

## **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE REVIEW OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY (SEND) UPDATE REPORT**

### **Purpose of Report**

1. Following on from the SEND Review, this report seeks to update Schools Forum on the allocation of the new 'Specialist Provision Capital Grant' (SPCG), being made available to Local Authorities by Central Government from April 2018 and arrangements for Consultation with schools and partners.

### **Information and Advice**

2. As reported in the SEND Review, it is projected that the number of children and young people (CYP) requiring a special school placement is set to increase by at least 150 over the next 5 years. The number of pupils in Nottinghamshire special schools has increased by 15% to 986 in the last 5 years.
3. A key strategy for the Council will include a focus on how it will generate this additional capacity within the existing estate in the most efficient and pragmatic way possible. This will, in all likelihood, lead to multi-site expansion proposal being presented to the Council's 'Corporate Asset Management Group'.
4. There is an immediate need to begin this programme. There are not enough special school places for Nottinghamshire CYP; the impact of this is already being felt on revenue budgets as numbers being placed in expensive non-maintained and/or out of county provision is increasing, as is the number of CYP schools further away from their homes.
5. The £215 million SPCG fund is to support local authorities to invest in provision for CYP with SEN and disabilities aged 0-25 to improve the quality and range of provision available to the local authority. It is intended for CYP with education, health and care plans for whom Nottinghamshire County Council is responsible.

6. Nottinghamshire has been allocated £2.5 Million in three equal amounts over the next three years, commencing in 2018. More information can be found in appendix one.
7. In order for the grant to be released to the Council must consult with parents and carers of children with SEN and disabilities and young people with SEN and disabilities. It must also work with education providers to agree how the capital can best be targeted.
8. Through the SEND Board, the consultation will be agreed to ensure that the views of all key stakeholders including parents can be sought. Schools Forum, however, should be aware that any expansion and increase in the number of special school places in Nottinghamshire will require funding from the High Needs Block.

## **Recommendations**

1. That Schools Forum notes the need to consult regarding the spending of the Specialist Provision Capital Grant.
2. That Schools Forum notes that any increase in special school places in the county will require funding from the High Needs Block

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