

Consultation on the Special Provision Capital Fund

Consultation outcomes report

We have developed this document to share the outcomes of the consultation for the use of Special Provision Capital Funding (SPCF).

1.0 What did we consult on?

Between January 8th 2018 and February 18th 2018 we held a consultation asking for your views on proposals for the use of special provision capital funding from the Department for Education.

North Yorkshire County Council will receive funding to increase the number of places in education and improve educational facilities for children and young people with special educational needs and / or disabilities (SEND) who have education, health and care plans.

The total amount of special provision capital funding is £500,000 which has been allocated to North Yorkshire over three years. There are [specific guidelines from the Department for Education on how we can use the funding](#).

Please note this consultation has now closed.

2.0 How did we consult?

Proposals for the use of the funding were available on our website, and invited you to provide your views by completing an online survey. This information was also available in alternative language or formats on request. In addition to the survey we have considered any feedback received by email, and from meetings during the consultation period (8th January 2018 to 18th February 2018).

This report outlines the outcomes of the consultation and highlights key areas of feedback that were received and considered during the consultation period.

The local authority is also in the process of developing a strategic plan for SEND education provision – there will be a public consultation asking for views on this plan later in 2018. In preparation for this

informal consultation has been undertaken with parents, carers, professionals and young people to shape the final proposals for the strategic plan. This is the overall plan for SEND education provision in North Yorkshire, which also includes the plans for increasing provision within special schools that were asked about separately in this consultation.

As part of the informal consultation in relation to the strategic plan for SEND education provision, it was highlighted that receipt of the SPCF will directly support proposal 3, d) (set out in the document ‘Draft proposals for the Strategic Plan for SEND provision for informal consultation autumn 2017’). Proposal 3, d states “*The LA to secure capital investment (including special provision capital funding) to increase capacity and improve facilities at special schools,*” - this approach was supported by parents, carers and education professionals across the county.

The overall strategic plan will identify additional opportunities for capital funding to further develop different kinds of SEND education provision across the county.

3.0 What feedback did we receive?

The following gives an overview of the feedback from the survey, emails and meetings received on the SPCF proposals. More detailed information is available at the end of this document in the [Appendix](#).

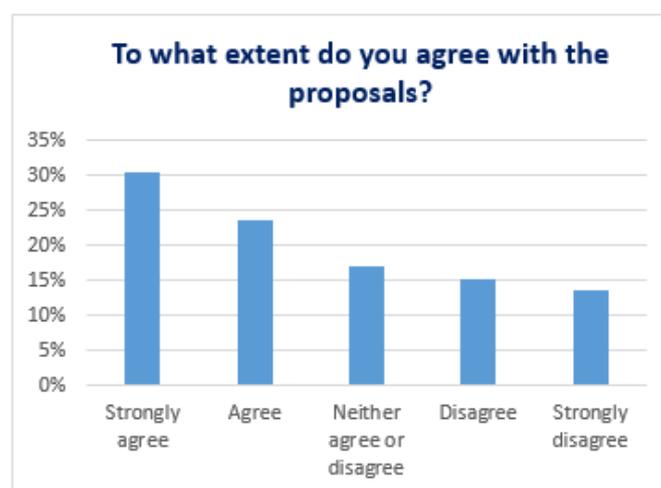
3.1 Who responded to the consultation?

In total, 69 people have provided feedback in response to our proposals for the use of the SPCF as part of the consultation. The vast majority of respondents completed the online survey (59). We also received feedback from two individuals via email. The proposals were also discussed with North Yorkshire Parent and Carer Forum (NYPACT) in January. Eight colleagues on their committee gave verbal feedback.

Of the 69 people who have provided input, 39% were parents and carers (27) and 32% were respondents on behalf of a school or college (22), 28% of respondents fell into the ‘other’ category (19), and one young person responded.

3.2 Summary of survey findings

Survey respondents were asked ‘To what extent do you agree with the proposals.’ The chart below shows the range of responses, 55% or 32 respondents either ‘strongly agree’ or ‘agree’ with the proposals.



