

# Public Document Pack

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Date and Time:** Tuesday 15 March 2022 at 7.00 pm

**Place:** Council Chamber

**Present:**

Collins, Crookes, Dorn, Drage, Farmer, Harward, Smith (Chairman) and Wildsmith

**In attendance, virtual:**

Councillor Axam

Councillor Radley

John Elson, Head of Environment & Technical Services

Kirsty Jenkins, Head of Community

Mark Jaggard, Head of Place

Christine Tetlow, New Settlement Manager

**In attendance:**

Councillor Neighbour

Cheryl Edwards – Inclusion Hampshire

Marie Greenhalgh – Inclusion Hampshire

**Officers:**

Daryl Phillips, Joint Chief Executive

Emma Foy, Head of Corporate Services & S151 Officer

Joanne Innes, Audit Manager

Jenny Humphreys, Committee Services Officer

### 114 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chairman highlighted that the Head of Environment and Technical had requested an additional line to be added to Item 109. This is:

*The Head of Environment and Technical confirmed that the report will aim to address the committee's comments, before submission to Hampshire County Council and publication on Hart's website.*

The Minutes of the meeting of 15 February 2022 and this additional sentence were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### 115 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Davies and Worlock (Chairman).

Councillor Axam attended virtually via video.

## **116 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

## **117 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

## **118 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (ITEMS PERTAINING TO THE AGENDA)**

None.

## **119 PRESENTATION BY INCLUSION HAMPSHIRE**

Inclusion Hampshire's CEO and Head of Inclusion College gave a presentation on the charity's work over the last two years; they primarily work with young people who cannot access mainstream education.

The Head of Inclusion College also gave an overview of the new Inclusion Centre in Hook and thanked the Chairman's Charity for their financial contribution to train Casper, its therapy dog.

Questions from members included:

- The possibility of a larger music room in the Hook centre.
- How national funding has impacted referrals and their services.
- How the charity works with other local organisations and local employers; one of their existing links is with Aspire.
- How the charity handles safeguarding issues if a young person is homeless.

Members were keen to assist the group practically and keep in touch.

A Member asked if the Council's economic development plans could link with groups like Inclusion Hampshire and the Head of Place confirmed they did and would continue to in the future.

### **Presentation from Inclusion Hampshire - March 2022**

## **120 COMMUNITY SERVICE PANEL UPDATE**

Councillors Farmer and Wildsmith had attended the Service Panel and concluded the meeting was very good, particularly the detail on homelessness provision.

Members recognised the extension to the Closure Order and the hard work that had gone into this by officers; they also questioned the deferral of the Homelessness Out of Hours Provision.

Members were also pleased that the report included former dates and showed changes to deadlines.

## **121 ENVIRONMENT & TECHNICAL SERVICE PANEL UPDATE**

Councillor Farmer had attended the Service Panel.

Members questioned the timescales of some items, including delivery of Phase 1 works at Edenbrook Country Park.

There was a discussion by Members, The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Corporate Services and the Head of Environment and Technical on the KPIs relating to CCTV downtime.

It was agreed that more detail and explanation on the CCTV data needed to be discussed at Service Panels first, so it could then be explained with more clarity at future meetings.

The Head of Environment and Technical answered a member's question on vehicle leasing and purchasing and confirmed that the Procurement Team consider the timings for new vehicles, although as many were replaced recently there was no current update to share.

The Chairman requested that the document published on Hart's website detailing the 21/22 Traffic Management Programme needed improving.

## **122 PLACE SERVICE PANEL UPDATE**

Councillors Davies and Dorn had attended the Service Panel meeting and had emailed their comments to committee members in advance.

Members would have liked to have seen more clarification on how fly tipping and street cleansing worked together included in the plan.

Member's discussions included:

- The latest on the Gypsy and Traveller DPD and past consultation.
- Employment land, Article 4's (Planning) and why this is no longer required.

Members also requested more information on the Planning Enforcement Team's workload and The Head of Place agreed to provide an update at a future Service Panel.

## **123 DRAFT SERVICE PLANS 2022/2023**

Members considered the draft Service Plans for 2022/23 and made the following recommendations:

## CORPORATE

Members highlighted that the draft Service Plan contained no reference to the Tier 1 savings, and the Head of Corporate Services agreed to include more detail on items 12 and 16 of the plan when it was agreed - currently this work is still ongoing.

