

Consultation on the Special Provision Capital Fund

8th January 2018 to 18th February 2018

North Yorkshire County Council has a statutory responsibility under the Children and Families Act 2014 to keep its special educational provision under review and to ensure there are enough places to meet the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). We need to work with parents/carers, young people and providers when we review provision.

We are currently developing an overarching strategic plan for educational provision for children and young people with SEND and we will publish this later in the year.

However to help develop provision we will receive funding from the Government each year from 2018 to 2021. We will receive £500 000 in total from the Special Provision Capital Fund (SPCF). This funding has to be used to increase the number of places and improve facilities for children and young people who have Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCPs). We have to publish a plan for how we will use this funding by 14th March 2018, and then update and republish the plan each year.

Currently in North Yorkshire there is an increase in the numbers of children and young people identified as having SEND. The number of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) being issued has also increased, as has the demand for places in special schools. To help meet this demand we need to develop special school provision in the County. The priority for the capital funding is therefore to support the increase of places and the improvement of facilities at identified North Yorkshire Special Schools.

We are therefore consulting on the proposals for using this funding. We have explained these proposals below. We have also explained who we are consulting with; how we are

consulting (including how to complete the survey); the timescale for the consultation and our equalities impact assessment.

Who are we consulting?

We are consulting with the public on our proposals, specifically the following groups requesting their views;

- Parents, carers and young people;
- Schools and other Education providers, including governors;
- Parent and carers groups, including North Yorkshire Parents And Carers Together; and
- Staff.

How are we consulting?

We are asking questions in a survey, about our proposals and for any other ideas and suggestions. The survey will be available online, via the council's website and via the Local Offer.

What is the timescale?

We are consulting for 6 weeks (42 days), starting on 8th January 2018 until 18th February 2018. Once the consultation has closed, we will review all of the responses and prepare a report for councillors on the results. They will consider any changes which may need to be made and make a decision on 13th March 2018. Our plan for using the funding will be published on the Local Offer by 14th March 2018.

Information about our equalities impact assessment

We have drawn up an equalities impact assessment (EIA) which will be updated following comments received during the consultation and councillors will consider it again before they make a decision.

We have identified that if the proposals are implemented, there will be no adverse impact on children and young people.

Completing the survey

Please give your feedback on the proposals outlined by filling in our online survey, at www.northyorks.gov.uk/consultations

If you would like a paper copy of the survey, please call our customer service centre on 01609 780 780.

Our proposals for consultation

1. Year 1 of funding 2018-2019

Small scale works and feasibility study

School	Proposed work	Estimated cost	Expected outcome
Springwater School	Improving facilities including storage for large individual equipment	£40 000	Increased independence for pupils and maximising staff time to work with pupils Additional teaching space
Springhead School	Range of work including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptations to ensure all primary and secondary pupils can be educated on site • Upgrading classroom facilities 	£43 000	Increase in capacity of at least 6 places All primary and secondary pupils educated on main site. (Sixth Form pupils based at Lower Graham site) Improved independence and curriculum access for pupils Better staff deployment to work with pupils
The Dales School	Building works to create additional teaching space	£55 000	Increase in capacity of at least 6 places Additional teaching/breakout space
The Forest School	Feasibility study	£25,000	Identification of option to build capacity on the site for an additional 25 children
Total		£163 000	

2. Years 2 and 3 of funding

We are proposing that decisions about the allocation of funding for years 2 and 3 are made taking into account the outcome of the feasibility study. We will hold a further consultation on proposals for years 2 and 3 by the end of 2018 and we will update and republish our plan in March 2019 in line with Government guidance.

