

DSG Deficit Management Plan

- Herefordshire slipped into deficit by £275k in March 22
- Plan requested by DfE
- BWG has discussed and broadly content with the plan
- Schools Forum invited to comment
- Government has extended the statutory accounts override to March 2026 which permits the DSG deficit to be carried forward for a further three years without requiring the council to fund the deficit
- The Deficit plan in the appendix sets out the history of how we got to a deficit and the actions proposed to reduce spending to recover the deficit.
- The proposals are largely about providing more in-county provision to avoid as far as possible expensive out county places

DSG Deficit Management Plan

The Proposed plan provides for

- Increased training for mainstream schools re autism
- new places in primary and secondary autism hubs – hopefully from September 2023 if at all possible
- More places in Herefordshire special schools – depends on capital funding but not a quick solution
- Capital bid submitted to DfE – awaiting outcome
- Development and extension of Nurture hubs in primary schools
- Implementing DfE SEND Review proposals
- More staff in SEN assessment team
- Long term planning via the SEND capital strategy
- Better links with NHS and social care to meet children's needs and SEND strategy Board to discuss the plan