A Member questioned why the draft plans were not circulated to earlier Service Panel meetings and the Joint Chief Executive confirmed that due to timings and workloads it was not possible.

## COMMUNITY

No comments.

## ENVIRONMENT AND TECHNICAL

A Member questioned why many of the completion dates were March 2023 and hoped to see more challenging ones.

A Member requested to see more included in the draft plan on the Countryside Team's work. For example: Odiham Common and the work on smaller commons and Hazeley Heath. The Head of Environment and Technical agreed to include this.

## PLACE

A Member requested that Service Priority 7 'Customer-focused Service' should be reworded.

Member's discussions included:

- Timescales for the Local Plan Review and if any smaller work on particular areas of this could be drafted in advance.
- More dates to be included on the Climate Change Strategy.

## RECOMMENDATION

Members agreed that pending comments, the draft Service Plans would be recommended to Cabinet.

## **124** LEVELLING UP

The Joint Chief Executive and New Settlement Manager gave a presentation on The UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Levelling Up Fund 2.

Members were briefed on the Government's recently published Levelling Up White Paper, County Deals and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The Levelling Up Fund prioritises areas which are most in need of support; Hart District Council is identified as Tier 3, an area of least deprivation.

Member's questions included:

- How the Unitary authorities in Hampshire (city councils) are involved in these bids/processes.
- The amount of money that organisations can bid for.
- The timescales for bidding processes and the use of external consultants.
- The possibility of putting forward a Climate Crisis application.

It was agreed by the Committee and Joint Chief Executive that more work needs to be done to identify Hart's needs for these types of funding applications.

## **125 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER**

The Audit Manager summarised that the Council's Corporate Risk Register is reviewed by management on a regular basis and reported to members to provide assurance that appropriate arrangements are in place to mitigate identified risks.

### **DECISION**

The Committee noted the contents of the Corporate Risk Register and praised the Audit Manager for its contents and the addition of Appendix B which showed all the recent updates.

## **126 CABINET WORK PROGRAMME**

A Member questioned why the Commercialisation Strategy was not on the Work Programme and the Joint Chief Executive confirmed that this was refreshed last year, and an update wasn't due yet.

A Member asked if there would be stakeholder engagement on the draft Odiham Common Management Plan. The Leader confirmed that this would be reviewed.

Members discussed version control for this Work Programme and the possibility of more explanations why items appeared to have been omitted from it in the past. This requires further work and consideration.

## **127 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

The Joint Chief Executive asked the Committee to consider a Cyber Security presentation briefing at a future Overview and Scrutiny meeting, possibly June 2022 and that all members would be invited.

A Member requested a date to be added to the Work Programme for the Draft Budget item.

Members briefly discussed a possible item on the Harlington lease and the Joint Chief Executive and Leader of the Council confirmed that when this is advised it would come to Cabinet.

A Member suggested combining the Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes and the Joint Chief Executive advised that they need to continue to be separate documents.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm



Where your education and well-being matters

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**Cheryl Edwards**  
Chief Executive  
Inclusion Hampshire CIO

**Marie Greenhalgh**  
Headteacher  
Inclusion College

Minute Annex

www.inclusionhampshire.org.uk



Established 2013



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# Our Journey.....

- Our 10 year journey as a charity has been organic.
- Primarily working with those who cannot access mainstream education.
- Huge community support, working with over 20 schools and colleges
- In 2020 our Post 16 provision was approved and registered with DfE, the first specialist college in North Hampshire and the first college for Hart District.
- In 2020 first education provider in Hampshire to receive the gold standard Mental Health in Schools Award, Carnegie Centre of Excellence, Leeds Beckett University.



# What has happened nationally over the last 2 years?

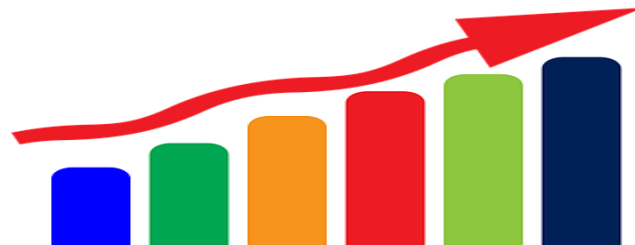


## Mental Health

- Locally and nationally a huge rise in mental health issues being observed amongst 11-25 year olds. 1 in 6 aged 6 -16 had a probable mental health condition.  
- The Health Foundation, February 2022
- Lengthy waits, up to 3 years, for a first appointment with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) lead to more and more children 'ending up in crisis'  
- Royal College of Psychiatrists January 2022
- Over the last few years more than 6,000 people in the UK have died by suicide each year. In 2020 there were **4,912** suicides in England  
- Zero Suicide Alliance

