

Business Change Mandate (Including Budget Mandates) Proposal Number: B20

Title: Review of service provision for children with special educational needs with the authority.
(phase 3)

All information requested must be completed on the proposed mandate to enable the Cabinet to decide whether to proceed with the proposal.

Mandate Completed by	<i>Stephanie Hawkins – Principal Officer Additional Learning Needs</i>
Date	<i>September 2015 – updated 7/12/2015</i>

How much savings will it generate and over what period?	
£550,000 in 2016/17 – Year 1.	
Directorate & Service Area responsible	
Children and Young People	
Mandate lead(s)	
Key Lead:	Stephanie Hawkins
Project Team:	Sharon Randall Smith Cath Sheen Richard Austin Jill Thomas Nikki Wellington Gwen Phillips

Final mandate approved by Cabinet	Date:
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1. Vision and Outcomes of the Mandate

Give a business context for the mandate. This must pick up on the vision and what the new / improved / reduced service will look like in the future including the anticipated experience of users. It must also consider any impact on the Council's key priorities and strategic outcomes. Similarly does it impact on service performance within the immediate service area or any impact on other services provided by the authority / any other providers. In doing so, the mandate must be tested against the Future Generations Evaluation and must consider impact in relation to the new Future Generations Bill.

What is the issue that the proposal is seeking to address?

Part A.

- The objective of the proposal is to consider how best the Authority could meet the needs of pupils with moderate to severe learning difficulties in specialist placements within Monmouthshire schools. The special needs resource bases that provide placement for pupils at the more severe end of the spectrum are full utilised, however, the facility which is designated for moderate learning difficulties pupils with social and emotional learning difficulties is currently underutilised and is not meeting the needs of Monmouthshire pupils as directed by Statement of Special Educational Needs.

Part B.

- In addition we are recommending a review the pricing structure for ALN services provided by Monmouthshire County Council to external organisations.
- And a proposed change to the delegation of funding of Mounon House Special School.

What evidence have you got that this needs to be addressed?

Part A.

- The current provision is an SEN Resource Base, made up of 2 classes and funded by the Authority. (Based within Deri View School) It supports pupils in the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 (pupils aged 4 to 11 years) with special educational needs: namely those who are experiencing learning difficulties to a moderate degree (general cognitive ability of less than 70) usually with additional social, emotional and behavioural difficulties (SEBD). In addition, placement may be considered at the resource base for some pupils who fall outside this strict criteria but for whom the appropriate educational professionals consider its resources and facilities appropriate. Admission to the Resource Base has been widened to consider pupils with more severe learning difficulties and/or an Autistic Spectrum Disorder with learning difficulties. This Resource Base currently is underutilised by pupils from Monmouthshire and has 7 pupils who could either be supported in mainstream or need more specialist provision. The pupil numbers in the SNLB have declined over time and significantly in the last 3 years.
- The current provision is not fully utilised in Deri View Primary School, the cluster area or Monmouthshire as a whole, as evidenced by the reduction in numbers.
- The provision does not fulfil the original brief for the school or the Local Authority as defined by the 'aims of the SNRB'. The intention of the SNRB was to provide interim support for pupils with SEBD/MLD from across Monmouthshire. Its strategic impact has been minimal and given the reduction in number it is no longer providing the school or the Local authority with value for money. The needs of the school

are now focused on early intervention within the community to close the gap in attainment between pupils in an area of high deprivation. Both research and our experience shows that where education within the mainstream classroom is appropriate with the relevant support it can be hugely beneficial in developing skills to prepare our children and young people to become as independent as possible. (**see projected pupil numbers for SNRB attached**)

Part B.

- In line with inflation the pricing structure for external placements at Mounton House Special School have been increased automatically annually. A full review has not taken place for at least 4 years therefore this is now required in order to realign competitively within the market. The proposal is to increase both day and residential placements by £7,850 each to cover the costs of the provision.
- The funding formula delegation for Mounton House Special School has not been reviewed since 2010 and at which stage the formula funded based on full residential capacity, being 42 placements. Currently there are 10 residents in the school, with an anticipated fluctuation during this year normally expected. The new funding formula proposals is recommending a delegation rate based on 18 residential pupil placements. An Annual review of numbers will also take place to ensure formula remains current.

How will this proposal address this issue

Part A.

- This proposal will allow Deri View Primary School to concentrate their resources on the provision of Early Years intervention and use the specialist resources within school to support this.

Part B.

- Pricing structure for Mounton House now realine competitively in the market.
- The funding formula for Mounton House Special School following consultation will be reduced to reflect a more accurate pupil residential number.

What will it look like when you have implemented the proposal

Part A.

- There will be 2 special needs facilities one in the north and one in the south which will support the needs of pupils who are experiencing a range of difficulties including moderate to severe, profound & complex, autistic spectrum disorder and other pervasive developmental disorders. Children that are integrated into mainstream classes will access to appropriate skilled support in order to ensure that we meet their individual needs. Integrating all children where appropriate will have a positive impact on those pupils currently in mainstream. Learning to interact and appreciate those with additional learning needs would have a positive impact on our adults of the future and our cohesive society.

Part B.

