

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....14th July 2011

1. Title of Item/Report

Efficiency Improvement and Transformation -Review of Early Intervention Grant

2. Record of the Decision

Members were reminded that the Task and Finish review of the impact of the introduction of the Early Intervention Grant (“EIG”) was being undertaken in response to the challenge of the 25% cut in annual funding associated with the introduction of the grant.

Cabinet was provided with a draft consultation document and plan for consideration prior to the start of a public consultation about the future of Early Years Services in the Borough. Cabinet had previously considered a report that set out the principles and approach to the provision of Early Years Services. At that meeting Cabinet approved “The principle of greater targeting of Early Years Services in the Borough to allow for services to be focussed in areas of greatest need and approved the development of a public consultation document on this basis.”

It was explained that DFE guidance required that any Local Authority seeking to make a significant change to the operation of its Children’s Centres was required to undertake consultation with the public. The precise nature of this consultation was to be determined by the Local Authority but it must be meaningful and substantive and as the changes the Council was proposing met the definition of “significant” in the guidance was unlikely that this could be achieved in less than 12 weeks.

In order to meet this requirement a draft consultation document and consultation plan had been prepared and were provided to members.

The consultation would run from 18th July 2011 – 7th October 2011 and the results would then be used to inform a final set of proposals which would be brought to Cabinet in November 2011.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approve the Public Consultation Document as set out in Appendix 1 and the Consultation and Communication Plan as set out in Appendix 2.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To produce efficiencies and improvements in the delivery of services to children, young people and families in order to address the reduction in funding from the PCT and the introduction of the EIG.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not applicable.

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not later than Midnight on Friday 22 July 2011

Proper Officer  
18 July 2011