## Education

- 100,000 children have not returned to school post lockdown  
- Children's Commissioner for England, January 2022
- Local authorities reporting increasing numbers of children being home educated, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic, for reasons other than a commitment to home education.  
- Secretary of State for Education February 2022



# [inclusion]

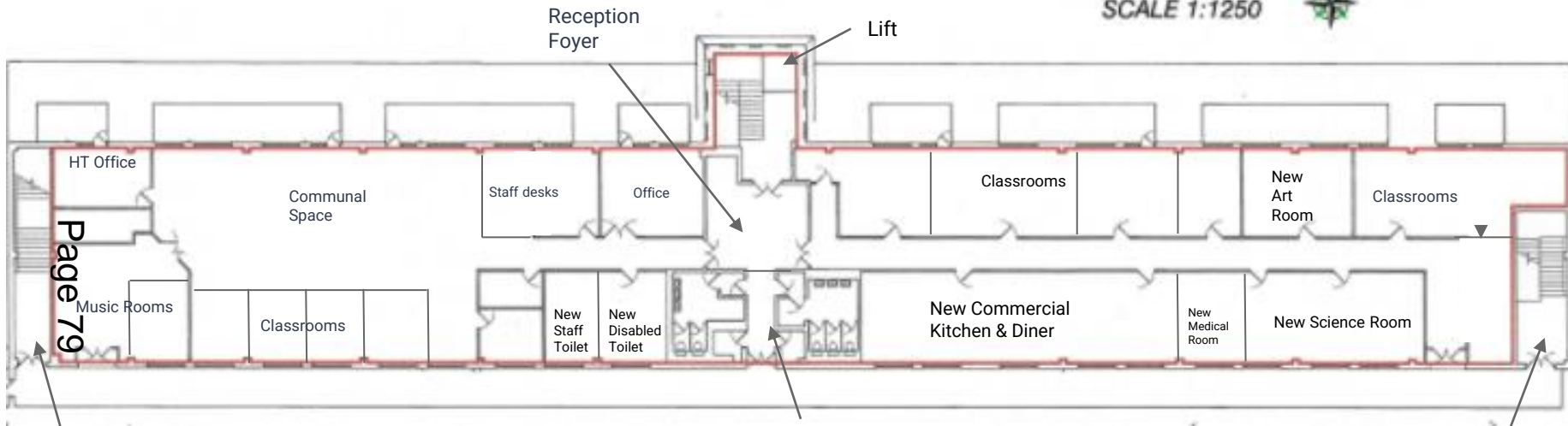
*learning centre*



Office 5, The Clock Tower, Chineham Shopping Centre, Chineham, Basingstoke, Hampshire. RG24 8BQ

- 8,500 square foot total
- 15 year lease
- DfE Independent Special School registration in progress
- Funding contract with HCC
- GCSE exam board approved
- 30 placements growing to 50 over 3 years.
- September 2022 opening
- Launch as Inclusion School

SCALE 1:1250



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To be built in Summer 2022:

- Commercial Kitchen & Diner
- Individual toilets, showers and changing rooms
- Staff toilet
- Reception Area
- Science room
- Art room
- Medical room

New individual changing rooms, toilets and showers

Allocated outdoor space for horticulture activities

Fire exit

Fire exit



Meridian Office Park, Osborne Way, Hook,  
Hampshire. RG27 9HY

- 3 floors
- 9,368 square foot total
- 15 year lease
- DfE registered as Specialist College
- 51 car parking spaces
- Next door to train station
- Short walk to shops
- Lots of potential work experience opportunities within the business park



