

DECISION / OUTCOME	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	CABINET MEMBER
<p>SEND STRATEGY 2022 – 25</p> <p>To approve the Blackpool SEND Strategy 2022-25, with effect until 31 December 2025.</p>	<p>Ms Charlotte Baron, Head of SEN, presented the report to the Executive. Ms Baron highlighted the linkages between this strategy and the SEND Written Statement of Action approved by Executive on 5 September 2022. Ms Baron also emphasised the extensive consultation that had informed the development of the strategy including extensive input from the Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Committee.</p>	EX47/2022	05/12/22	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Cabinet Member for Inclusion, Youth, Schools and Transience

<p>PROPOSED EXPANSION OF HIGHFURLONG SPECIAL SCHOOL</p> <p>The Executive resolved as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To agree that Appendix 3a to the Executive report, the Financial Considerations is not for publication by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as it includes detailed costings that enable the scheme to be viable.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. 2. To approve the development, following a procurement process via the Procure NW Framework (£1m to £5m contract for partners). 3. To approve the budget of £4.8 million for phase one of this scheme. 	<p>A planning application has been submitted for approval 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). Design and feasibility work to RIBA Stage 4 and costings are being developed to enable a traditional construction scheme to be tendered via the Procure NW Framework (£1m to £5m contract for partners).</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. 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 Special School's building has a deficit of space equivalent to four classrooms when compared against current pupil numbers. The school has now saturated its existing footplate and is no longer 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>	EX48/2022	05/12/22	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Cabinet Member for Inclusion, Youth, Schools and Transience
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