

DECISION / OUTCOME	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	CABINET MEMBER
<p>BLACKPOOL YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE ANNUAL PLAN 2023/24</p> <p>To recommend to Council to approve the Youth Justice Annual Plan 2023/24 on behalf of Blackpool Council with effect until 31 December 2024.</p>	<p>To have oversight of the Youth Justice Partnership plan to provide scrutiny, challenge and support to aid development and ensure positive outcomes for children are achieved.</p> <p>Local authorities have a statutory duty to submit an annual youth justice plan and deliver against the priorities set out in their plan.</p>	EX47/2023	11 December 2023	Councillor Kath Benson, Cabinet Member for Young People and Aspiration

<p>EXPANSION OF HIGHFURLONG SPECIAL SCHOOL PHASE TWO</p> <p>1. To agree that Appendix 5a to the Executive report, the Financial Considerations is not for publication by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as it includes detailed costings that enable the scheme to be viable. The publication of such information could prejudice continuing and future negotiations.</p> <p>2. To approve the development, utilising the currently appointed phase 1 contractor (Conlon Construction) who have been appointed following a procurement process via the Procure NW Framework.</p> <p>3. To approve the budget of £1.99 million for phase two of this scheme.</p>	<p>A planning application had been approved to develop The Meadow on Garstang Road West to accommodate a two-storey extension with associated facilities to ensure sufficient local provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). A further planning application had been made to incorporate the provision of a hydrotherapy centre (phase 2) into the development of The Meadow.</p> <p>Highfurlong Special School reached a cohort of over 110 students in the summer term 2022, which is three times the number five years ago. The growing number of pupils in special schools is in part as a result of changes in legislation introduced in 2014, but also due to children surviving with more complex medical needs than historically was the case.</p> <p>Despite additional building works being undertaken during that time to create extra space at the school, the capacity of the existing building is now over stretched. An independent school capacity report dated March 2022 found that Highfurlong’s building had a deficit of space equivalent to four classrooms when compared against current pupil numbers. The school had now saturated its existing footplate and would no longer be able to effectively deliver complimentary curriculum activities such as design technology, music and life skills, despite winning the prestigious School of the Year award in 2021.</p> <p>The Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient suitable places are available for all pupils across the town. The proposed expansion at Highfurlong School would help to ensure that Blackpool Council can meet the needs of children with complex physical and medical disabilities.</p>	EX48/2023	11 December 2023	Councillor Kath Benson, Cabinet Member for Young People and Aspiration
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