**Dedicated Art room**

**Bigger music room**

**Kitchen with oven**

**Dining area**

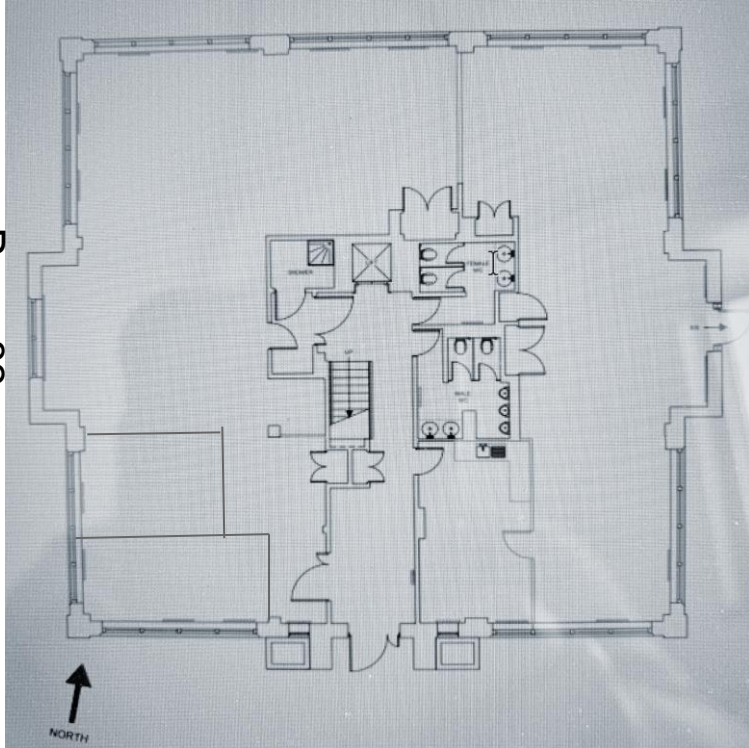
**Shower**

**Additional classrooms**

**Communal areas**

**Space for a 19-25 provision**





# Overview



Well-being and mental health are at the heart of our provision. Our learners will develop sustainable strategies to manage their own mental health and well being in the future, alongside life skills in preparation for adulthood.

We currently have 34 learners with EHCP (Education and Health Care plans) and mental health needs. We support learners to increase their confidence, engage with learning, gain qualifications and life skills for the future and enable them to discover their own individual pathway.

Our learners move on to supported internships and employment, some follow a more academic route into Further Education. Our learners are all supported with transition and we ensure a secure destination. The college works with the employers or Further Education to enable a successful progression.





# Curriculum



Our learners all have individualised programmes that include Functional Skills in English and Maths; Employability Skills and Personal Well Being. Qualifications range from Entry Level through to Level 2. This can also include bespoke reading intervention for those identified as dis-engaged with English or low ability.

Learners also undertake supported work opportunities, volunteering and community engagement. They participate in Careers Guidance and Advice sessions. Our preparation for Adulthood includes travel training, household skills and first aid.

We have a comprehensive Life skills curriculum including emotional wellbeing, healthy living, sex and relationships, keep safe work , British Fundamental Values, and financial education.



# Therapeutic support



Learners are supported by counselling (not time limited), mentoring and bespoke SEND focused therapy designed to address individual barriers to employment.

They have access to physical education and our healthy lifestyle curriculum. Our sleep champion works with learners to address their sleep difficulties, and will also support parents at home.

They take part in 1-1 Music sessions each week. Currently they are also collaboratively producing an audio book, based on a story written by a learner, read by staff and learners and complete with sound effects.

We do lots of art, it is a fantastic way to build confidence, to embed learning and as a strategy to manage mental health.

Casper, our therapy dog, is on site to welcome learners and is part of the calm, safe environment.



# Life skills week



Just before half term we held our 'New Year.. New life skills...' week. Learners went out on the 'Try the Train' scheme, run by South West trains. These trips provide an opportunity to meet a couple of South West Train Community Ambassadors at your local station. Learners learnt about the help available, including details on buying tickets, where to find information and how to keep safe. They boarded the train together for a short trip, along with Brian, the amazing ambassador. Along the way he told them more about the support SWT can offer on the train, they stopped at the next station and all went to a cafe to buy a drink, then returned back to Hook. All came back full of the information they had learnt and a new found confidence in train travel. As well as increasing their confidence and independence, being able to travel by train greatly increases their chances and scope of employability and accessing further support and the community in the future.

*After the day, Brian emailed to say: I loved every minute of it, fantastic to meet them and what a great group they are. I would like to thank them for making it easy for me by engaging and asking questions.*

# Life skills week



We also had an 'Introduction to BSL' with Laura. Learners learnt the alphabet, how to sign their name, short phrases, weather and emotions and played games of Hangman only in sign. As well as a new skill, we had valuable discussion on the impact of isolation within the deaf community.

