



CABINET – 9TH MARCH 2018

**DETERMINATION OF STATUTORY NOTICE FOR THE REMOVAL
(CLOSURE) OF RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES AT MAPLEWELL HALL
SPECIAL SCHOOL**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND
FAMILY SERVICES**

PART A

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Cabinet of the responses received during the representation period following the recent publication of the Statutory Notice concerning the removal (closure) of the residential facilities at the Maplewell Hall Special School, and to seek determination of the Statutory Notice as the next step to implement the process for removal of the residential facilities.
2. The report also summarises the findings of the Internal Audit investigations to clarify the funding arrangements for the residential facilities and the related afterschool activities that precede overnight stays for pupils.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that:
 - (a) The representations (objections) received to the Statutory Notice are noted;
 - (b) The findings and recommendations arising from the Internal Audit investigation of the funding arrangements for the residential facilities and the related afterschool activities that precede overnight stays for pupils are noted;
 - (c) The residential facilities at Maplewell Hall School be removed (closed) with effect from September 2018 in accordance with paragraph 8 of Schedule 2 to the Education and Inspections Act 2006;
 - (d) It is noted that the purpose of the Council's High Needs Block is not to fund residential provision or social care needs, but to support the education of children with special educational needs and that the block is under increasing pressure;

- (e) Further support be given to those pupils currently attending the School who have made use of the residential facilities, and their families in the period leading up to the closure;
- (f) In response to the request to delay closure, Mrs Taylor be advised that determining to proceed with the proposal set out in the Statutory Notice does not prevent the school producing a business case to maintain the residential facilities, although it is re-confirmed that no pupils placed at the school have residential provision named in their Education Health and Care Plans.

Reasons for Recommendations

4. Although there have been some objections to the Statutory Notice proposals, the overriding majority of the reasons put forward to keep the residential facilities open do not relate directly to an educational need. There are no pupils at Maplewell Hall who have been assessed as needing educational residential provision as stated in their Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP).
5. The Internal Audit report indicates that a significant proportion of funding provided to the School for the residential facilities has not been used for that purpose.
6. There is significant pressure on the Council's High Needs Block (HNB) budget which funds the residential provision. The HNB budget is solely for the purpose of providing education for pupils with special educational needs (SEN). It should not be used to fund children's social care needs, including respite care or short breaks.
7. The closure of the residential facilities in September 2018 will allow for appropriate support to be put in place (where assessed to be required) for families and pupils affected by the change.
8. Removal of the residential funding will not affect afterschool activities as these are operated separately by the School, supported by parental contributions.

Timetable for Decisions (including Scrutiny)

9. The Statutory Notice setting out the proposals for closure of the residential facilities at the Maplewell Hall School was published on Monday 15th January 2018. A four-week representation period for further comment or objection to the proposals followed, ending on 12th February.
10. The Local Authority is required by law to take a decision on the implementation of the Statutory Notice proposals within two months of the end of the representation period.
11. Subject to the Cabinet's decision, the Director of Children and Family Services will implement the closure of the residential facilities at the end of the summer

term, in effect meaning that they are no longer available from the start of the new school year in September 2018.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

12. The statutory guidance for making prescribed alterations to maintained schools, which sets out the arrangements for the removal of residential (boarding) provision at a community special school, was re-issued by the Department for Education (DfE) in April 2016. The guidance requires that the Statutory Proposal and Notice is published, and subsequently determined, by the Local Authority within the prescribed period.
13. The Cabinet approved the publication of the Statutory Notice at its meeting on 24th November 2017.
14. The County Council discussed the proposals for the removal of the residential facilities on 6th December 2017, following receipt of a petition objecting to the closure of residential facilities. The Council noted the petition, the publication of the Statutory Notice, and that a report would be submitted to the Cabinet on 9th March.

