

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER – CHILDREN'S SERVICES** held on 14 March 2017 at County Hall, Matlock.

PRESENT

Councillor J Coyle (in the Chair)

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors C Bisknell, D Greenhalgh & J Street.

20/17 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

21/17 **NEW INSTRUMENTS OF GOVERNMENT** Under the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012; proposals had been received from school Governing Bodies for an amendment to their Instrument of Government.

RESOLVED that approval be given for new Instruments of Government to be made for Ironville and Codnor Park Primary as detailed in the Director of Legal Services' report.

22/17 **CONFIRMATION OF NOMINATIONS OF SCHOOL GOVERNORS** **RESOLVED** to approve the nomination of the following persons to serve as Local Authority Governors under the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012:-

V Thorp – South Wingfield Primary School
N Fray – Herbert Strutt Primary School
J Merry – The Brigg Infant School
F Phillips – Larknads Infant & Nursery School
S Taylor – Granville Sports College

23/17 **CHILDRENS SERVICES SPENDING 206/17** The Cabinet Member was informed of the results of the latest Children's Services budget monitoring which highlighted major variances and of progress on delivery of budget reductions.

The report provided an analysis of the latest forecast year-end position for 2016/17 based on income and expenditure up to the end of December 2016.

The current forecast year-end position for Children's Services expenditure funded by the Council was an overspend of £3.600 million. A

number of actions were in place to minimise any overspend. Any shortfall in closing the gap would be met by the use of Children's Services' earmarked reserves. The department was committed to implementing the budget reductions agreed by Council so that it did not need to rely on one-off sources of funding.

A breakdown by service area was appended to the Strategic Director's report.

The forecast overspend was £3.600 million and the overspend would be covered by the use of Children's Services underspend from previous years currently held with an earmarked reserve. The available balance of that reserve after covering the 2015-16 overspend was £6.266 million.

The performance of the department against the allocated budget and the main reasons for the overspend were detailed in the Strategic Directors report

The projected outturn for the Dedicated Schools Grant was an underspend of £0.710 million, of which £0.046 million was ring-fenced to authority schools as it related to re-pooled school budget.

RESOLVED to note the outcome of the latest budget monitoring for 2016-17.

24/17 CAPITAL FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE INCREASE IN PROVISION OF FREE ENTITLEMENT TO EARLY YEARS PLACES

Approval was sought to allocate funding to the conversion of children's centre properties to create additional early years places.

On 22 November 2016, Cabinet approved the sum of £250,000 for minor alterations to children's centre buildings to meet Ofsted requirements for the delivery of early years places. The following schemes had been identified:

Clowne Children's Centre was a stand-alone building on the site of Clowne Infant and Junior schools. The project was to install two new infant toilets and relocate the secure door in the corridor and that will enable the school to create up to 20 new early years places. The cost was £20,180.

Howitt Primary School nursery included a room that was converted for use by the Heanor Children's Centre. The project was to install two infant toilets which would enable the school to create up to 13 new early years places. The cost was £10,500.

Harpur Hill Children's Centre was a stand-alone building on the site of Harpur Hill Primary School. The building was shared by the children's centre and a private provider offering term time early years provision. The project

wais to install three infant toilets in the children's centre accommodation and provide separate entrances to allow a private provider to relocate and release the existing early years room. The early years room would then be occupied by the school nursery, creating 26 new places. The cost was £24,019.

Derbyshire's capital allocation for the creation of places for two year-olds is £1,036,886. In addition, following support from Schools Forum, the Secretary of State for Education had approved that revenue funding of £2,563,134 from 2014-15 Dedicated Schools Grant could be used to support capital projects, giving a total capital budget of £3,600,020.

On 22 November 2016, Cabinet approved a budget of £250,000 from the overall allocation to be made available for the conversion of children's centre buildings. The proposed projects amount to £54,699. The balance of £195,301 would be the subject of future reports.

RESOLVED to approve the allocation of £54,699 for the projects at Clowne Children's Centre, Howitt Primary School and Harpur Hill Children's Centre.

25/17 **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC** **RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items on the agenda to avoid the disclosure of the kind of exempt information detailed in the following summary of proceedings:-

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

- (1) To confirm the exempt minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member – Children's Services held on 7 February 2017 (contains exempt information).
- (2) To consider the report of the Strategic Director for Children's Services Report on Performance Management for teachers employed by the Local Authority and not attached to schools (contains information which is likely to reveal the identity of any individual).
- (3) To consider the report of the Strategic Director for Children's Services on Request for financial assistance with adaptations to home of SG (contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding the information))