


WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

RECORD OF OFFICER EXECUTIVE DECISION

Date Of Decision	25 February 2015
Decision Maker	Gail Quinton, Director of Children's Services 
Brief Description Of Decision	Approval of published proposals to close the Mainstream Autism Base at Sutton Park Community Primary School with effect from 31 March 2015.
Reason(s) For Decision	<p>Publication of these proposals was approved by Cabinet on 18 December 2014. In the event that no objections were received during the representation period Cabinet delegated authority to the Director to approve the proposals</p> <p>There were no responses during the representation period. The Director has therefore approved the closure of the Unit as per the published proposals for the reasons set out in the Cabinet report.</p>
Alternative Options Considered And Rejected	<p>A review of the Sutton Park MAB concluded that in its existing state it is too restrictive and inflexible to meet identified needs. The costs of making suitable changes to meet the challenge of these restrictions would be prohibitive. Discussions with the school governing body concluded that the only way forward was to cease the provision on this site.</p> <p>The closure of the MAB at Sutton Park will enable the place funding currently made available through the Higher Needs Funding Block to be reallocated. This will be targeted at a range of activities through a commissioning service in a flexible way more in line with the needs of children on the autistic spectrum.</p> <p>An all age Autism Strategy is being developed to ensure that people with autism spectrum conditions have access to appropriate support. The Strategy will include the pathway for diagnosis and support, awareness raising and training, improved access to provision, employment and services, and improved planning to inform future commissioning arrangements.</p>
Any Conflict of Interest	None

declared by a consulted Cabinet Member/ any dispensation granted	
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March 2013
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