Resource Implications

15. The Council faces significant financial pressures across all services but particularly in respect of children's services. The HNB of £63m was overspent by £2m in 2016/17 and is expected to see an overspend of £1m in 2017/18, despite a budget increase of £2.8m. To date these overspends have been met from a withdrawal from Dedicated Schools Grant reserves but this is unlikely to be possible after next year as those reserves will be depleted.
16. Children and Family Services has achieved Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) savings totalling £28.2 million between 2010/11 and 2016/17. The required MTFS savings for the Service in 2017/18 total £1.9 million, rising to £8.1 million in 2021. Further savings are required to be delivered from the HNB.
17. An updated SEND Strategy is being developed to ensure the Council is using the finite resources available within the HNB to best effect to meet the rising demand for services and that they are targeted at those in greatest need. It should be noted that the HNB is provided specifically for pupils with SEN whereas the wider government reforms introduced with the Children and Families Act 2014 that underpin the development of the Strategy refer more broadly to pupils with SEN and disabilities (SEND). A number of initiatives are being implemented to contain the cost of services for children with SEN within the available grant. The removal of the residential provision at Maplewell Hall will help to reduce the overspend on the HNB. The full year savings have now been confirmed as £287,852. For the 2018/19 financial year, assuming removal of the facilities from September 2018, the partial saving will be £170,900.
18. If the residential provision is not closed other services funded by the HNB will need to make savings, affecting all pupils with SEND.

19. The revenue costs associated with the proposals and process for removal of the residential facilities will continue to be met from within existing service budgets, largely from the Children and Family Services Department.
20. It should be noted that further revenue costs (relating to social care arrangements and transport) may arise to provide any individual support to families/pupils as a consequence of the removal of facilities.
21. The Director of Corporate Resources and the Director of Law and Governance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

Mrs D. Taylor CC

Officers to contact

Paul Meredith, Director of Children and Family Services
Tel: 0116 305 7441 email: paul.meredith@leics.gov.uk

Jane Moore, Assistant Director, Education and Early Help,
Children and Family Services
Tel: 0116 305 2649 email: jane.moore@leics.gov.uk

David Atterbury, Head of Service (Education Sufficiency),
Children and Family Services
Tel: 0116 305 7729 email: david.atterbury@leics.gov.uk

PART B**Background**

22. Maplewell Hall Special School caters predominantly for pupils with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) having 183 pupils on roll, including 20 pupils within a designated Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) unit. The School has maintained status and is therefore directly controlled by the Local Authority.
23. The residential provision referred to in this report is defined as overnight stays for pupils. In the case of Maplewell Hall this follows afterschool activities normally ending at 7.30pm and covers the evening meal, social activities that may follow, overnight sleeping and preparation for school the next day. Some children who attend Maplewell Hall participate in the afterschool activities but do not stay overnight; they are collected by parents or transport arrangements are made for them.
24. The residential facilities comprise bedrooms located on the first and second floors of the main school building which was constructed in 1857. This originally offered 24 beds to pupils for overnight stays but has recently been reduced to 20 beds as a consequence of two bedrooms (four beds) being taken out of use as a consequence of concerns raised during a Fire Risk Assessment.
25. Since the previous report to Cabinet on 24th November 2017 it has been confirmed that the exact amount of the allocation from the HNB to support the residential provision is £287,852, which is calculated via a formula and is made as a payment per place. No other school in Leicestershire catering for children with SEND, including those catering for children with high or severe needs, has residential provision or funding for residential provision.
26. Information provided by the School confirms that for the last academic year 69 pupils used the residential facilities, this equates to 37% (approximately 1 in 3) of the school population. However no pupils currently attending Maplewell Hall have any requirement for education residential provision included within their EHCP, and this has been the case for the past few years.
27. The purpose of residential provision within a school is to meet an educational need through curriculum enrichment and it has to be identified within a pupil's EHCP. It is not appropriate to use such facilities for the provision of respite care which is provided via children's social care and subject to a different regulatory and funding framework. In other SEND schools in the County curriculum enrichment is undertaken after school hours without the need for residential provision. The funding provided to Maplewell Hall School is additional to that made to other SEND schools. It is not designated as either respite or short break provision and should not be used for this purpose, particularly when there is such pressure on the HNB budget.
28. The results of the first stage of consultation on the proposals to remove the residential provision were considered in detail by the Cabinet on 24th November

2017 following which the publication of the Statutory Notice was approved, as the next step to progressing the removal of the residential facilities.

Statutory Notice

29. The process for the closure of a residential provision is defined by the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.
30. The Statutory Notice proposing the removal (closure) was published on Monday 15th January 2018 (a copy is attached as Appendix A to this report). To ensure widespread coverage the Notice and details of the full proposals have been:
 - a) Made available on the County Council's and Maplewell Hall School's websites.
 - b) Published in the Leicester Mercury.
 - c) Displayed within the school buildings and at the main gates, and in the Loughborough Library.
 - d) Sent directly to the parents/carers of each child currently attending Maplewell Hall School.
 - e) Sent directly to the Headteacher and Chair of Governors for sharing with members of staff and governors accordingly.
 - f) Sent to Edward Argar MP and the Right Hon Nicky Morgan MP.
 - g) Sent to the local County Council elected member, Mrs. D. Taylor.
 - h) Made available to any other members of the public requesting a copy.

