

EXTRACT

DEPUTY LEADER

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Adults, Public Health, Looked After Children, Safeguarding, Early Years, Schools and Skills:-

MONDAY, 14TH OCTOBER, 2013

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

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| Councillor Mrs Thomas | - | Executive Cabinet Member – Deputy Leader |
| Councillor Morgan | - | Major Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Hayes (as deputy for Councillor Swarbrick) | - | Minor Opposition Spokesperson |

Looked After Children, Safeguarding and Early Years

- | | | |
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| Councillor Murray | - | Cabinet Member |
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Schools and Skills

- | | | |
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| Councillor McKeon | - | Cabinet Member |
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Public Health

- | | | |
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| Councillor Bashir – Ismail | - | Cabinet Member |
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Adults

- | | | |
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| Councillor Peacock | - | Cabinet Member |
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Officers

- | | | |
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| Ms M. Asquith | - | Director of Children's and Adult Services |
| Mr J. Livesey | - | Assistant Director of Children's and Adult Services |

Mr. J. Daly	- Assistant Director of Children's and Adult Services
Mr D. Smith	- Head of Finance (Adults and Children's Services)
Mr T. Birch	- Assistant Director of Children's and Adult Services
Ms J Higham	- Public Health Commissioning Officer
Mr A. Sharp	- Public Health Officer
Mrs S. Bailey	- Principal Democratic Services Officer

35. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS

The Deputy Chief Executive 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.

36. WAIVING OF STANDING ORDERS FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF MOBILE UNIT AT LADYWOOD SPECIAL SCHOOL

The Director of Children's and Adult Services submitted a report which outlined the emergency action taken by the Executive Cabinet Member to waive Standing Orders in order to allow the direct procurement of an additional mobile unit at Ladywood Special School.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report.

37. TWO YEAR OLD CAPITAL FUNDING - 2013

The Director of Children's and Adult Services submitted a report which sought approval for proposals to use capital funding to provide additional places for two year olds as part of the Local Authority statutory duty from September, 2013.

The report summarised the statutory duty placed on local authorities to provide free places for 20% of the most disadvantaged 2 year olds by September, 2013. This would increase to 40% in September, 2014 and would include low income working families and children with high needs SEN and disability. In Bolton, this included 855 children for 2013 and an estimate of 2,300 places in 2014.

The Local Authority had received the following funding allocations:

- £2,412,733 within DSG for 2013-14 places;
- £947,189 within DSG for trajectory building (to work towards 2014 places);
- £623,904 capital funding to be used to support the creation of places in areas where there was insufficient provision for 2 year olds.

As part of the review of the Children and Family Support Services, it had been agreed that schools and other partners could use some of the space in children's centres on a shared basis to provide child and family activities, including early education places for two year olds.

A report was approved in July, 2013 to allocate £496,500 of the capital allocation to make adaptations to 7 children's centres and 3 schools to ensure they meet the requirements for provision for 2 year olds.

In this regard, the report outlined progress on the capital work that was now underway in all of the planned programmes. Additional capital funding in the sum of £51,500 was required to variances to the agreed programmes, details of which were provided.

The report further sought approval to allocate £36,000 capital funding to enable a further 2 primary schools (Pikes Lane and Red Lane) to provide free two year old places from January, 2014.

Full details of the proposals were outlined in the report.

Following a recommendation from the Cabinet Member for Early Years, Looked after Children and Safeguarding, the Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED additional capital programmes and expenditure from the two year old Capital grant allocation for –

(i) Revised plans and costing for two of the children's centres capital programmes to further increase the number of two year old places, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted; and

(ii) Remodelling of existing space in two primary schools to meet the EYFS statutory requirements for two year old provision to be provided by the schools alongside existing places for three year olds, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted.

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.

38. EARLY YEARS SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS PROVISION

The Director of Children's and Adult Services submitted a report which outlined proposals to review the Early Years SEN and Disability Provision in order to deliver a more effective and efficient service for all children with SEND and families from birth to five years.

The report advised that following legislative changes and the statutory duty to provide free early education places for two year olds, including those with high needs SEN, the revised Code of Practice which was due to be implemented in

September, 2014, alongside the Greater Manchester Public Service Reform Early years New Delivery Model (EYNDM) current Early Years SEND provision now needed to be reviewed to ensure that it was fit for purpose.

