

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER – YOUNG PEOPLE** held on 6 February 2018 at County Hall, Matlock.

PRESENT

Cabinet Member - Councillor A Dale

Also in attendance - Councillors J Coyle, A Fox, J Patten and J Twigg.

12/18 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meetings held on 9 January 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

13/18 **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 the four schools detailed in the Director of Legal Services' report.

14/18 **RECRUITMENT OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST FOR PREVENTING FAMILY BREAKDOWN TEAM** The Preventing Family Breakdown Team (PFBT) works intensively with a small number of families where a child was at the 'edge of care' or was a Looked After Child, and where, with intensive intervention and support, it was felt that child might be able to remain at or return home. As well as the benefits of this work for children and families, there was the potential to avoid costs through interventions which meant that children did not need to be accommodated. Analysis about the first 18 months operation of the service from September 2015 to February 2017 indicated that 81% of all PFBT interventions have resulted in a child staying at or returning home, set against an original target of 50% as part of the Department for Education Innovations Project.

The Clinical Psychologist was essential for three key reasons; firstly to provide clinical oversight of the application of the model that PFBT uses and supports other team members; secondly to provide consultation and mentoring, overseeing specific targeted pieces of work and supporting the development of staff knowledge and skills; and thirdly to undertake direct psychological interventions, therapy and assessment. It was concluded that there were no existing services in the County Council (CC) or partner organisations who were able to provide this input, and the costs of an externally-commissioned service was likely to be significantly more than a post established within the CC. It was further proposed that a joint established post between CC and NHS would appeal to the greatest number of candidates.

RESOLVED to approve the creation of a new post of Clinical Psychologist within Derbyshire County Council to be located within the Preventing Family Breakdown Team (PFBT).

15/18 DISPOSAL OF 110 NOTTINGHAM ROAD, SOMERCOTES

The former School House at Somercotes Infant School surplus was retained by the Authority when the School converted to an academy in September 2017. The property was currently tenanted but has no usable value to Children's Services. It was therefore recommended that it be declared surplus to needs and that Corporate Landlord review the potential for future use or disposal of the property.

RESOLVED that 110 Nottingham Road, Somercotes be declared surplus to the requirements of the Children's Services Department.

16/18 CONFIRMATION OF NOMINATIONS OF SCHOOL GOVERNORS

RESOLVED to approve the nomination of the following persons to serve as Local Authority Governors:-

A Eade – Christ Church CE Primary School, Chesterfield
R Longmate – Duckmanton Primary School
A Williams – Hollingwood Primary School
J Clarke – Highfields School (Matlock)
M Coveney – Middleton Community Primary School
C Woodhouse – The White Peak Federation of Schools
R Flatley – Cotmanhay Infant School
J Hunter – Ladywood Primary School
H Bartholomew – The Woodland Federation of Peak Schools
M Jolly – Simmondley Primary School
M Sherwood Fox – Castleton CE Primary School
R Wilkinson – The Duke of Norfolk CE Primary School
L Fairclough – Ridgeway Primary School

17/18 CHILDREN'S SERVICES SPENDING 2017/18

The Cabinet Member was informed of the results of the latest Children's Services budget monitoring for 2017/18 with the major variances highlighted.

The current forecast year-end position for Children's Services expenditure funded by the Council was an overspend of £6.838 million, an increase of £0.397 million from the previous reported projection due to a further increase in the expenditure pressures driven by increased numbers of children in care, children in need, transport for children with additional educational needs.

The residual Children's Services prior year underspend was able to contribute £2.053 million towards this overspend leaving £4.785 million to be

met from the Council's general reserve. The department was committed to implementing the budget reductions agreed by Council and would continue to control spend by other measures such as vacancy control. However, increases in demand for statutory services had exceeded the capacity of the current Children's Services budget for some years. A breakdown by service area is attached as Appendix 1 to the joint report.

The major variances included Early Help and Safeguarding (overspend £7.272m), Child Protection (overspend £0.137m), Advisory Service (overspend £0.780m), Home to School Transport – SEN and Post-16 (overspend £0.502m) Finance/HR/Information & ICT/Business Services (underspend of £0.879m), Budget Reductions still to be achieved (overspend £0.285m), Allocations from Grants (overspend £0.090m), and Capital adjustment (underspend £0.671) and Catering Services. The main reasons for the overspends were detailed in the report.

The current projected expenditure on Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children placements was £0.279 million, net of grant funding from the Home Office. This was within the current budget allocation. The number of Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) supported by the Council as at mid-September 2017 was 31, of which 25 had transferred to Derbyshire from other local authorities or direct from abroad.

Of the net underspend for Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), a £0.243m overspend was projected on de-delegated budgets of mainstream schools, due mainly to overspending on Trade Union representation, insurance and contingency support to secondary schools. It was intended that the Schools Forum be asked that any net overspend on these budgets be offset against the accumulated reserves from previous years' de-delegated budgets, which currently stand at £0.859 million.

Early Years block budgets were projected to underspend by £1.585m of which £1.395m was the projected underspend on actual payments for hours attended to schools, academies and PVI settings for 2, 3 and 4 year-olds at those settings for 2, 3 and 4 year-olds at those settings. The DfE had a mechanism for adjusting funding based on actual take-up which was likely to result in this surplus being clawed back in 2018/19.

The High Needs block was projected to overspend by £0.856 million. It was presumed that the projected overspend would have to be covered from the residual DSG balance which currently stands at £3.162m.

The most significant area of overspend was on top-up payments for special school placements provided by other local authorities and independent and non-maintained schools. Projected expenditure was £8.879 million. The post-16 top-ups were also projected to overspend by £0.471 million. This

overspend was mainly on the top-ups paid to further education colleges and relates to additional places at Derby College for 2016-17 and 2017-18.

RESOLVED to note the outcome of the latest budget monitoring and Dedicated Schools Grant projections for 2017/18, and progress on delivery of budget reductions.

18/18 **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 – Young People held on 9 January 2018.
- (2) To consider the exempt Reports of the Strategic Director for Children's Services on :-
 - (a) Children's Services Capital programme 2017-18 – Schools Access Initiative. (contains information which is likely to reveal the identity of any individual)
 - (b) Fixed-Term Contract in Children's Services Human Resources. (contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding the information)).
 - (c) Conversions of Statements of SEN to EHC Plans. (contains information relating to the Financial or Business Affairs of a particular person (including the Authority holding that information))