The information provided made clear how copies of the proposals may be obtained, details of how a person may object or comment to the proposals, and a date by which said objections or comments must be sent.

31. The four-week representation period for further comment or objection to the Statutory Notice proposals ended on 12th February 2018.

Objections and Comments received to the Statutory Notice

32. By the close of the representation period 131 responses to the Statutory Notice had been received.
33. Analysis of the responses shows that 52 (40%) replies are from parents/carers of pupils attending the Maplewell Hall School, 18 (14%) from current pupils, 10 (8%) from other family relatives of pupils, 7 (5%) from members of staff, 1 (1%) from the local Member, 16 (12%) from other members of the public and 27 (20%) of an undeclared connection.
34. By the closing date for the Statutory Notice no response had been received from the Headteacher or any member of the Governing Body of the School.

35. All of the respondents have raised objections, showing very clear disagreement with the proposals for closure of the residential facilities.
36. The objections raised demonstrate a general concern that the proposals are unfair and are taking away vital services that support the most vulnerable in society. As was seen previously in the initial consultation there are four principal concerns about the proposals and their impact:-
- The value of the residential provision to improving pupil educational outcomes.
 - The value the overnight stays provide as an opportunity for pupils to develop their social and independence skills and confidence.
 - The value of the residential provision to improving family life for parents/carers and siblings through the respite provided.
 - The expectation that the closure of the residential facility will result in higher costs for the Council, principally for transport and overnight short breaks.
37. A summary of the comments/objections received to the Statutory Notice is attached as Appendix B.
38. A copy of the letter of objection received from Mrs Deborah Taylor, the County Councillor for the Bradgate Division, is attached as Appendix C.
39. Since submitting the letter of objection Mrs Taylor CC has made further contact with the Director of Children and Family Services to enquire about the potential to delay the effective date of the Statutory Notice, and to provide a reduced level of funding to the school to support the residential provision for a further six months to spring 2019. This request is to enable the school to develop a business plan to operate the residential facilities on a self-funding basis and possibly as a community business initiative i.e.at no cost to the Local Authority. Such proposals have yet to be developed, this should not therefore preclude the determination of the Statutory Notice as set out in this report, but any proposals that offer a sustainable solution should be considered at the appropriate time.

Reasons for Proposed Closure of Residential Facilities

40. The reasons for the proposed closure of the residential provision at Maplewell Hall are as previously reported to the Cabinet and set out below:-
- No pupils placed at the School, now or in recent years, have residential education provision named in their EHCP, i.e. this is not considered to be required for their needs.
 - Evidence indicates that only one in three pupils at Maplewell Hall have accessed the residential facility. This represents just 1.9% of the overall number of Leicestershire pupils (3603) having an EHCP.

- No other Local Authority Maintained Special School or Academy Special School in Leicestershire that caters for SEND pupils has a residential facility or is funded for residential provision.
- The HNB budget is a finite resource and is under significant pressure to meet increases in demand for the most vulnerable children. It therefore needs to be prioritised according to assessed need. Pupils having Moderate Learning Difficulties are defined as being within an area of low SEND need.
- If the residential provision at Maplewell Hall is not closed this will increase pressures elsewhere in the HNB and in turn affect the provision for children and young people with more significant assessed needs.
- The estimated increase in home to school transport costs for the Council arising from the proposals is expected to be low – preliminary assessment has determined the additional cost to be no more than £5000 per annum overall.

41. The objections to the Statutory Notice do not introduce any new information and do not represent any material change to the reasons set out above for the proposed closure of the residential provision at Maplewell Hall.

Decision Making Process

42. The 'Prescribed Alterations' process that underpins the Statutory Notice requires that the Local Authority (the decision maker) takes a decision within two months of the end of the representation period, i.e. by 12th April 2018, otherwise the decision must be referred to the Schools Adjudicator.
43. When issuing a decision, the decision-maker can:
- reject the proposal; or
 - approve the proposal without modification; or
 - approve the proposal with modifications, having consulted the Governing Body (as appropriate); or
 - approve the proposal – with or without modification – subject to certain conditions (such as the granting of planning permission) being met.
44. The Local Authority (as the proposer) has entitlement to withdraw the proposal at any point before a decision is taken. When doing so the Local Authority must send written notice to the Governing Body or the Schools Adjudicator (if the proposal has been sent to them). A notice must also be placed on the websites where the original proposal was published.

