

To: **Schools Forum**  
**9 March 2023**

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**Delivering Better Value project update**  
**Executive Director - People**

**1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To brief Schools Forum on the agreed areas of work as detailed in the Delivering Better Value submission to the DfE.

**2 Recommendation(s)**

- 2.1 To note the contents

**3 Reasons for Recommendation(S)**

- 3.1 N/A

**4 Alternative Options Considered**

N/A

**5 Supporting Information**

- 5.1 Bracknell Forest Council applied to the DfE to participate in the Delivering Better Value initiative, which focuses on the High Needs Block funding and considers how local authorities can ensure best value for money and efficiencies in the deployment of the funding. Over 50 local authorities participated in the first wave alongside Bracknell Forest. Extensive analysis of case loads, data and projects were reviewed and a direction of travel identified. The DfE required all local authorities to submit projects that would improve SEND delivery and provision, based on the agreed data and assumptions made in the modular assessments.
- 5.2 Three project areas were agreed and developed with stakeholders and the DfE partner organisation, Newton Europe. These are:
- Training for schools and teachers around ASD, including backfill for staff to attend - £96,000
  - Kennel Lane outreach hub to increase chances of CYP thriving in mainstream settings - £370,000
  - Establishment of a new in-house transitions support team - £416,000
  - Project management - £118,000.
- 5.3 The application was submitted to the DfE 17 January 2023 and the DfE panel agreed and notified Bracknell Forest that they were successful in early February 2023.
- 5.4 Bracknell Forest will now implement the proposals of which more information is set out on the attached Annex.

Background Papers

Delivering Better Value Application document

Contact for further information

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