

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE
CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S MEETING WITH EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

7 MARCH 2023

THE HIGH NEEDS BLOCK 2023-24

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 This report summarises the expected budget for the High Needs Block in 2023-24 and outlines the extent of the anticipated financial pressure.

2.0 HIGH NEEDS BLOCK FUNDING

2.1 The anticipated overall High Needs Block allocation available for North Yorkshire in 2023-24 is £77.86m, this includes £3.23m of additional funding announced in the Government Autumn 2022 Spending Review to support increased financial pressures within High Needs. This figure is reduced by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in relation to funding provided directly to academies and for some post-16 provision. It also includes an anticipated import/export adjustment (adjustments made to reflect cross-border movement of pupils living in one local authority who attend provision in another; adjustments for 2023/24 will be finalised by the DfE in early Summer 2022). The total deductions amount to an estimated £6.366m resulting in a net funding allocation to the local authority of £71.49m. This provides an estimated overall cash increase of £6.78m compared to 2022/23. The final High Needs Block figure will not be known until June 2023 following confirmation of the import/export adjustment. Table 1 summarises the anticipated funding position.

Table 1: HNB Funding Position

	2022-23**	2023-24	Variance
	£m	£m	£m
High Needs Block allocation	67.809	77.859	10.050
Supplementary Allocation	2.630	N/A	-2.630
	70.439	77.859	7.420
ESFA Deductions	(5.726)	(6.393)*	0.640
North Yorkshire LA allocation	64.713	71.466	6.780

* These figures are the LA's latest prediction as at 27/02/2023.

**Latest High Needs DSG funding position provided by DfE

2.2 Changes in government regulations since January 2020 prohibit the local authority from using its general resources to fund any overspend in the High Needs Block (and any other DSG blocks). However, the local authority has chosen to set aside a provision to mirror any projected in-year 2023-24 High Needs Block deficit in order to adhere to its sound and prudent financial management principles. This provision will continue to be held in place until such a time that the overall cumulative High Needs Budget deficit has been fully recovered.

2.3 Nationally, the High Needs Block of the DSG will benefit from an additional £400 million in 2023/24, through a top up to the DSG allocations. The allocation for North Yorkshire is £3.23m. In respect of the additional High Needs funding, the DfE require local authorities to pass on a 3.4% funding increase to maintained special and alternative provision (AP) schools, and special and AP academies (including free schools), based on the number of places being funded in 2022/23. This requirement is a condition of grant attached to the additional DSG high needs funding allocated to local authorities.

3.0 HIGH NEEDS BUDGETS

3.1 The proposed budget for High Needs has been prepared building in provisional estimates for increased numbers of children and young people assessed as requiring Education, Health and Care Plans. This reflects recent trends, known planned movements and best estimates of future demand. The proposed High Needs Budget for 2023-24 is outlined in Table 2 below:

Table 2: High Needs Budget

	2023-24
	£k
High Needs Commissioning	67,692
Alternative Provision	1,729
Inclusion	1,579
Hubs & SEN Provision	2,947
AD - Inclusion	75
Financial Support	54
DSG Overheads	420
Estimated Spending	74,496
Estimated Funding	71,466
Estimated In-year Deficit	3,030
Projected In-year Deficit	3,030
Projected Accumulated Deficit B/f	10,007
Projected Accumulated Deficit C/f	13,037

3.2 In total, anticipated expenditure in 2023/24 amounts to £74.5m with a provisional projected shortfall of £3m. It should be noted that c.90% of anticipated spend is within High Needs Commissioning. This principally funds special school commissioned places and top-up funding, mainstream Element 3 top-up funding, independent and non-maintained special school commissioned places and special provision institution (SPI) commissioned places. The figures included in section 3.1 reflect the latest estimates and will be closely monitored throughout the year.

3.3 For financial planning purposes, the 2023-24 High Needs Commissioning budget supports approximately 4,432 FTE children and young people assessed as requiring Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). In reality, the number of children currently supported is in excess of this. The financial planning assumptions indicate that there will be an increase of approximately 584 children and young people financially

supported through EHCPs in 2023-24 in different types of provision. This represents an expected increase in demand of 13% in the next year alone.

