

## **Record of Decisions**

### **Amalgamation of Torbay Pupil Referral Unit and Torbay School (Mayoral Decision)**

#### **Decision Taker**

Mayor on 4 December 2014

#### **Decision**

- (i) that the Torbay Pupil Referral Unit be closed from 1 January 2015; and
- (ii) that Torbay School be expanded to include 74 places for non-statemented children with challenging behaviour from 1 January 2015.

#### **Reason for the Decision**

To bring the Torbay Pupil Referral Unit under the leadership and governance of Torbay School resulting in the consolidation of provision for secondary aged children with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties (BESD).

As these changes constitute a change in school organisation, statutory guidance requires the Council to bring these two provisions under one leadership team with one governing body and one Department for Education (DfE) number. This requires one of the provisions to be closed and then the other expanded to include the closed provision. However, by ensuring the changes are made on the same day there is no break or risk to the provision and services on offer.

#### **Implementation**

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 4 December 2014. The Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator was consulted and agreed that the decision was urgent and it would not be in the Council or the public's interest for call-in to apply.

#### **Information**

The submitted report sets out details of the Council's statutory duty to ensure that appropriate school provision is made available for all children within its area; including alternative provision for those with challenging behaviour who have been excluded from mainstream school.

The Council is required to regularly review the provision on offer. As a result of the Council's recent review and its commitment to developing high quality alternative provision, it is proposed to bring the provision offered by the existing Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) under the management and governance of Torbay School. Torbay School will become a split school site continuing to offer 60 places at its existing site on Torquay Road with an additional 74 spaces on offer at the alternative sites.

The Mayor considered the recommendations of the Council made on 4 December 2014 and his decision is set out above.

**Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision**

Alternative options are set out in the submitted report.

**Is this a Key Decision?**

No

**Does the call-in procedure apply?**

No (see above)

**Declarations of interest** (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

**Published**

December 2014

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of Torbay

Date: 9 December 2014