

## Scrutiny Proposal

### Topic: Future Provision of Overnight Unit-Based Short Breaks For Children With Disabilities

<p><b>Background to the issue</b> (what is it and why is it being considered for scrutiny)</p>	<p>At its meeting on 14 December 2017 Cabinet considered a report which sought agreement to the launch of a consultation with families, professionals and other stakeholders, on the future delivery of overnight unit-based short breaks in Worcestershire. Cabinet agreed:</p> <p>(a) that the consultation with families, professionals and wider stakeholders on the proposal to redesign the delivery of overnight unit-based provision proceed as outlined in the report and</p> <p>(b) that the final decision on the future provision of unit-based overnight provision be delegated to the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families, to be implemented by the Director of Children, Families and Communities.</p> <p><b>Previous scrutiny</b> In July 2013, the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel considered how the Council's then consultation on short breaks for children with disabilities might be improved. The Panel made several recommendations which were accepted by the Cabinet Member.</p> <p>As well as looking at the consultation process, the Panel examined proposed changes to the Council's and the NHS short breaks units, hearing from a number of parents and responded to both consultations at the time.</p> <p><b>Reasons for Scrutiny</b> There is public concern about the proposals and scrutiny can help bring transparency and understanding to the process; Scrutiny can enhance the range of information available at the time the decision is made.</p>		
<p><b>Terms of reference</b></p>	<p>To scrutinise the proposals for changes including the potential impact across all overnight short break provision for children with disabilities. Through carrying out this exercise Scrutiny may also comment on the consultation process.</p>		
<p><b>Suitability for scrutiny.</b> Which of the following criteria does it meet?</p>			
<p><i>Is the issue a priority area for the Council?</i></p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p><i>Does it examine a poorly performing service?</i></p>	<p>Unsure</p>
<p><i>Is it a key issue for local people?</i></p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p><i>Has it been prompted by new Government guidance or legislation?</i></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><i>Will the scrutiny have a clear impact on services?</i></p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p><i>Will it result in improvements to the way the Council</i></p>	<p><i>Yes – potentially clarify proposals and reasons/justification for</i></p>

		<i>operates?</i>	<i>change</i>
<i>Are improvements for local people likely as a result?</i>	Yes		
<b>Scope of scrutiny</b> (what issues will it cover and what won't it cover)	<p>To find out:</p> <p>Whether the information on which the proposals are based for changes to the future provision of overnight unit-based short break for children with disabilities is accurate;</p> <p>Whether the consultation process can be improved;</p> <p>Whether there are alternative options to consider.</p> <p><i>N.B. O&amp;S has committed to ensure that the following are considered in all scrutiny reviews as appropriate</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>equality and diversity issues</i></li> <li>• <i>commissioning</i></li> <li>• <i>localism</i></li> </ul>		
Advantages to conducting scrutiny & Indicators of success (ie how will you know a good scrutiny has been done?)	<p>Ensuring that the decisions made on the future arrangements for this service can be seen to be based on full information and consideration of alternatives.</p> <p>Enables the voice and concerns of the public to be heard</p>		
Has anyone else examined the issue?	No		
Any disadvantages or pitfalls to conducting this scrutiny?	There is a risk that expectations about the final decision may be raised by Scrutiny being involved. Communications about the role and purpose of Scrutiny will be handled sensitively.		
<b>INFORMATION NEEDS</b>			
Key Documents, Reports & Data required	<p>Details of the consultation</p> <p>Anonymised details of service needs of current users</p> <p>Data about the numbers of children with disabilities requiring the service</p> <p>Details about use of all the Units</p> <p>Short Breaks report to Cabinet 14 December 2017</p>		
Is an expert adviser needed?	No		
Possible interviewees	<p>Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families</p> <p>Director for Children, Families and Communities</p> <p>Equalities and Diversity Manager</p> <p>Parents/carers, Child/young person (as appropriate) using the service at Ludlow Road and the other units, Providence Road, Moule Close, Osborne Court and Acorns</p> <p>Representatives of the CCG</p> <p>Members of staff at the units involved.</p>		
Is this an issue that young people would be interested in? If so, ask Youth Cabinet for	The Consultation is being carried out with parents/carers of the young people who use the service.		

evidence.	
Site Visits	Yes, to the units involved in delivering this service
Types of meeting/ consultation needed? (eg workshops/ focus groups/ public meetings/ questionnaires etc)	Various
Any meetings to be held outside of County Hall?	Visits to the centres which provide the service
Media & publicity needs?	This will be kept under review as the scrutiny progresses
<b>OUTLINE TIMETABLE</b>	
Proposal to OSPB	30 January 2018
Evidence Gathering	
Scrutiny Report to OSPB	28 February 2018
Scrutiny Report to Cabinet	Consultation due to end 19 February and decision due to be made by CMR on a date yet to be identified.