- 3.4 The High Needs Commissioning Budget of £67,692k represents the single largest area of spending; most of the financial pressure in the last three years has been in this area. The budget comprises:

Table 3: High Needs Commissioning Budget 2023-24

	£k	%
North Yorkshire Special Schools	23,775	35.1
Independent and Non-maintained Special Schools	13,012	19.2
North Yorkshire Mainstream School E3 Top-up Funding	11,235	16.6
Pooled Budget	3,834	5.7
PRU's	3,203	4.7
Other Local Authority provision	3,147	4.6
Special Provision Institutions	2,337	3.5
Personalised Learning Pathways	2,071	3.1
FE Colleges	1,728	2.6
Early Years	1,048	1.5
Targeted Mainstream Provision	753	1.1
Independent Learning Providers (ILP's)	604	0.9
Education Other Than At School (EOTAS)	720	1.1
Other	225	0.3
Total	67,692	100

- 3.5 57.5% of the High Needs Commissioning is spent directly with schools and academies in North Yorkshire, with 35% targeted at supporting the ten special schools in North Yorkshire to develop and deliver provision to meet the needs of children and young people locally. However, £13,012k is spent on approximately 220 places in independent and non-maintained special schools. This represents just over 19% of the High Needs Commissioning Budget and represents an increase in absolute cost and an increase in overall share of the total spend compared with 2022-23. This continues to represent a high per pupil cost to the overall budget.

4.0 SPECIAL SCHOOLS

- 4.1 The Special schools funding formula for 2023-24 was agreed by Executive on 10 January 2023, taking into account the following specific aspects of the budget allocations :-
- The specific operation of the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) in the Special school sector
 - The requirements placed on Local Authorities by the DfE for the allocation of the additional High Needs funding in 2023/24
 - The inflationary uplift factors applied to banding allocations (for top-up funding) and Contextual funding
- 4.2 The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) is a protection for special schools against seeing a reduction in funding from year to year assuming that the number and type of places remain the same. The DfE have prescribed the level of the Special School MFG

for 2023/24 through the DSG conditions of grant at 3% compared to the 2021/22 funding baseline for a special school. NYCC has implemented this increase.

- 4.3 The County Council Executive confirmed approval for Banded Funding allocations to increase in line with an assumed rate of inflation of 3% in the 2023/24 financial year. The banded funding allocation reflects costs incurred beyond the Element 2 funding allocation of £6,000. Due to this figure remaining constant for a number of years, the allocations for each banding will actually increase by greater than 3% with the highest percentage increases applying to the lower banding allocations. The new rates of funding are detailed below; these rates will apply across all settings in receipt of top-up funding.

	Funding Rates 2022-23	Funding Rates 2023-24 (including 3% inflationary increase)
Band 3	£0	£0
Band 4	£1,580	£1,810
Band 5	£3,690	£3,990
Band 6	£5,420	£5,770
Band 7	£8,380	£8,820
Band 8	£10,040	£10,530
Band 9	£14,010	£14,620
Band 10	£20,000*	£20,000*

**actual allocations dependent on Band 10 panel evaluation

- 4.4 Executive approval was also provided to increase the factor elements within the Special Schools Contextual Funding by the assumed inflationary increase of 3% for the 2023/24 financial year.
- 4.5 Special school funding statements have been prepared and shared with North Yorkshire special schools on the basis of the adoption of the proposals above, alongside accompanying guidance on how the formula allocations have been determined, and incorporating the assessment of the commissioned places for the 2023-24 academic year.