Other matters to be considered by the Cabinet

45. The statutory guidance sets out the considerations which local authorities must take into account when deciding on a proposal.
46. The Cabinet as the decision-maker needs to be satisfied that the appropriate fair and open local consultation and/or representation period has been carried out and that the proposer has given full consideration to all the responses received. If there has been a failure to meet the statutory requirements, a proposal may be deemed invalid and therefore should be rejected. The decision-maker must consider all the views submitted, including all support for, objections to, and comments on the proposal.
47. The following is an extract of the relevant sections from the DfE's 'Guidance for decision-makers' (April 2016), in relation to deciding prescribed alteration and establishment and discontinuance proposals. This sets out the full range of considerations that, where relevant, have been taken into account throughout the process and in making the recommendations in this report. These need to be considered by the Cabinet as the decision-maker.

Publishing decisions

All decisions (rejected and approved – with or without modifications) must give reasons for such a decision being made. Within one week of making a decision the decision-maker should arrange (via the proposer as necessary) for the decision and the reasons behind it to be published on the website where the original proposal was published. The decision-maker must also arrange for the organisations below to be notified of the decision and reasons:

- *the LA (where the Schools Adjudicator or governing body is the decision-maker);*
- *the governing body/proposers (as appropriate);*
- *the trustees of the school (if any);*
- *the local Church of England diocese;*
- *the local Roman Catholic diocese;*
- *for a special school, the parents of every registered pupil at the school;*
- *any other organisation that they think is appropriate; and*
- *the Secretary of State via schoolorganisation.notifications@education.gsi.gov.uk (in school opening and closure cases only).*

Education standards and diversity of provision

Decision-makers should consider the quality and diversity of schools in the relevant area and whether the proposal will meet or affect the needs of parents; raise local standards and narrow attainment gaps.

A school-led system with every school an academy

The 2016 White Paper Education Excellence Everywhere, sets out the department's aim that by the end of 2020, all schools will be academies or in the process of becoming academies. The decision-maker should, therefore, take into account the extent to which the proposal is consistent with this policy.

School size

Decision-makers should not make blanket assumptions that schools should be of a certain size to be good schools, although the viability and cost-effectiveness of a proposal is an important factor for consideration. The decision-maker should also consider the impact on the LA's budget of the need to provide additional funding to a small school to compensate for its size.

Proposed admission arrangements

In assessing demand the decision-maker should consider all expected admission applications, not only those from the area of the LA in which the school is situated. Before approving a proposal that is likely to affect admissions to the school the decision-maker should confirm that the admission arrangements of the school are compliant with the School Admissions Code. Although the decision-maker cannot modify proposed admission arrangements, the decision-maker should inform the proposer where arrangements seem unsatisfactory and the admission authority should be given the opportunity to revise them.

National Curriculum

All maintained schools must follow the National Curriculum unless they have secured an exemption for groups of pupils or the school community.

Equal opportunity issues

The decision-maker must have regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) of LAs/governing bodies, which requires them to have 'due regard' to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination;*
- advance equality of opportunity; and*
- foster good relations.*

The decision-maker should consider whether there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues that arise from the changes being proposed, for example that where there is a proposed change to single sex provision in an area, there is equal access to single sex provision for the other sex to meet parental demand. Similarly there should be a commitment to provide access to a range of opportunities which reflect the ethnic and cultural mix of the area, while ensuring that such opportunities are open to all.

Community cohesion

Schools have a key part to play in providing opportunities for young people from different backgrounds to learn with, from and about each other; by encouraging, through their teaching, an understanding of, and respect for, other cultures, faiths and communities. When considering a proposal, the decision-maker must consider its impact on community cohesion. This will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking account of the community served by the school and the views of different sections within the community.

Travel and accessibility

Decision-makers should satisfy themselves that accessibility planning has been properly taken into account and the proposed changes should not adversely impact on disadvantaged groups. The decision-maker should bear in mind that a proposal should not unreasonably extend journey times or increase transport costs, or result in too many children being prevented from travelling sustainably due to unsuitable walking or cycling routes. A proposal should also be considered on the basis of how it will support and contribute to the LA's duty to promote the use of sustainable travel and transport to school. Further information is available in the statutory Home to school travel and transport guidance for LAs.

