



Money for services to help children and young people with high needs



Contents

Page



Introduction

3



What has the Council been doing and what does it plan to do next?

4



Asking the Government for more money

6



What you can do

7

Introduction



This document is about how Bristol City Council decides how much money should be spent on education for children and young people with **high needs**.



High needs refers to children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities who need additional support and may have other health conditions.



The Council wants to tell you about the money it spends on high needs.

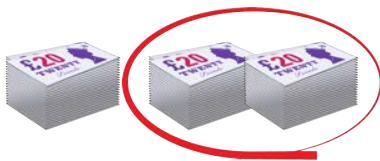


Please read through this document and tell us if you'd like to hear more about our future plans.

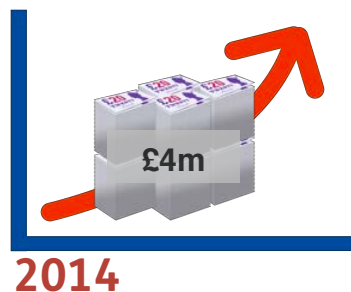
What has the Council been doing and what does it plan to do next?



The amount of money that Bristol City Council has been receiving from the Government has not been enough to pay for SEND services and services for children with the highest needs.



The Council has been spending more than it receives from the Government.



Since 2014 the Council has been spending about £4million more than it receives each year.



Managing the budget

Last year the Council decided not to spend more than it had.



So it decided to reduce the amount that it was spending on High Needs by £5million.



Consultation

Unfortunately the Council did not:

- Ask people what they thought about reducing the money
- Look at how the decision would affect people



A judge has said that the Council got this wrong.



The Council is very sorry for this and is no longer planning to make any savings this year.



The Council will also not plan to make savings when next year's budget is agreed in February.



Instead, the Council is now going to come up with a new plan to help improve the lives of young people with high needs and SEND.



When the new plan is ready the Council will be asking everyone what they think. There will be lots of ways to have your say.

Asking the Government for more money



The Council has been asking the Government for more money for services to support children and young people with complex needs.



It is asking for these services to be funded in a way that means they will carry on for many years ahead.



The Council wants to work with families to get this message to the Government.

What you can do



Keep in touch

Let us know if you want to hear about our plan once it is ready.

Email:

highneedsblock@bristol.gov.uk

Post:

**High Needs Block
PO Box 3176 (City Hall)
Bristol
BS3 9FS**



We will keep any personal information safe and private and in line with our privacy policy.

Help us ask the Government for more money

Families can get involved by writing to the Government.

A template letter will be available on the council's website soon.

Website: **www.bristol.gov.uk**