5.0 PUPIL REFERRAL SERVICE

- 5.1 The Pupil Referral Service / Alternative Provision budget for 2023-24 has been constructed on the basis that planned commissioned places at all settings will be at the same level of local authority commissioned places in the 2023-24 academic year as in the 2022-23 academic year (i.e. 168 places). Top-up funding allocations (Element 3 funding) and preventative place funding allocations will be increased in line with the inflationary uplift described in Section 4 above.
- 5.2 The Local Authority has maintained the number of preventative places for the 2023/24 academic year at the same level as in the 2022/23 academic year. The uptake of these preventative places does vary between establishments and whilst some establishments have made significant positive progress in increasing the number of young people through this route, that position is not universal. Therefore, the Inclusion Team will be undertaking a review of the position during the Summer term to inform the commissioning of these places for the 2024/25 academic year.

6.0 FURTHER DEVELOPMENT WORK

- 6.1 The overall financial position on the High Needs budget is such that the local authority needs to continue to work to identify potential efficiency improvements and opportunities to support young people more cost effectively, which will compliment the initiatives already in place within the SEN Strategic Plan. The local authority is committed to working collaboratively with school leaders to both identify and research such opportunities, as evidenced in the support for locality boards as a vehicle to explore local solutions to issues forming a barrier to improving outcomes, and through the work of the Schools Forum High Needs Sub-Group.
- 6.2 The local authority has been invited to participate in the Delivering Better Value (DBV) programme being co-ordinated by the DfE. The local authority is actively engaging with the opportunity to work towards developing a sustainable high needs budget, with the benefit of DfE delivery partners. North Yorkshire has been assigned to Tranche 3 (the latest tranche to start) of the 55 authorities in the DBV programme. Whilst it is expected that the work with the DfE will commence in earnest in Summer 2023, the local authority is already seeking to utilise the research findings from other local authorities and DfE guidance material in enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the high needs system in North Yorkshire

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 Consultation was undertaken as part of the Council's budget setting process resulting in the approval of the Budget and MTFs on 22 February 2023. Feedback was given due consideration and informed the recommendations which were approved by Executive on 24 January 2023. Detailed reports and appendices outlining the detailed consultation feedback can be found here:
[Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 24th January, 2023, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire County Council](#)
- 7.2 NYCC considered that there was no requirement to undertake a consultation with special schools and academies within North Yorkshire on the level of the Special School MFG for 2023/24 as the DfE have prescribed the level of the Special School MFG for 2023/24 through the DfE conditions of grant. Any local deviation from the prescribed value requires Secretary of State approval. NYCC has implemented the prescribed increase. Specific recommendations relating to the Special School MFG were agreed by Executive on 10 January 2023. The report and appendices can be found here:
[Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 10th January, 2023, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire County Council](#)

8.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATION

- 8.1 An equality impact assessment form is attached in **Appendix 1**.
- 8.2 The local authority will continue to meet its statutory obligations in respect of its duties to make arrangements for children with Education, Health and Care Plans.

9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Climate Change Impact Assessments (CCIA) have been completed in respect of the proposals contained within this report. There are no specific climate change implications identified with the proposals.

10.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The Corporate Director – Children and Young People's Service in conjunction with Executive Members are asked to:
- (i) note the contents of this report;
 - (ii) note the financial position;
 - (iii) to approve the proposed high needs block budget outlined at section 3.1

STUART CARLTON

Corporate Director – Children and Young People's Service

Report Prepared by Howard Emmett, Assistant Director, Strategic Resources

Background Documents:

- Appendix 1 Equality Impact Assessment Form



North

Yorkshire County Council

Equality impact assessment (EIA) form: evidencing paying due regard to protected characteristics

(Form updated May 2015)

High Needs Block Budget 2023-24

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যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔



Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are public documents. EIAs accompanying reports going to County Councillors for decisions are published with the committee papers on our website and are available in hard copy at the relevant meeting. To help people to find completed EIAs we also publish them in the Equality and Diversity section of our website. This will help people to see for themselves how we have paid due regard in order to meet statutory requirements.

