FACTORS	SEN IMPROVEMENT TEST
Complies with requirements/Related to other Proposals	Published statutory notice put together in line with advice and support from DCSF School Organisation Unit and Halton Borough Council Legal Services. The proposal covers the SEN secondary provision for the whole borough.
	Copies sent to a range of persons including Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of schools, LSC Diocesan Authorities, Trade Unions, Children's Trust Members, Health Authority Representatives and Neighbouring Authorities and Schools Organisation Unit. Published in Runcorn and Widnes Weekly News, schools and other public buildings including the Direct Link and Children's Centres.
Prior consultation	Two rounds of consultation held. First round in November and December 2008 outlined the proposed SEN provision. The Second round in January/February 2009 outlined the location for the proposed provision. The following persons were consulted:
	Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of all secondary schools and special schools; Secondary SENCOs; Staff and pupils; Parent and Carers of pupils currently attending SEN unit provision; Trade Unions; Diocesan Authorities; Neighbouring Authorities; Voluntary Agencies; Parent Partnership Service; Halton and St Helen's Primary Care Trust; and All Schools nursery, infant, junior, primary and special schools.
	All meetings were minuted and minutes are available for the meetings on 25 th November, 9 th December, 14 th January and 15 th January 2009. Written feedback was also received. Consultation was considered at Executive Board on 6 th November 2008 and 12 th February 2009.

Improved Access to Education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment, with reference to the LA's accessibility Strategy The proposals for designated resourced provision and outreach support for pupils in mainstream secondary schools in both Runcorn and Widnes will allow more local access to mainstream resourced provision for secondary aged pupils with a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder and pupils with difficulties in the areas of speech and language and communication needs. This will include access to speech and language therapy services. The facilities will be improved in line with NAS accreditation and as outlined in the Accessibility Strategy.

Improved access to specialist staff, both educational and other professionals, including external support and outreach services

There has been capacity building and upskilling of staff, which is ongoing, to meet the requirements and NAS standards, in order to deliver the provision. The proposals will lead to staff development with accredited training to deliver external support through the outreach service, which has not previously been available in secondary mainstream schools.

Improved access to suitable accommodation

Accommodation will be more fit for purpose with therapy and withdrawal rooms for use as and when appropriate. Through the BSF Programme it is aimed to further improve accessibility. The proposals will lead to an improved supply of suitable places as there has not previously been any designated resourced provision in secondary mainstream schools for pupils with a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder, speech language and communication needs. There will also be provision for pupils with hearing impairment and specific learning difficulties.

Improved supply of suitable places

The proposals will provide a continuum of provision from mainstream through to special school provision for pupils with these needs, The availability of resources provision would also increase choice for parents and pupils, with mainstream resourced provision able to meet the needs of those pupils who require this type of provision.

Opportunity for all providers of existing and proposed provision

The views of providers of all existing and proposed provision have been sought through the consultation.

Arrangements for Alternative	There are no pupils in the existing Halton High EBD
Provision	Unit. The pupils at the Grange Comprehensive
	EBD Unit will remain in the school and the pupils
	will continue to receive the same level of support as
	they do currently in the unit within the school.
Transport Arrangements	There would be a positive impact on travel as a
	result of the proposals as the authority will be
	offering more locally based provision. Transport
	support will continue to be available to
	parents/carers in line with the authority's Transport
	Policy .
Funding and Staffing for the	The revenue costs of the provision will be through
Proposals	the Dedicated Schools Budget – the school formula
	will be revised to reflect the changed provision and
	the staffing levels required.
	Additional costs for remodelling the current
	provision will be met from the Local Authority
	Capital Budget, LCVAP and BSF Programme.