

**PROPOSAL TO DISCONTINUE THE ASH VILLA SOUTH RAUCEBY SCHOOL  
(FINAL DECISION)**

**COMMENTS FROM THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

At a virtual meeting on 17 July 2020, the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee considered the report and unanimously agreed to support the recommendations to the Executive Councillor.

Members of the Committee asked a number of questions, when the following points were confirmed:

- Disappointment was expressed with the local NHS and its ability to recruit the required consultant medical staff to operate safely, which had resulted in the hospital unit being temporarily closed since October 2019.
- The impact on Lincolnshire schools from the closure of the Ash Villa South Rauceby School would be minimal as very few pupils were from Lincolnshire.
- A pilot for a new model of care, the interim intensive home treatment team, was being conducted by NHS England where the NHS was now offering support at home and had recruited extra staff to provide support and provision in the homes of children and young people, which could include several visits per day if required. The pilot had so far been successful and young people had been able to stay at home and had their needs met in their home environment instead of going into Ash Villa. Some of the children and young people had been in Ash Villa previously so were able to compare between the two options, and this highlighted that the needs of children and young people were still being met. It was too early to know the outcomes from the pilot, and the continuation of the pilot was subject to the agreement of NHS England. It was requested that a report on the pilot being conducted by NHS England be brought to scrutiny once it had been completed in October 2020.
- A redeployment policy was in place for the staff, and it was hoped that staff could be redeployed to other facilities or schools so that their specialist skills were not lost.
- The school had a budget which would need using up by the end of the current school year. Any surplus would go back into the funding block for schools. The costs of closing down the school would not take the school over its allocated budget.