

# Shadow Dorset Council

Date of Meeting	15 October 2018
Shadow Executive Lead Member/s	Cllr Andrew Parry, Lead Member, Education and Skills Cllr Steve Butler, Lead Member for Children’s Services
<b>Subject of Report</b>	<b>Dorset County Council: Independent Special School Provision – Framework Tender and Award</b>
<b>Report For</b>	<b>Consultation/Decision</b>
Executive Summary	<p>This report requests the Shadow Executive Committee support the participation of Dorset County Council in a sub-regional framework tender for the provision of independent and special school placements.</p> <p>It has come to the Shadow Dorset Council for consultation. The recommendation is being considered by Dorset County Council’s Cabinet on 17 October 2018.</p> <p>The aim of participating in the tender is twofold:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide a broader range of independent special school and college placements that can deliver better outcomes for children and young people; and</li> <li>2. To meet procurement regulations by opening access to a range of placements from a framework (and so avoiding spot-purchasing all placements).</li> </ol> <p>Although membership of the framework is expected to offer economies of scale to the participating councils, there is no obligation to purchase from it.</p> <p>Expenditure will only be incurred when placements are made with providers on the framework. Current annual expenditure on independent special school and college placements is approximately £11,500,000. This tender will not result in net additional expenditure but will provide the means to secure better value for money and unit costs when independently provided special school and college placements are required.</p>
Recommendation	That Shadow Executive Committee approve the participation of Dorset County Council in a sub-regional framework tender for the provision of independent and special school placements.

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Tender and Award

Reason for Recommendation	To improve the sufficiency and choice of independently provided school and college placements to meet the needs of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).
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