3.3 Further feedback

We also asked respondents to provide any further comments on the proposals, of which 37 of the 59 respondents who completed the online survey provided their views.

A range of views were received for consideration - these fall into one of two categories:

Category	
1	Views or ideas in scope with how we can use the SPCF (according to the specific DfE guidance)
2	Views or ideas that fall outside of the scope as to how we are able to use the SPCF.

We could only consider views or ideas which are in the scope of how we can use the SPCF (i.e. category 1, above).

After reviewing the feedback in category 1 the following key themes were identified. These are highlighted in the table below with a response where needed:

Category 1 key themes from feedback:	Response:
Agree funding should be put into special schools to increase capacity	This feedback directly supports the proposals.
The funding should be used in an alternative locality	When developing the proposals for this funding current pressures on special school placements influenced decisions. However, the overall strategic plan will consider all localities in North Yorkshire in terms of plans for future provision.
More info on years 2 and 3 would be useful	Information for years 2 and 3 is dependent on the outcome of the feasibility study at the Forest School. However, following consultation feedback the published plan will indicate provisional suggestions.
Cost of feasibility study are high, and what happens next?	Feasibility study costs cover all work required to indicate options available. As per the response above, this will inform proposals for years 2 and 3.
Agree more places are needed in special schools	This feedback directly supports the proposals.

Feedback under category 2 (views or ideas that are fall outside of the scope of the SPCF) will be logged and used to support the development of the wider SEND Strategic Plan for education provision. A consultation on proposals for the county wide SEND Strategic Plan for education provision will take place later in 2018. A summary of the all key themes arising can be found in Table 1, in the [Appendix](#).

4.0 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

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.

The EIA for use of the SPCF was shared on our website as part of the consultation material for consideration. The EIA was monitored against feedback throughout the consultation period, including a review at the half-way point of the consultation. Having reviewed feedback on conclusion

of the consultation there are no identified changes to the EIA. The EIA has been updated to note this.

5.0 Outcome of the consultation

Following consideration of the consultation responses a recommendation was made to approve the proposed use of the SPCF. This recommendation was be put forward in line with the Authority's democratic processes as outlined in its Constitution.

- 55% of survey respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the proposals;
- Evaluation of feedback from respondents who disagreed with proposals established that, broadly, disagreement was due to a desire for funding to be used for other purposes. Feedback was to use funding for alternative purposes which fall outside of DfE guidelines for use of SPCF;
- Other feedback from respondents was that they disagreed with the geographical allocation of funding. The rationale for the proposed localities is outlined in section 3.3.

As a result of the majority of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with proposals, and disagreement broadly being due to a preference to use funding for other purposes (outside of how we are allowed to use it), we have recommended the proposals be implemented.

6.0 Next steps and timescales

A decision by the council's Executive was scheduled for March 13th 2018. If approval is received, the Special Provision Capital Funding Plan will be published on the Local Offer <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/send-specialist-support-and-provision> on 14th March 2018, in line with the DfE guidelines, with any approved changes being implemented from the next financial year onwards (from April 2018).

Appendix – Consultation data

Chart 1:

The chart to the right shows a breakdown of the total number of people who provided input into the consultation by 'type' of customer:

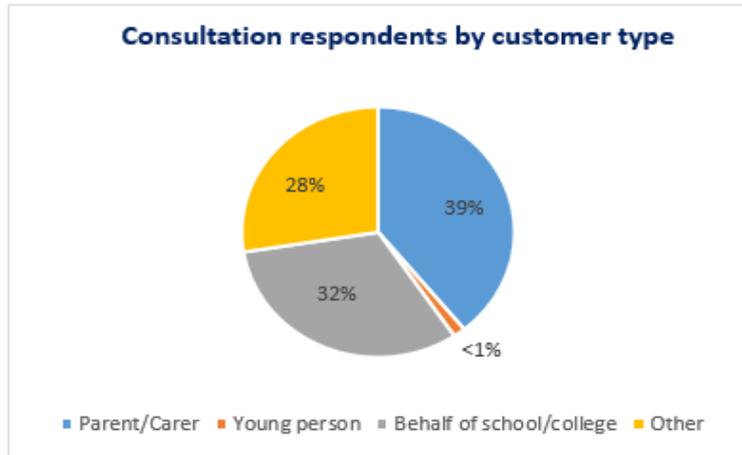


Chart 2:

The chart to the right shows the total number of survey respondents by 'type' of customer:

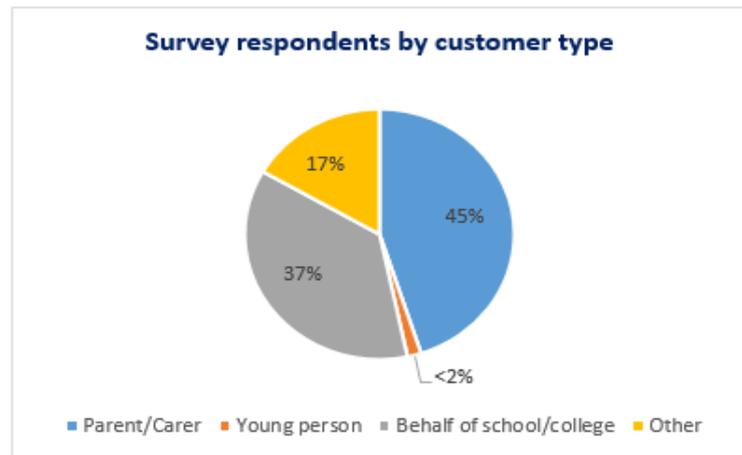


Chart 3:

The bar chart to the right shows the percentage proportion of responses to the survey question 'To what extent do you agree with the proposals?'

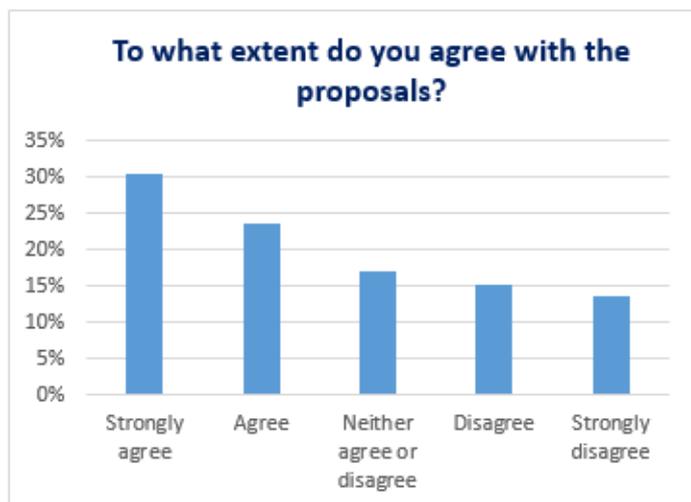


Table 1:

The table below summarises the key themes raised by respondents, in relation to proposals put forward for the use of the SPCF. The table also indicates what category each theme falls into, to ensure we were able to consider those relevant to DfE guidance on how the SPCF can be used.

Category	
1	Views or ideas that are in scope with how we can use the SPCF (according to the specific DfE guidance)
2	Views or ideas that are fall outside of the scope as to how we are able to use the SPCF.

Table 1: key themes arising from consultation	Category
Agree funding should be put into special schools to increase capacity	1
The funding should be used in an alternative locality	1
What will happen in years 2 and 3?	1
Cost of feasibility study are high, and what happens next?	1
Agree more places are needed in special schools	1
Funding is needed in mainstream schools to support wider SEND needs	2
Would like to see the funding for other needs (young people without EHCP) including the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEMH • Deaf • Autism • Disabilities • Out of school activities 	2
Would like to see training for teachers / fund extra staff	2
Would like to use the funding for other purposes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assistive technology • laptops • sensory rooms 	2
Would like to see funding for therapeutic support	2