We had a First Aid session with John, a paramedic. Learners learnt skills such as CPR and treating injuries such as cuts, burns and what to do if someone is choking.

Job Centre Plus continued their Career support by running group sessions identifying skills and qualities. Next month they will be continuing group work as well as offering 1-1 Careers guidance support with a 'Catchphrase' style guess the career game.

We finished the week with Life skills sessions at College: sewing a button on a shirt, ironing, changing duvet covers and pillow cases, changing light bulbs and banging nails into wood.

We checked learners' confidence in their own life skills at the start of the week and then again at the end, we also gained feedback from parents/ carers.

# Life skills week



100% of parents felt the week had helped their child to build their confidence and life skills, feedback comments included:

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- \*\* enjoyed the first aid session, and more on emotional feelings
- He thoroughly enjoyed it and felt he'd really accomplished something by participating. It's been a massive boost to his confidence!
- Well done honestly we appreciate you
- This can guide them how to use their Strengths to build up their career skills.

100% of learners also felt it helped their confidence



# Life skills week



We asked for ideas on what else they would like to do and most of them responded with 'cooking' which fits with our plans for the new building. As Cheryl has explained, we are due to move soon.

We have recently started taking a group of learners to the gym each week, accompanied by staff. They are all loving it and we already see the benefits of exercise on wellbeing, emotional regulation and confidence.

Our Opportunities Facilitator has been building links with businesses and opportunities. We have already had learners out on work experience: Newbury Furniture Project, Cleaning and Atmosphere trampoline park. One of our learners is also due to finish with us and start a Barbering apprenticeship with a local barbers, another is moving on to tutor and mentor young people on a Youth music project. Two learners are attending 'Minding the Garden' project each week.

# Case Study



When one of our current learners was referred to us, he was really suffering with his mental health. He had extremely low mood, and was confined to his room. When distressed he would pull his hair out, hit his head against the wall and gouge his skin with his fingernails. He has sleep difficulties and extremely high levels of anxiety. He is very bright, he passed his Maths and Science GCSEs despite not attending Secondary school beyond Year 9, and he self taught Computer Science GCSE to a grade 8. Despite his academic ability, he had tried to attend 2 mainstream colleges and it had broken down to the point he couldn't even get into the car to go there. He could not interact or speak to peers at all, or people outside of his immediate family.

It has taken time and a lot of effort into building trust with him, but his recent achievements include:

- Level 2 english assessment result
- Joining the Try the Train trip
- Designing and printing a fix for my wobbly office table leg
- Doing any energy use audit and making recommendations to save energy at College and at home
- Editing recordings for our audio book project
- As part of his weekly music sessions, a performance of Autumn Leaves that moved me to tears
- 89% attendance



**Thank you so much Marie and your team you are just a blessing to all parents out there.**

**\*\* continues to make good progress at Inclusion and most importantly is happy there. I honestly don't think he would have thrived in any other setting.**

**When I reflect on how well \*\*\* is doing I cast my thoughts back to six months ago and ask myself could we have done all this then? I don't think so, his progress is exponential at the moment and a delight to see. Well done to all who are giving him so much support.**

**This is all down to your guys at IH! And \*\* of course, but it's your encouragement and gentle approach that has brought him this far and lets hope he goes all the way to feeling able to engage with society enough to be comfortable living independently one day! You have my eternal thanks.**

**You are all amazing and I believe Inclusion College is a lifeline for those students**

**You have done more for his mental health and confidence than anyone else in the last 5 years.**





Honestly I can only say many thanks over and over again to you wonderful people. I really appreciate you as my heart is filled with joy just to hear all these words about \*\*'s progress and also to see him happy and feel at home always. God bless you all abundantly

I am incredibly proud of \*\*\*'s achievements during the past year - he has progressed so much and I am certain beyond doubt that this is due to the wonderful supportive education he has been able to access at Inclusion Hampshire. I would never have imagined that he could accomplish so much.

Thanks a lot for being there for all the parents too.

Thank you so much again I really appreciate you and all you do, and all you have done to help me. I got the job and have started my training. I'm so excited and ready for my next chapter. Thank you for all your support, you have helped me find the confidence to do things I never thought I would be able to achieve, I wouldn't be where I am today without the help of you and everyone at Inclusion. I am forever grateful. xx