In this regard, the report highlighted the key themes and challenges that the changes presented and the need to ensure that they were seen in the wider context of an SEND Strategy for children and young people aged 0 – 25 years.

The report went on to summarise the main changes proposed to the delivery arrangements, including the early adoption of the EYNDM in the Oxford Grove Children's Centre reach area being expanded in order to test alternative delivery models for SEND provision for pre-school age children in the area. The outcome of the pilot could then be fed into the final proposals.

The report also identified the following key themes which the review would need to consider:

- Pathways and referral processes;
- Provision and funding;
- Quality assurance systems and monitoring outcomes.

It was therefore proposed that in order to progress the work, an Early Years SEND Focus Group be established in the autumn term, 2013 to consider the above key themes and to pilot the new SEN pathway/delivery model within the Oxford Grove Reach Area.

Formal proposals for the remodelled Early Years SEND provision would be presented at the end of May, 2014 with a view to its implementation by the start of the academic year (September, 2014).

Following a recommendation from the Cabinet Member for Early Years, Looked after Children and Safeguarding, the Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

(i) A review and implementation of new systems for referral for 1-5 year olds with SEN and disability and the

development of fit for purpose pathways, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted; and

(ii) A review of the purpose, funding and future contribution to Early Years SEN provision, in partnership with those organisations providing resourced places.

40. REGIONAL ADOPTION REFORM GRANT PROCUREMENT EXERCISE

The Director of Children's and Adult Services submitted a report which sought approval to undertake two procurement exercises on behalf of 22 North West Local Authorities.

By way of background information, the report advised that Bolton was acting as host for a North West Regional adoption recruitment project. The project would be funded by a top slice of the ring fenced adoption reform grant paid to Bolton by the 22 participating local authorities.

The procurement exercises would identify:

- a creative marketing agency to deliver a North West adoption recruitment campaign; and
- a booking agency to purchase media slots for the campaign.

Bolton did not currently have any suitable contractual arrangements which could deliver these services.

Full details of the process and associated costs and timescales were outlined in the report.

Following a recommendation from the Executive Member for Early Years, Looked after Children and Safeguarding, the Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

The procurement exercise, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted.

41. ARTISTS IN SCHOOLS SERVICE REVIEW

The Director of Children's and Adult Services submitted a report which put forward proposals relating to a review of the Artists in Schools service.

The report would also be considered by the Executive Cabinet Member Leader at his meeting on 21st October, 2013.

Following a recommendation from the Executive Member for Schools and Skills, the Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED, subject to the approval of the Executive Cabinet Member Leader –

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

42. PROPOSED REVIEW OF THE PLAY SERVICE

The Director of Children's and Adult Services submitted a report which outlined proposals for the redesign and reorganisation of the Council's Play Service Team to take into account an additional reduction in funding from 2014/15 onwards.

The report would also be considered by the Executive Cabinet Member Leader at his meeting on 21st October, 2013.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED, subject to the approval of the Executive Cabinet Member Leader –

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

43. PROPOSED CHILDREN'S AND ADULT COMMISSIONING INTEGRATION

Further to Minute 8 of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader held on 17th June, 2013, the Director of Children's and Adult Services submitted a report which set out the results of the consultation on proposals to integrate the

Commissioning functions across Children's and Adult Services in order to make savings.

The report set out proposals to bring together the Adult and Children's Services commissioning functions to create an integrated commissioning service for the new Department.

Details of the existing structure together with the proposed new structure were provided in the report together with relevant job descriptions and person specifications.

The report advised that following consultation with the trades unions, staff and stakeholders, a number of changes had been made in response to feedback, full details of which were provided in Appendix A2 to the report.

A copy of the response from Unison was provided at Appendix A1 to the report.

An Equality Impact Assessment had been undertaken in respect of the proposals, a copy of which was attached to the report at Appendix A4.

The report would also be considered by the Executive Cabinet Member Leader at his meeting on 21st October, 2013.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

(i) The final proposals, as detailed in the report now submitted; and AGREED –

(ii) That, subject to the approval of the Head of Paid Service, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, implementation of the new structure be delegated to the Chief Executive and the Director of Children's and Adult Services.