

Submission to Cabinet
23rd June 2023



From Max Hunt CC, Labour Children and Family Services Spokesperson

Item 12: TRANSFORMING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND) AND INCLUSION IN LEICESTERSHIRE (TSIL) PROGRAMME UPDATE

In seeking to understand the extension to the TSIL contract, Council needs to be clear

- a) Exactly what the *cost and period of the extended contract* is (not shown in the MTFS figures)
- b) The difference between *identifying* and *delivering* savings
- c) Some clearer *deliveries from the current year* and subsequently.
- d) The *risk associated* with the number of mainstream places needed in the county.

The Labour Group supports the delivery of benefits and efficiencies which meet parents' reasonable expectations. We understand that the rising deficit is not sustainable but are mindful that it is the consequence of many years of public service austerity falling on the most vulnerable children.

We are concerned that the programme may not yield adequate places in mainstream school or of the right standard. And as such we believe the extended contract has yet to demonstrate that it will actually deliver.

Finally, our greatest fear is that the outcome of the exercise will result in a second rate education for many SEND children. Whilst we are confident this is not the aim of the project, we will be vigilant to that possibility.

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