- Current external placements pricing structure will be more in line with the operating costs of running the school.
- On current pupil numbers the anticipated amount of funding for the school will decrease. On current funding levels this is anticipated to be a reduction of £250,000

Expected positive impacts

Part A.

- The needs of the school are now focused on early intervention within the community to close the gap in attainment between pupils in an area of high deprivation. Both research and our experience shows that where education within the mainstream classroom is appropriate with the relevant support it can be hugely beneficial in developing skills to prepare our children and young people to become as independent as possible.

Part B.

- The additional income for Monmouthshire will ensure that the placements are covered without any subsidy for out of county pupils from Monmouthshire County Council.

Expected negative impacts

Part A.

- We recognise that the inclusion of this small number of pupils into mainstream may potentially have a distracting influence in the classroom for other pupils. We believe this potential impact is minimal due to the small number of children and in order to mitigate against this we will ensure that the support provided is of a specialist nature and that training is provided to mainstream staff the school if required. This will only potentially impact one school in Monmouthshire (Deri View) where there is significant experience and skills available to fully support this transition. There will be minimal disruption for the pupils as they are already familiar with the building, teaching & support staff and other pupils

Part B.

- There may be a reductions at the start of a new School year of external placements due to increase in price charging.
- The proposal for Mounton House Special School may result in redundancies at the school however the protection of employment policy will be followed.

2. Savings proposed

Show how the budget mandate will make savings against the current service budget. This must cover each year implicated. This section must also cover any other efficiency that will arise from the mandate.

What savings and efficiencies are expected to be achieved?

Service area	Current Budget £	Proposed Cash Savings £	Proposed non cash efficiencies – non £	Target year			Total Savings proposed
				16/17	17/18	18/19	
Part A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional Learning Needs SNRB provision 	£200,000.	£200,000		£50,000	£150,000	Ongoing	£200,000
Part B <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase in pricing structure for ALN services provided by the authority to external organisations, changes to funding formula (based on 18 residential places) 		£250,000		£250,000			£250,000
		£250,000		£250,000			£250,000
Totals		£700,000		£550,000	£150,000		£700,000

3. Options

Prior to the mandate being written, an options appraisal will have taken place. Summarise here the outcome of the Options considered and detail the rationale on why they were disregarded. (see options appraisal guide for further information)

Options	Reason why Option was not progressed
1. Continue with the running of the Special Needs Resource Base (SNRB) within Deri View. (A)	The resource base is currently underutilised and has 7 pupils that could be supported in mainstream or more specialist provision. The current provision is equipped and resourced to accommodate 24 children. The current provision has not been able to fulfil the original brief for the school or the local authority as defined by the 'aim of the SNRB'.
2. Close all 3 Resource Bases (Overmonnow, Pembroke) and support all children in mainstream education. (A)	This option was not cost effective and could potentially result in lost specialism.
3. Leave the pricing structure as-is (B)	This will result in the authority continuing to subsidise out of county placements for other local authorities. Continue to offer external places at below the market rate

4. No changes to current delegated funding formula (B)	Funding will be based on historic residential pupil numbers putting further pressure on other schools budgets.
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4. Consultation

Have you undertaken any initial consultation on the idea(s)?		
Name	Organisation/ department	Date
Stephanie Hawkins	Principal Officer, Additional Learning Needs	

Has the specific budget mandate been consulted on?		
Function	Date	Details of any changes made?
Department Management Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A • B 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3rd September 2015 • 23rd November 2015. 	In light of statutory consultation process the timelines have been re-align resulting in savings achievable for 16/17 being reduced. (A)
Senior leadership team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A • B 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th September 2015 • 23rd November 2015 	Increase in pricing structure to commence in January 2016. Following on going development of the mandate it was identified to consult on proposed changes for the delegation rates for Mounon House and to re-align with current residential pupils on roll.
All directorate staff	At staff conference Monday 28th September.	
Select Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A • B 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21st October 2015, 16th December 2015 • 23rd November 2015, 16th December 2015 	
Public or other stakeholders	In line with consultation & engagement plan	
Cabinet (sign off to proceed)	21st October 2015	
Neighbouring Local Authorities		
Head Teacher, teachers and parent of children attending Deri View Primary School	See attached statutory consultation document.	
Governing Body of schools in Abergavenny Cluster		

Staff and parents of children attending the SEN unit at Deri View Primary	Consultaion process on going until 6th January.	
Church in Wales Diocesan and RC Diocesan		
Welsh Ministers		
Local AM – Nick Ramsey		
Local MP – David Davies		
Estyn		
Educational Achievement Service		
Regional Transport Consortium		
Professional Associations and Trade Unions		
Police and Crime Commissioner		
Abergavenny town council, Llantillo Pertholey Community Council.		
Admission Forum		
Local Community Frist Partnership		
SNP Cymru Parent Partnership Service		
Child Development Team, Aneurin Bevan Health Board.		
Headteachers	Mounton House 23rd November 2015	Consultation closes 6th 2016
All Governors	Mounton House 23rd November 2015	Consultation closes 6th 2016
School Budget Finance Forum	Mounton House 23rd November 2015	Consultation closes 6th 2016
Diosen Director of Education	Mounton House 23rd November 2015	Consultation closes 6th 2016
All Elected Members	Mounton House 23rd November 2015	Consultation closes 6th 2016

Will any further consultation be needed?		
All consultation will be carried out in in line with statutory consultation rules.		

