the plan to revise the operating model of the Targeted Youth Support Service to facilitate the delivery of the action plan be noted. In addition, the Executive noted the plan to coordinate youth work activity delivered by partners across the borough utilising external funding, including £117,000 of time limited grant funding to create a cohesive youth offer for Bracknell Forest young people.

4. Outcome of College Hall Pupil Referral Unit consultation

RESOLVED that

- 1 the pre-consultation feedback and outcomes of the public consultation on the potential closure of College Hall Pupil Referral Unit be noted;
- 2 subject to the DfE agreeing to revoke the Academy Order, the closure of College Hall PRU following the public consultation be agreed, for the reasons summarised in the report.

CHAIRMAN

Bracknell Forest Council Record of Decision

Work Programme Reference	I120842
---------------------------------	----------------

1. **TITLE:** Approval of the Youth Strategy 2024-2027

2. **SERVICE AREA:** People

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

The Strategy sets out the Council's vision to create a clear youth offer over the next 3 years. Five key ambitions form the foundations for the delivery of the strategy. They are essential in helping young people develop the confidence and resilience to improve their life chances, transition to adulthood, and engage meaningfully with their communities and wider society.

The new Youth Strategy will support the council plan by supporting more young people to be active citizens, who are able to thrive in the place where they live. The Youth Strategy reflects the Council's drive for an early intervention and prevention approach.

The strategy supports the Executive's manifesto commitment to support youth services.

4. **IS KEY DECISION** Yes

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

RESOLVED that

- 1 the feedback received from young people, families, communities, and professionals as part for the development of the Youth Strategy be noted
- 2 the Youth Strategy 2024-2027 for Bracknell Forest and the supporting action plan be approved to ensure identified actions are taken forward.
- 3 the plan to revise the operating model of the Targeted Youth Support Service to facilitate the delivery of the action plan be noted. In addition, the Executive noted the plan to coordinate youth work activity delivered by partners across the borough utilising external funding, including £117,000 of time limited grant funding to create a cohesive youth offer for Bracknell Forest young people.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

The Youth Strategy 2024 – 2027 has been created following a comprehensive data analysis, consultation and feedback on the proposed draft and priorities included. The data review has informed the consultation discussions and modelling of service provision and potential reach of young people.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Alternatively the Early Help Service had considered submitting an in-year growth bid, that would support the implementation of the action plan, which would have kept the existing

delivery model within the Targeted Youth Support Service, but this has not been recommended to the current financial position of the council.

9. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Executive Director: People

10. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None.

Date Decision Made	Final Day of Call-in Period
21 May 2024	29 May 2024

**Bracknell Forest Council
Record of Decision**

Work Programme Reference	I120786
---------------------------------	----------------

1. **TITLE:** Outcome of College Hall Pupil Referral Unit consultation
2. **SERVICE AREA:** People
3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

The Executive to consider the outcome of the public consultation process and take a decision on the proposed closure of College Hall Pupil Referral Unit.

4. **IS KEY DECISION** Yes
5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive
6. **DECISION:**

RESOLVED that

- 1 the pre-consultation feedback and outcomes of the public consultation on the potential closure of College Hall Pupil Referral Unit be noted
- 2 subject to the DfE agreeing to revoke the Academy Order, the closure of College Hall PRU following the public consultation be agreed, for the reasons summarised in the report.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

The council's invitation to join the Department for Education's Safety Valve Intervention Programme in July 2023 led to a detailed review of all areas of expenditure within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), which includes the High Needs Block. This was undertaken by the council working together with local headteachers and other stakeholders including parent and carer representatives. The potential closure of College Hall PRU emerged as an option for the council to consider in Autumn 2023, supported by various factors including an inadequate Ofsted inspection in July 2023 and consensus among headteachers and other stakeholders that it was no longer fit for purpose. From a financial perspective, the current operating model for the PRU is no longer sustainable. In December 2023 College Hall's Management Committee considered the likely implications of a material reduction in its funding due to lower pupil admissions and concluded that this would make the facility unviable.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The council's ability to consult on potential closure of the PRU is dependent on the Department for Education (DfE) decision to revoke the academy order which was placed on College Hall following its Ofsted inspection. A request to the DfE to take this action has been submitted by the College Hall Management Committee. If this request is not granted, Bracknell Forest Council will reduce the number of funded places and top up additions to reflect the level of provision required to support children and young people under Section 19

duty i.e., for those children and young people who have been permanently excluded.

9. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Executive Director: People

10. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None

Date Decision Made	Final Day of Call-in Period
21 May 2024	29 May 2024