Name of Directorate and Service Area	North Yorkshire County Council: Central Services
Lead Officer and contact details	Howard Emmett - Assistant Director – Strategic Services
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the EIA	Jane Le Sage, Assistant Director – Inclusion Howard Emmett – Assistant Director – Strategic Resources Sally Dunn – Head of Schools, High Needs and Early Years Finance Martin Surtees – Senior Finance – Projects Leanne Stables – Senior Accountant Melissa Hird - Accountant

<p>How will you pay due regard? e.g. working group, individual officer</p>	<p>This work has been overseen by the High Needs Funding Officer Group. Monitoring takes place via the Children and Young People's Leadership Team. The High Needs Funding Subgroup of the Schools Forum and the Schools Forum itself have advisory roles.</p> <p>Changes in budget are informed by anticipated demand pressures and known changes and DfE High Needs funding policy.</p> <p>The decision on the allocation of the High Needs Block Budget has been delegated to the Corporate Director – Children and Young People's Service in consultation with the Corporate Director, Strategic Resources and Executive Members for CYPS on 7th March 2023.</p>
<p>When did the due regard process start?</p>	<p>Work on the High Needs Budget has been ongoing since Autumn 2022.</p>

Section 1. Please describe briefly what this EIA is about. (e.g. are you starting a new service, changing how you do something, stopping doing something?)

Under the Children and Families Act 2014, the Council has a statutory responsibility to support the assessed needs of the children & young people with special education needs & disabilities (SEND). Under the School Standards & Framework Act 1998 and School Early Years Finance England Regulations 2020 the Council has statutory duties to set the non-schools education budget (including the High Needs Budget). This EIA considers the cumulative impact of changes in High Needs Budget informed by the wider budget setting by County Council members on 22nd February 2023 where the decision to set the High Needs Budget was delegated to the Corporate Director Children & Young Peoples Service.

Section 2. Why is this being proposed? What are the aims? What does the authority hope to achieve by it? (e.g. to save money, meet increased demand, do things in a better way.)

High Needs Funding provided by central government to local authorities has remained insufficient to meet the increase in the number of children and young people assessed as requiring Education, Health and Care Plans as a result of changes in the Council's statutory duty introduced through the Children and Families Act 2014. This means the Council is now facing difficult decisions on how to ensure sufficient funding is allocated to meet the needs of every child and young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), while at the same time setting a balanced budget.

Following continued unprecedented increases in the number of financially supported Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), financial pressure on SEND and High Needs has continued to increase in 2022-23 with a projected underlying overspend of c.£0.5m and an accumulated deficit

of £10.007m as at 31 March 2023. In 2023-24, the financial pressure is expected to continue. Following regulation changes in early 2020, the local authority is effectively prohibited from using core council funding towards costs which should be properly funded from Dedicated Schools Grant. However, the local authority has made provision within the LA budget to mirror any High Needs deficit as part of prudent budget setting arrangements. The High Needs Block Budget reflects the SEND Strategic Plan which aims to improve the service offer for children & young people with SEND.

Section 3. What will change? What will be different for customers and/or staff?

There are currently no new savings plans for the High Needs Block Budget for 2023-24 although reviews or developments consistent with the Strategic Plan for SEND may commence during the year. Where that is the case, any savings proposal will be accompanied by an individual Equalities Impact Assessment and changes reflected in future year budgets.

Section 4. Involvement and consultation (What involvement and consultation has been done regarding the proposal and what are the results? What consultation will be needed and how will it be done?)

This assessment is based on a process of consultation and equality impact assessment built into the Council's overall High Needs Block budget development process. This has included:

- Equality impact assessments (EIAs) for previous specific budget proposals where a potential equality impact has been identified;
- On-going discussions between colleagues, the High Needs Funding subgroup of North Yorkshire Schools Forum, and special school headteachers meetings;
- Additional consideration of cumulative equality and wider community impact of proposals;
- Responses to public consultation through our website, through public meetings

Section 5. What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?

The proposed High Needs Block Budget results in planned spending of £74.5m which is c.£3m in excess of available funding. Local authority provision will be established to mirror this deficit. It is the intention that the high needs deficit will be repaid and any local authority provision can be released back into the council's General Fund in due course.

The Council expects to receive £71.5m million in High Needs Block cash funding to deliver provision for children and young people with SEND and to fulfil our statutory duty under the Children and Families Act 2014.

