

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting14th January 2016

1. Title of Item/Report

Multi-Agency Children Hub

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that set out a proposal to establish a Multi-Agency Children's Hub with Hartlepool Borough Council. The Hub would be a first point of contact for Children's referrals including safeguarding matters and would replace Stockton's First Contact Children's service. The staff from this service would transfer to Hartlepool Borough Council who would be the lead authority for the new arrangements. Partners in the Hub include the Police, North Tees and Hartlepool Foundation Trust and Tees Esk and Wear Valleys Foundation Trust as key partners.

The new arrangement would cost £121k per annum more than Stockton's First Contact Children's service and full detail was detailed within the report. The new service would be established on the basis of an 'invest to save' proposal to be funded from the Transformation Fund. The savings would come from a more targeted service and ultimately a reduction in the number of referrals to Children's Social Care.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The proposal for a joint Multi-Agency Children's Hub with Hartlepool Borough Council be agreed.
2. Hartlepool Borough Council be the lead authority with appropriate delegation of function (pursuant to Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, Regulation 6 of the Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012 and Section 9EA of the Local Government Act 2000.
3. Responsibility for agreeing the Memorandum of Understanding between Hartlepool and Stockton Borough Councils be delegated to the Director of Children's Services in conjunction with the Deputy Chief Executive and the Lead Cabinet Member for Children and Young People.

4. The £181k first 18 months additional costs of the new service and the £31k one-off set up costs be met from the Transformation fund.

5. Cabinet receive regular updates on MACH progress once the service is operational.

3. Reasons for the Decision

Best practice indicates that a multi-agency approach is the most effective way of making decisions about how best to deal with children and their families to secure the best possible outcomes.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Cooke declared a disclosable interest in respect of agenda item 11 - Multi-Agency Children's Hub as he was an employee of Tees and Esk Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust.

Councillor Mrs McCoy declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 11 - Multi-Agency Children's Hub as she was on the Board of Governors of Tees and Esk Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust.

6. Details of any Dispensations

Councillor Cooke has been granted a dispensation in relation to his disclosable pecuniary interest concerning his employment / employer Tees and Esk Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust.

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

Midnight on 22nd January 2016.

Proper Officer
18 January 2016