

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Children's Services including Looked After Children, Safeguarding relating to Children and Young People, Schools, Early Years strategies, Youth and Play services and the Youth Offending Service.

TUESDAY, 15TH AUGUST, 2023

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

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| Councillor Donaghy | - Executive Cabinet Member – Children's Services |
| Councillor Galloway | - Major Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Hayes (as deputy for Councillor Priest) | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Grant | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Flitcroft | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Heslop | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson |

Officers

- | | |
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| Ms B. Brown | - Director of Children's Services |
| Mr P. Rankin | - Deputy Director of Children's Services |
| Ms L. Butcher | - Head of Finance |
| Ms A. Hunt | - Senior Lawyer |
| Mrs S. Bailey | - Principal Democratic Services Officer |

7. 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.

8. STATUTORY PROPOSALS TO ESTABLISH SEND RESOURCE PROVISION AT CLAYPOOL AND WASHACRE COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Further to Minute 50 of the meeting of this Executive Cabinet Member meeting held on 3rd April, 2023, the Director of Children's Services submitted a report which provided an update on the responses received in respect of the publication of a Statutory Notice to establish SEND Resource Provision at Claypool and Washacre County Primary Schools and sought approval to determine and approve the two proposals.

The report advised that the Notices had been published on 26th June, 2023 which had been the start of a 4 week representation period that expired on the 23rd July, 2023.

The report summarised the options and responses received on the the proposal at Claypool CP to create a SEND Resource Provision for up to six children with severe learning difficulties and Autism Spectrum Disorder. The children would be mainly accommodated within a modified classroom at the School and would be additional to the number of children admitted through the school's normal admission criteria. This would therefore not reduce the number of mainstream places offered by the School.

In this regard, two positive responses had been received in support of the proposal. One of these has been submitted by a nearby school and the other by a parent and grandparent of children with SEND requirements who had attended local Bolton schools.

No responses had been received in respect of the proposal to create a SEND Resource Provision for up to 16 children with

moderate and complex learning difficulties at Washacre School. The children would be accommodated within modified former nursery classroom space at the School and would be additional to the number of children admitted through the school's normal admission criteria. This would therefore not reduce the number of mainstream places offered by the school.

The Executive Cabinet Member was therefore requested to approved the proposals at Claypool and Washacre Schools on the basis now detailed from 1st September, 2023.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED -

The establishment of SEND Resource Provision at Claypool and Washacre County Primary Schools with effect from the 1st September 2023, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted.

9. SUPPORTING FAMILIES - BUSINESS SUPPORT

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which outlined the current pressures being experienced in the delivery of the Supporting Families Programme and sought approval for the establishment of an additional Business Support post to assist in this regard.

It was proposed to utilise £33,870 from the Supporting Families Grant funding to cover the costs of the additional post, full details of which were provided.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

The establishment of an additional Business Support post, on the basis now detailed.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

The background papers and reports in relation to the following item were considered confidential as defined in paragraph 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.

10. CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE CAPACITY

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which outlined the current service pressures and capacity issues relating to the delivery of the Children's Social Care Service and put forward procurement proposals to ensure that future demand could be managed effectively.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

- (i) Option One for the procurement of resources by direct award of the Contract to one supplier via a relevant existing procurement framework, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted;**
- (ii) The delegation of authority to the Director of Children's Services to award the Contract on the basis now detailed; and**
- (iii) The authorisation of the Borough Solicitor to carry out any necessary legal formalities in this regard.**