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Section 6. How will this proposal affect people with protected characteristics?	No impact	Make things better	Make things worse	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.
Age	✓	✓		<p>Things will improve as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A revised continuum of special education provision and a wider AP offer for North Yorkshire for secondary aged pupils will in the longer term mean a strengthened offer with improved early identification and intervention. This should result in a reduction in the numbers of pupils being excluded. • Lower numbers of permanent exclusion and negative impact of such in terms of attainment and life chances • The development of targeted mainstream provision will increase provision for secondary pupils with SEMH and capacity of schools to support children with SEMH • Local approaches and funding will allow for tailored approaches to meet needs for the secondary age group. <p>There may be an impact on secondary schools as provision models are changed and as other aspects of the Strategic Plan are introduced. This will be mitigated by clear communication.</p> <p>There will be further mitigation in that for young people with an EHCP, the LA have a statutory duty to make the provision contained in that plan and for those young people who are permanently excluded it is statutory duty upon the LA to provide education.</p> <p>Age is not a factor in determining needs in the banded approach to top-up funding. The statutory obligations only apply to children aged 0-25. However, age is not a factor in this budget as all children aged 0-25 with SEND will be able to access the funding equally according to assessed need.</p> <p>A further mitigation for age, disability and gender is that for those with an EHCP, the LA have a statutory duty to meet the needs contained within the plan and this over-rides any other considerations, policies or resources</p>
Disability		✓		<p>For children and young people with a disability and special educational needs there will be a strengthened offer of special education provision which will increase the number of children and young people educated in North Yorkshire and improve their outcomes.</p>

	✓			<p>Requests for assessment will be accompanied by clear evidence of need, interventions and provision, making it more clear what provision is required to meet needs. This will ensure that the young person receives exactly the provision they require.</p> <p>A further mitigation for age, disability and gender is that for those with an EHCP, the LA have a statutory duty to meet the needs contained within the plan and this over-rides any other considerations, policies or resources.</p>
Sex (Gender)	✓	✓		<p>A revised continuum of special education provision and a wider AP offer for North Yorkshire for secondary aged pupils of both genders will in the longer term mean a strengthened offer with improved early identification and intervention. This should reduce the numbers of pupils that are excluded.</p> <p>It is anticipated there would be no identifiable impact on gender as a result of setting the High Needs Budget.</p> <p>The SEND population of young people with EHCPs is higher among boys however as the LA have a statutory duty to meet the needs contained within the plan, this over-rides any other considerations, policies or resources</p>
Race	✓			It is anticipated there would be no identifiable impact on specific ethnic groups as a result of setting the High Needs Budget.
Gender reassignment	✓			It is anticipated there would be no identifiable impact in relation to gender reassignment as a result of setting the High Needs Budget.
Sexual orientation	✓			It is anticipated there would be no identifiable impact in relation to sexual orientation as a result of setting the High Needs Budget.
Religion or belief	✓			It is anticipated there would be no identifiable impact on specific religious groups or beliefs as a result of setting the High Needs Budget.
Pregnancy or maternity	✓			It is anticipated there would be no identifiable impact as a result of setting the High Needs Budget.
Marriage or civil partnership	✓			It is anticipated there would be no identifiable impact as a result of setting the High Needs Budget.

Section 7. How will this proposal affect people who...	No impact	Make things better	Make things worse	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.
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..live in a rural area?	✓	✓		<p>There may be a beneficial impact on those living in rural areas as a greater range of AP is developed.</p> <p>It is anticipated this will increase the range of options and the understanding of what is available in rural areas with a clear package into adulthood within the local rural community</p>
...have a low income?	✓	✓		<p>The proposals should have no or even a positive impact on low income families. Children in AP will be overseen by a central officer who will monitor participation and progress and can intervene if any difficulties arise and are impacting on outcomes.</p> <p>It is anticipated there would be no identifiable impact as a result of setting the High Needs Budget</p>

Section 8. Will the proposal affect anyone more because of a combination of protected characteristics? (e.g. older women or young gay men) State what you think the effect may be and why, providing evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.

