

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

22 May 2019

Dr Nicola Grove – question regarding agenda item 6 – Specials Schools Consultation

To Councillor Laura Mayes – Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Skills

Question 1

With reference to projected population of children with severe learning difficulties in Wiltshire, can you please tell me what precise criteria are used to designate children as having SLD?

Response

A child will be designated SLD or the appropriate SEND designation by the SEND Panel referred to in the Children and Families Act 2014 and code of practice [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SEND Code of Practice January 2015.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SEND_Code_of_Practice_January_2015.pdf) . Panel will make this decision as part of the process of creating an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) following a 20 week process of assessment from multi-agency professionals working with the child/young person and their family.

Question 2

Can you please tell me what precisely are the figures for the projected impact of the closure of two local businesses (ie the special schools, Larkrise and St Nicholas) on the local economies of:

- a) Trowbridge?
- b) Chippenham?

Response

Whilst the schools are being closed as legal entities the project is part of an expansion in education provision. The sites will stay open until an appropriate time after September 2023. More jobs will be created and therefore the local economies

are likely to gain. Whilst change of provision of land use is anticipated at some time in the future, any change is likely to enhance the local economies.