Changes to boarding provision

In making a decision on a proposal to close a school that has boarding provision, or to remove boarding provision from a school that is not closing, the decision-maker should consider whether there is a state maintained boarding school within reasonable distance from the school. The decision-maker should consider whether there are satisfactory alternative boarding arrangements for those currently in the school and those who may need boarding places in the foreseeable future, including the children of service families.

Changes to special educational need provision

In planning and commissioning SEN provision or considering a proposal for change, LAs should aim for a flexible range of provision and support that can respond to the needs of individual pupils and parental preferences. This is favourable to establishing broad categories of provision according to special educational need or disability. Decision-makers should ensure that proposals:

- take account of parental preferences for particular styles of provision or education settings;*
- take account of any relevant local offer for children and young people with SEN and disabilities and the views expressed on it;*
- offer a range of provision to respond to the needs of individual children and young people, taking account of collaborative arrangements (including between special and mainstream), extended school and Children's Centre provision; regional centres (of expertise) and regional and sub-regional provision; out of LA day and residential special provision;*
- take full account of educational considerations, in particular the need to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum, within a learning environment where children can be healthy and stay safe;*
- support the LA's strategy for making schools and settings more accessible to disabled children and young people and their scheme for promoting equality of opportunity for disabled people;*
- provide access to appropriately trained staff and access to specialist support and advice, so that individual pupils can have the fullest possible opportunities to make progress in their learning and participate in their school and community;*
- ensure appropriate provision for 14-19 year-olds; and*
- ensure that appropriate full-time education will be available to all displaced pupils. Their statements of special educational needs must be amended and*

all parental rights must be ensured. Other interested partners, such as the Health Authority should be involved. Pupils should not be placed long-term or permanently in a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) if a special school place is what they need.

When considering any reorganisation of provision that the LA considers to be reserved for pupils with special educational needs, including that which might lead to children being displaced, proposers will need to demonstrate how the proposed alternative arrangements are likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of educational provision for those children. Decision-makers should make clear how they are satisfied that this SEN improvement test has been met, including how they have taken account of parental or independent representations which question the proposer's assessment.

Audit Report of Funding Arrangements for Residential Provision

48. The initial consultation and responses to the Statutory Notice representation have served to highlight further concerns regarding the funding arrangements for the residential provision including payments directly made by some parents to the School.
49. On 24th November 2017 the Cabinet was advised that further work was being progressed by officers from the Council's Internal Audit Service, to:-
- Confirm the actual costs of operating the residential provision at Maplewell Hall Special School, in the context of the annual High Needs Budget (HNB) funding allocation provided by the Council.
 - Clarify the division of operating costs between afterschool activities and the residential overnight stays that follow this.
 - Confirm that the residential funding provided by the Council has been managed by the Governing Body and senior leadership team in accordance with the Leicestershire Scheme of Financing of maintained schools, and demonstrates robust procedures and financial probity.
 - Confirm the rationale for parental contributions towards the cost of the residential provision, and how and when the charging policy was implemented.
 - Understand the impact on the School's overall financial position arising from a potential removal of the residential funding.
 - Establish current overnight occupancy levels.
 - Confirm that the funds provided by the Council have been used in keeping with requirements applicable to the allocation of HNB funding.
50. Funding given by the Council is not ring-fenced and it is for the Governing Body to take decisions in relation to how the overall budget is to be spent. Once school funding is delegated, the Governing Body can use it in whatever appropriate provision it wishes subject to compliance with the Council's approved Scheme for Financing Schools, for example, it does not have to spend the residential allocation on residential provision.

51. The audit found that not all of the funding provided by the Council for residential facilities is needed by the School for that purpose. This is accepted by the school management team which confirmed that not all of this funding is being used for the intended purpose.
52. As the cost of running the residential provision is less than the Council funding provided, it follows that any monies not used for this have been used elsewhere within the budget for Maplewell Hall, and have helped to reduce the School's budgetary deficit.
53. The audit work has clearly confirmed that there has never been 100% occupancy of the residential facilities so far during the current school year. Analysis of occupancy based on information provided by the School for October 2017 shows that there has been between 50% and 80% use of the available beds.
54. A full copy of the audit report including the findings and conclusions (with names of individuals redacted) is provided at Appendix D.

Conclusions

55. The comments and objections received to the Statutory Notice proposing to remove the residential facilities at the Maplewell Hall Special School have re-affirmed the views expressed during the initial consultation, in particular the value of the residential provision to improving educational outcomes for pupils having overnight stays, a benefit which is readily recognised by the Council. The overriding majority of respondents have made reference to the social care benefits of the residential provision, for example enabling the better development of social and independence skills for pupils, and assisting with respite care for parents.
56. Clearly there are matters of significant importance to parents that have arisen during this process, hence very careful consideration has been given to all responses received throughout. However, whilst it is clear that some families may require additional support, the comments and objections now received to the Statutory Notice reasons do not constitute a material change to the reasons put forward for the proposed closure.
57. The County Council does not dispute the quality and value of the residential provision at Maplewell Hall, but this is not a sufficient reason for it to continue to receive HNB funding. There continue to be significant funding pressures on the HNB and this should not be used to fund respite care or short breaks. No pupils at the School have a need for educational residential provision stated in their EHCP.
58. The pressures on the HNB budget are increasing as a result of the rising demand for SEND services across the County. The Council needs to ensure that the limited resources are used to help those in most need. Continuing to fund the residential facilities at Maplewell Hall would mean less funding for other children and young people with SEND elsewhere in Leicestershire and cannot be justified.

59. Internal audit work has helped to clarify the funding arrangements for the residential provision and those for the afterschool activities. It is hoped that the school will continue to provide the afterschool activities as part of its curriculum enrichment work, and the understanding of the costs will assist its future financial planning.
60. The initial consultation and Statutory Notice representation period has allowed for a robust and fair process to be followed, providing the opportunity for everyone concerned to have their say, in keeping with the Council's standards for engagement and its statutory obligations.

Relevant Impact Assessments

Equality and Human Rights Implications

61. The underlying purpose of the proposals is to ensure a more equitable use of the HNB budget to meet priorities for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.
62. Consultation with those affected by the proposed closure of the residential provision has helped to identify where additional support might be needed to ensure continued equality of opportunity for those affected.
63. In keeping with the Public Sector Equality Duty, to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not, a full Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment for the proposed change has been completed to help address any necessary support for pupils/parents arising from the as a consequence of the closure of the residential facility.
64. The purpose of undertaking the full EHRIA has been to identify if there will be a disproportionate impact on a particular group and ensure that the Local Authority does not discriminate against a particular community or group of people. The full assessment shows that there may be some impact to those pupils and their families who currently use the facility. However, the nature and extent of the impact is likely to vary from family to family depending upon the parent/carer needs and circumstances, their child's needs and the needs of any siblings. In order to mitigate this position, the EHRIA details the actions to be taken to ensure appropriate support including an Early Help Assessment or a Social Care Assessment. The assessment will consider the need for regular short breaks, summer activities and any other support needs in the home or local community. If such needs are identified a plan of support will be agreed, drawing from the Leicestershire 'Local Offer', which describes the range of services and support available to children in Leicestershire who have special educational needs or a disability (SEND).
65. However, it is considered that, despite the potential impact of the proposals for some, by completing further assessments and providing information of the 'Local Offer', the County Council will continue to observe its responsibilities in

relation to equality, diversity, community cohesion and human rights, and ensure all due process is followed.

66. A copy of the full EHRIA is attached as Appendix E.

Risk Assessment

67. The removal of the residential provision will not present any significant risk to the sustainability of the Maplewell Hall Special School.
68. Any risks to the Council arising from the proposals will be kept under review by officers within Children and Family Services and where required, will be reported to the Departmental Management Team, and Corporate Schools Group (which maintains oversight of all school organisation matters) to help determine actions to mitigate.

Background Papers

Report to the Cabinet on 24th November 2017 – Proposals to consult on removal (closure) of residential facilities at Maplewell Hall Special School.

<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/documents/s133408/Maplewell%20Hall%20School.pdf>

Appendices

- Appendix A Statutory Notice proposing the removal (closure) of the residential facilities at Maplewell Hall School
- Appendix B Summary of comments/objections to the Statutory Notice
- Appendix C Response received from Mrs Deborah Taylor CC
- Appendix D Internal Audit report 4th January 2018, Maplewell Hall Residential Provision (Redacted)
- Appendix E Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment

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