It is anticipated the proposed budget will impact more on the following:

Secondary aged pupils with additional needs especially boys. Boys make up the larger numbers accessing PRS/AP provision at present.

These groups are more likely to find change challenging and will need support to make the transition. This will be mitigated by careful planning for any changes, work with ISOS on new models, phased transition to the new models, ongoing engagement with schools, young people and parents/carers and careful review during and following implementation of changes. The overall development of the continuum of need will also provide mitigation. In addition, for young people with an EHCP, the LA have a statutory duty to make the provision contained in that plan and for those young people who are permanently excluded it is statutory duty upon the LA to provide education.

Young People with EHC Plans may also benefit from the wider implications of changes to the targeted mainstream provision model and the increase in capacity within the specialist sector.

Young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

These groups are more likely to find change challenging if changes are made to current services they will need support to make the transition. For each child, there is a statutory process of annual reviews, which ensures that their needs are reviewed annually and the provision is reviewed to ensure it meets their special educational needs.

Section 9. Next steps to address the anticipated impact. Select one of the following options and explain why this has been chosen. (Remember: we have an anticipatory duty to make reasonable adjustments so that disabled people can access services and work for us)	Tick option chosen
1. No adverse impact - no major change needed to the proposal. There is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact identified.	✓
2. Adverse impact - adjust the proposal - The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. We will change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, or we will achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people.	

<p>3. Adverse impact - continue the proposal - The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. We cannot change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, nor can we achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people. (There must be compelling reasons for continuing with proposals which will have the most adverse impacts. Get advice from Legal Services)</p>	
<p>4. Actual or potential unlawful discrimination - stop and remove the proposal – The EIA identifies actual or potential unlawful discrimination. It must be stopped.</p>	
<p>Explanation of why option has been chosen. (Include any advice given by Legal Services.)</p> <p>The Council must set a budget for High Needs within the funding envelope available including the councils resources approved as part of the Budget/ Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) on 22 February 2023. The High Needs Budget proposal enables funding to meet projected demand, alongside provision against any deficit approved as part of the Council's Budget/ MTFS on 22 February 2023. There is a projected shortfall of up to £3m and the proposals acknowledge that this represents a savings gap which will require further work to identify remedial budget action. Equalities impact and consultation will be developed alongside any further proposals.</p>	

<p>Section 10. If the proposal is to be implemented how will you find out how it is really affecting people? (How will you monitor and review the changes?)</p> <p>In addition to the regular monitoring and reporting of finances to the Schools Forum, the Strategic SEND Plan sets out a comprehensive countywide North Yorkshire Inclusion Partnership model which will provide a strategic vision across North Yorkshire.</p> <p>We will review performance across North Yorkshire Special Schools through regular discussions with Headteachers and Finance staff from special schools.</p> <p>Whilst this proposal incorporates decisions made by the Executive on 24 January 2023, the proposal is principally about setting the totality of the budget available for High Needs/ SEN. The proposal has been developed with due regard to the funding made available through the High Needs Block of the DSG, the budget provision made available through the Council. Therefore, the budget performance and system-wide performance will be reviewed by the Executive through the Quarterly performance monitoring regime.</p>
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<p>Section 11. Action plan. List any actions you need to take which have been identified in this EIA, including post implementation review to find out how the outcomes have been achieved in practice and what impacts there have actually been on people with protected characteristics.</p>				
Action	Lead	By when	Progress	Monitoring arrangements
1. Review of implementation / impact	Howard Emmett/ Jane Le Sage	March 2024		Quarterly Performance and Finance Monitoring Arrangements

Section 12. Summary Summarise the findings of your EIA, including impacts, recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

At this stage of the EIA there is no evidence to suggest that the 2023/24 High Needs Budget proposals will significantly disadvantage one or more protected characteristics

Section 13. Sign off section

This full EIA was completed by:

Name: Sally Dunn
Job title: Head of Finance – Schools, Early Years & High Needs
Directorate: Central Services
Signature: Sally Dunn

Completion date: 23/02/2023

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Howard Emmett

Date: