

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting1st September 2016

1. Title of Item/Report

Early Years and Children's Centres: Consultation on Future Approach

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that sought approval to consult on a new vision and proposed approach to the provision of early years support in Stockton, including the future model for children's centres. It set out the vision and objectives of a new approach, and a set of proposals for implementation.

The proposed approach was to fundamentally review the approach for early years in Stockton, recognising the roles of different sectors and providers.

The focus was on the support available to families in the early years, often referred to as pregnancy, birth and beyond. The approach was especially focused on the support available from pregnancy to 2, as it was widely recognised that these are the most critical times in promoting child development and wellbeing.

However, in considering the role of agencies and the model of delivery, the Councils approach also recognised the need to consider early years support in the context of the wider early help approach which was agreed at Cabinet in July 2016, and that families continued to need support when children start and attend school, and therefore that they need to be seen in the context of an approach to 0-19 services.

The approach suggested was therefore much broader than a focus solely on children's centres, though these form an important part of the overall picture. The approach was therefore more about a whole system approach, which was focused on:

- a. The needs of parents and what support they value;
- b. How we can support effective and confident parenting;
- c. How we can work with families and communities to develop solutions and effective services to support those most in need.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The proposals for consultation be agreed.
2. A further report be submitted to Cabinet in December 2016.
3. Reasons for the Decision
To commence a consultation process on the proposals.
4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected
None
5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest
N/A
6. Details of any Dispensations
N/A
7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed
Midnight, 9th September 2016

Proper Officer
05 June 2016