

SEND Update

To: Schools Forum

Meeting Date: 13 December 2023

From: Jonathan Lewis – Service Director - Education

Recommendations: Schools Forum are asked to note and comment on the position around the high needs block and safety valve position in light of the ongoing challenges of SEND demand.

Officer contact:

Name: Jonathan Lewis

Post: Service Director - Education

Email: Jonathan.lewis@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01223 507165

1. Background

- 1.1 At the November Schools Forum meeting, members of the Forum requested an update on the position around SEND and the ongoing dialogue with the Department for Education (DfE) in relation to the Safety Valve agreement.
- 1.2 In May 2022, Cambridgeshire was invited to engage with the Department of Education around developing a safety valve agreement. An agreement was reached in March 2023 alongside 8 conditions. This released additional funding for the county and we have been providing updates.
- 1.3 The appended presentation outlines the latest position around SEND and our ongoing dialogue with the DfE.