

West Sussex County Council

Proposed Executive Decision for **22 May 2019** call-in deadline **5 p.m. on 3 June 2019**

The following proposed decision has been endorsed by the Cabinet Member and will come into effect at the end of the call-in period unless the call-in procedure is activated.

Decision Title & Ref No:	Relinquishment of the Beechfield Secure Unit CYP01 (19/20)
Cabinet Member responsible for Decision	Mr Marshall - Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
West Sussex Plan priority	Best Start in Life
Electoral Divisions	All Divisions
Key Decision	Yes
Purpose	<p>Beechfield Secure Unit is a West Sussex County Council owned and run unit in Copthorne, near Crawley, that has provided secure accommodation welfare placements for young people that meet the criteria set out in Section 25 of the 1989 Children's Act.</p> <p>In 2016 an Ofsted inspection judged the unit to be inadequate; as a result Beechfield was closed on 10 October 2016 and has remained closed since this time.</p> <p>Following an analysis of the need in West Sussex for this type of accommodation, benchmarking against provision by other local authorities, and set against the wider review that is taking place of the in-house residential estate, the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People will be asked to agree that operation of a secure unit at the Beechfield site permanently ceases.</p>
Decision	<p>The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People has agreed:</p> <p>(1) The permanent cessation of the operation of the Beechfield Secure Unit and</p> <p>(2) Declares the Beechfield secure unit site surplus to service requirements.</p>
Interest and nature of interest declared	None.
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Background Papers	See report for details