



**OFFICIAL EXECUTIVE DECISION NOTICE  
PUBLISHED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

Notice is hereby given that the following decision(s) have been made today by Cabinet Members at the London Borough of Hillingdon:

<b>Title of decision</b>	<b>Transitional support for secondary aged pupils with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) / Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC)</b>
<b>Reference No.</b>	1623
<b>Date of decision</b>	Wednesday 11 February 2026
<b>Call-in expiry date</b>	Wednesday 18 February 2026
<b>Relevant Select Committee</b>	Children, Families & Education Select Committee
<b>Relevant Wards</b>	All

**Decision made**

<b>Cabinet Members making the decision</b>	Councillor Ian Edwards, Leader of the Council Councillor Susan O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Education
<b>Decision</b>	<b>Approved</b>  <b>That the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member:</b>  <b>1) Accepted the single tender from the Centre for ADHD and Autism Service (CAAS) for the provision of transitional support in every maintained and academy Hillingdon secondary school for pupils with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) / Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC), to the London Borough of Hillingdon for a one-year period from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027 and at the value of £218,289.</b>  <b>2) Noted the procurement approach set out in the report from 1 April 2027 onwards.</b>
<b>Reason for decision</b>	Children with ADHD and autism often find the transition from primary school to secondary school challenging as they move from a smaller, more nurturing learning environment to a much larger setting with far more people, and increased noise and sensory stimulation. The Council has been working with CAAS for the last 18 months to develop a model of support for these children starting with 4 schools initially and supporting 6 schools by the end of 2025.

Executive Decision Notice –11 February 2026

	<p>The pilot project is aimed at the prevention of school placement breakdown (inc. request to change to special school and permanent exclusion), and has been successful to date, ensuring that all but one of the children with EHCPs supported through this initiative during their transition have remained in mainstream school, while increasing the skills, knowledge and confidence of the education teams within these schools.</p> <p>This scalable model is now planned to be implemented in all the mainstream academy and maintained secondary schools in the Borough so that more children can benefit from the support and advice delivered by CAAS, who will also develop a set of tools that can be used by all schools to support children into the future.</p> <p>This project supports children with EHCPs to remain in mainstream school and prevents the need for more expensive and often unnecessary specialist provision, improving children’s life chances and overall outcomes.</p> <p>Although it is apparent that the market is limited for this type of expert provision, the intention is to offer a competitive tender opportunity to the open market during 2026, with an intended start date of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2027 for a new longer-term contract.</p>
<p><b>Alternative options considered and rejected</b></p>	<p>When the project was initiated, there were a range of options open to the Council as set out below, but the option being proposed and recommended was assessed as the best option supporting the prevention of permanent exclusions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Do nothing</b> If the Council does not progress this contract to expand the support to all Hillingdon secondary schools, only certain schools, and therefore children, would benefit from the support provided by CAAS, risking additional exclusions.</li> <li><b>2. Employ additional support staff within the Council</b> This was very cost prohibitive, and it would be a significant challenge to recruit and retain appropriate staff with suitable skills, expertise and qualifications that were in line with the support required for children with ADHD and autism.</li> <li><b>3. Delegate funding to schools to provide support</b> This option did not lend itself to a consistent approach, and there would still be a need to employ</li> </ol>

	a co-ordinator or similar role to manage the project and check on service quality and outcomes for children. This is not a viable option.
<b>Classification</b>	Part I – Public
<b>Link to associated report</b>	<a href="#">Here</a>
<b>Relevant Officer contact &amp; Directorate</b>	Gary Binstead, Education & SEND
<b>Any interest declared by the Cabinet Member(s) / dispensation granted</b>	N/A

### **Implementation of decision & scrutiny call-in**

<b>[Internal Use only]</b>	
<b>When can this decision be implemented by officers?</b>	<p>Officers can implement Cabinet Member decision in this notice only from the expiry of the scrutiny call-in period which is:</p> <p><b>5pm on Wednesday 18 February 2026</b></p> <p>However, this is subject to the decision not being called in by Councillors on the relevant Select Committee. Upon receipt of a valid call-in request, Democratic Services will immediately advise the relevant officer(s) and the decision must then be put on hold.</p>
<b>Councillor scrutiny call-in of this decision</b>	<p>Councillors on the relevant Select Committee shown in this notice may request to call-in this decision. The request must be before the expiry of the scrutiny call-in period above.</p> <p>Councillors should use the Scrutiny Call-in App (link below) on their devices to initiate any call-in request. Further advice can be sought from Democratic Services if required:</p> <p><a href="#">Scrutiny Call-In - Power Apps</a> (secure)</p>

<b>Further information</b>	<p>These decisions, where applicable, have been taken under The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.</p> <p>This is the formal notice by the Council of the above executive decision, including links to the reports where applicable.</p> <p>If you would like more information on this decision, please contact Democratic Services on 01895 250636 or email: <a href="mailto:democratic@hillingdon.gov.uk">democratic@hillingdon.gov.uk</a>.</p> <p>Circulation of this decision notice is to a variety of people including Members of the Council, Corporate Directors, Officers, Group Secretariats and the Public. Copies are also placed on the Council's website.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Democratic Services London Borough of Hillingdon Civic Centre High Street Uxbridge UB8 1UW</b></p>
----------------------------	--