5. Actions to deliver the mandate

Describe the key activities that will be undertaken to deliver the mandates and the action holders. This includes any actions contributed to by other services. Give the timescales to complete the work. This must also factor in any business activities that will need to be done differently or cease in order to achieve the mandate.

Action	Officer/ Service responsible	Timescale
A – In line with statutory consultation plan. (attached)	Sharon Randal-Smith	January to September 2016
B – Notify all current external organisations of plans to increase pricing structure as of January 2016. Price increase implemented from 1 st January onwards.	Stephanie Hawkins.	October to November 2015 January 2016
B- Consult with school funding forum on proposed amendamnts of delegated formula Consultation period to commence following school forum school consideration. Proposed consultation period to close 6 th January. Consultation results to cabinet for decision making,	Nikki Wellington Nikki Wellington	November 2015 Jan/ Feb 2016

6. Additional resource/ business needs

Describe any additional finance, resource and capability needed in order to carry out the proposed mandate successfully. For example new funding, expertise e.g. marketing and knowledge etc.

Any additional investment required	Where will the investment come from	Any other resource/ business need (non-financial)
Part A No capital expenditure anticipated. The building is in good state of repair for the 2 rooms to be given back to the school.	Not applicable	
Project Management	This will be provided by the current management team within CYP.	
Potential redundancies estimated costs (at worse) £54,000.	In line with policy. If applicable any redundancy costs will not come out of the ALN budget.	
Part B. Potential redundancy costs - Until modelling has taken place the costs are unknown. This decision sits with the governing body.	In line with policy.	

7. Measuring performance on the mandate

How do you intend to measure the impact of the mandate? This could include: speed of service; quality of service; customer satisfaction; unit cost; overall cost. For advice on developing performance measures you can contact Policy and Performance Team, for advice on unit costs speak with your directorate accountant.

Focus- Budget / Process / Staff / Customer	Indicator	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Target 2016/17	Target 2017/18	Target 2018/19
Project Plan	Complete all milestones with the agreed timeline in line with both detailed action plans for both part A&B.						
Children	Measureable outcomes of pupil performance (A and B)						
Customer	Review numbers of children attending the school from external organisations.						
	Establish way of measuring customer satisfaction and continue to review.						
Finance	Track the financial position of the school with the reduced funding formula to ensure any deficit budget is recovered within the 3 year period.						

8. Key Risks and Issues

Are there any potential barriers and risks that will need to be managed in delivering the mandate, including any negative impacts identified in section 1 that need to be accounted for. Also, set out the steps that will be taken to mitigate these. The risks should be scored in accordance with the [council's policy](#).

Barrier or Risk	Strategic/ Operational	Reason why identified (evidence)	Risk Assessment			Mitigating Actions	Post mitigation risk level
			Likelihood	Impact	Overall Level		
In the future a child with moderate learning difficulties and SEBD can not have their needs met in Deri	Operational		Low	Low	Low	Staff training to build capacity in school.	Low

View special needs resource base.							
Out of County pupils withdrawn from Mounton House	Operational / strategic		Medium	High	Medium	Early consultation with other LEA's	Med
Governing Body do not identify operational need areas given the proposed reduction in funding.	Operational		Low	Low	Low	Finance team working with Governing body and helping with options for savings.	Low

9. Assumptions

Describe any assumptions made that underpin the justification for the option.

Assumption	Reason why assumption is being made (evidence)
That the children who leave the resource base can have their needs met locally.	Both research and our experience shows that where education within the mainstream classroom is appropriate with the relevant support it can be hugely beneficial in developing skills to prepare our children and young people to become as independent as possible. Children leaving the resource base will have access to appropriate support within mainstream classes locally to ensure that their needs are met effectively.
That staff will be subject to protection of employment policy and will be supported to find re-deployment.	We have an established authority policy in place to support this process.
Savings identified in Mounton House to ensure there is no deficit.	On going work indicates potential savings.
Out of County pupils remain with placements for Mounton House.	Following notification of increase to external organisations limited negative feedback has been received to date. We need to continue to review this as this is will become more evident summer 2016.

10. Monitoring the budget mandate

The budget mandates must be monitored through directorate budget monitoring. This will lead into corporate budget monitoring. In addition the action plan, performance measures and the risk assessment must be transferred into the service plans for the business area in order to monitor and challenge the delivery of the budget mandate, including the savings being achieved and the level of impact.

How will you monitor

Monitor mandate via:-	Service improvement plan. Statutory consultation plan. Internal challenge sessions Select committees. Schools financial reporting
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11. Evaluation

It is important to evaluate the impact of the mandate once it has been fully delivered to know whether it has successfully achieved what it set out to do and to ensure that findings can be used to inform future work.

Planned Evaluation Date	Who will complete the evaluation?
At point of final deliver of the mandate.	Sarah McGuiness to report into SLT and cabinet.