

**Senior Executive Officer
Land Use Planning & Transportation**

- 1 JUN 2014

South Dublin County Council

Mr Tom Curtin
Administrative Officer
Roads Department
Land Use Planning & Transportation Directorate
South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24

29 May 2014

Your Ref: 39827

Dear Mr Curtin

I refer to your letter of 19 May 2014 regarding the following question raised at the Lucan Area Committee meeting of 22nd April 2014 *"To ask the Manager to write to the Minister for Education and Skills and the National Council for Special Education asking that they conduct a review of the provision of special education units in second level schools in the Lucan area, noting the provision (or planned provision) of a number of such units in primary schools in the Lucan area but the lack of corresponding provision at second level"*.

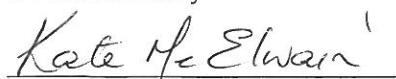
One of the roles of the NCSE is setting up special classes in mainstream schools in response to the need for such classes in particular areas. Where such a need arises the Special Educational Needs Organiser (SENO) in the area approaches schools to request that they open a special class. The decision whether to open such a class is a matter for the school authorities. The NCSE is not able to compel a school to open such a class.

The SENO for the Lucan area has confirmed that a special class opened in Coláiste Phadraig CBS, Lucan in September 2013. Two special classes are planned for Lucan Community College as part of a school extension; the SENO has indicated that it may be 2016 before that extension is completed. A new school, Kishogue College is due to open in September 2014 initially in temporary accommodation. The SENO has reported that the school building when completed will include two special classes for pupils with Special Educational Needs. The local SENO will continue to engage with schools in regard to opening special classes at post primary level to meet the demand for such classes in the Lucan area.

I will forward your correspondence and a copy of this letter to the Building Unit in the Department of Education and Skills for their information.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely



Kate McElwain
Higher Executive Officer
Operations & Support Services