



Decision Maker:	Director of Property & Assets
Decision Title:	Safe Space (Learning Disabilities)
Decision date:	15 January 2026
Source of delegation:	<p>The Source of Delegation is the decision made at Cabinet in July and recorded in (Item 18, recommendation d) <a href="#"><u>Decisions Tuesday 15-Jul-2025 14.00 Cabinet.pdf</u></a></p>
What decision was made?:	<p>Approve the inclusion of Safe Space into the capital program with a budget of £1.795m (para 64-66).</p> <p>The project will de-commission an existing building and build a new facility called 'The Safe Space' to be located on Wantage Road, Didcot.</p> <p>It will provide two self-contained single-storey buildings with enclosed gardens and parking spaces, as well as a third building to accommodate Support Provider staff who are on duty throughout the day and night, to enable safe withdrawal and monitoring of individuals in the safe space.</p> <p>This third building will also provide a flexible space for skills teaching, day support for crisis prevention and support moves back into longer term supported housing.</p>
Purpose:	<p>The Safe Space project is a critical initiative aimed at supporting individuals with learning disabilities and / or autism who are experiencing a crisis that threatens their current living situation.</p> <p>The project aims to provide a community-based "Safe Space" 2 self-contained new builds with an additional staff / multi-purpose support space on site providing an alternative to hospital admission, allowing individuals to stay close to home whilst receiving intensive support to reset and stabilise their wellbeing.</p>
Reasons:	Decision was made to enter this scheme into



the capital programme with a budget of £1.795m to be funded by S106 developer contributions.

Signing of the grant agreement is to enter into an agreement with Choice Support to deliver the new build on behalf of the council.

Other options considered:

Do nothing, refurbish an existing site.

Neither of the alternative options would be able to provide an adequate alternative to hospital to meet the needs of people who need very robust, low stimulus, specialist property solution alongside specialist support.