

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Children's Services, Looked after Children, Safeguarding for Children and Young People, Schools and Early Years:-

MONDAY 30TH NOVEMBER, 2020

Following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

Councillor Galloway	- Executive Cabinet Member – Children's Services
Councillor Donaghy	- Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor McGeown	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Sanders	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Hornby	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Wright	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson

Officers

Ms B. Brown	- Director of Children's Services
Mr P. Rankin	- Assistant Director of Children's Services – Performance, Planning and Resources
Mr I. Walker	- Assistant Director of Children's Services – Social Care and Early Help
Ms. L. Butcher	- Head of Finance
Mrs. S. Bailey	- Principal Democratic Services Officer

19. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which provided an update on decisions taken at previous meetings of the Executive Cabinet Member.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

The background papers and reports in relation to the following items were considered confidential as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that it be deemed that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in their exemption outweighs the public interest in their disclosure.

20. REVIEW OF BUSINESS SUPPORT - CONSULTATION REPORT

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which set out savings and efficiency proposals in respect of the Business Support Service in accordance with the 2019/21 savings programme.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

The report, for consultation purposes, with trades unions and staff.

21. REVIEW OF ASSESSMENT AND CONTACT TEAM

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which set out savings and efficiency proposals in respect of the Assessment and Contact Team in accordance with the 2019/21 savings programme.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

The report, for consultation purposes, with trades unions and staff.

22. REVIEW OF HARVEY NURSERY

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which set out proposals to relieve the financial and Council business pressures affecting nursery provision at Harvey Nursery.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

The report for consultation purposes with trades unions, staff, service users and stakeholders.

In accordance with Article 5 of the Council's Constitution, this decision was called in by Councillor Donaghy for consideration by the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee.

23. REVIEW OF EARLY HELP - POST CONSULTATION REPORT

Further to Minute 13 of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet Member held on 7th September, 2020, the Director of Children's Services submitted a report which set out the results of the consultation process on proposals to review Early Help and sought approval to implement the final proposals.

The report outlined the nature of the consultation and a summary of the key issues raised, together with the response from management, was attached to the report at Appendix 4.

The formal joint Trade unions response to the proposals was set out at Appendix 3 to the report.

The report advised that the final proposals, having taken account of feedback received during consultation, did not include any significant changes.

The report therefore requested the Executive Cabinet Member to approve the proposals on the basis detailed in the report now submitted.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED -

- (i) The final proposals in the report now submitted, having due regard to the consultation feedback and the Equality Impact Assessment; and**
- (ii) Subject to the approval of the Head of Paid Service, delegation of the implementation of the new structure, including details of voluntary redundancy arrangements and consequential redundancy selection, to the Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services.**