

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

17 MARCH 2016

0-19 PREVENTION SERVICE AND CHILDREN'S CENTRES

Summary

1. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Well Being, the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families, the Strategic Commissioner (Early Help and Partnerships) and the Interim Director of Public Health have been invited to the meeting to discuss with the Panel the developments of the new 0-19 integrated prevention service for children, young people and families (Starting Well Service) and the feedback from the recent consultation on use of Children's Centre Buildings.

Background

2. On 1 February 2016 the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel discussed the County Council's All-age Prevention Policy and the design of a new 0-19 integrated prevention service for children, young people and families, including the use of buildings to provide the service.

3. Members received a presentation outlining the plans for the new 0-19 integrated prevention services (Starting Well Service) and a brief verbal update on the results of the recently concluded consultation on use of Children's Centre buildings.

4. The Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel were asked to:

- consider work to date in relation to the All-age Prevention Policy and the 0-19 integrated prevention service
- determine whether it would wish to carry out any further scrutiny, and
- agree whether it would wish to make any comments to the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children, Families and Communities

5. As a result of discussions on the 1 February 2016, the Panel have subsequently requested:

- Starting Well: Analysis of the specification and the intended outcomes of the specification and review of performance measures/indicators
- Review of the results of the Consultation process and how this information will be and has been used
- Next steps of the process

6. This is in addition to requesting sight of the Early Help Needs Assessment, which has since been actioned by circulating the link: [The full assessment can be accessed here](#)

Next Steps

7. The Starting Well Service tender was published on the 2 March 2016. The closing date for tender submission is 12pm on 3 May 2016. Tenders will be then be evaluated and a preferred provider is expected to be announced on the 2 June 2016 and the standstill period will conclude on the 14 June 2016. The new service is expected to start on the 1 October 2016.
8. The Children's Centre building consultation generated a number of ideas about how the buildings could be used to continue to support families and communities. However, before any of these proposals are pursued further work needs to take place on agreeing how best to prioritise these ideas **and** give the option to the Starting Well service to use them either exclusively or shared with another provider.
9. The suggested timescales for agreeing the future use of buildings is:
 - a) End of April – agreed approach for prioritising ideas for use of Children's Centre buildings and further development of those ideas generated through Children's Centre consultation
 - b) End of May – evaluation of Starting Well Service tender and clarification on which buildings they would like to use
 - c) After the announcement of preferred provider for the Starting Well Service (2 June) confirmation around proposed use of Children's Centre buildings
 - d) June/July – centre specific consultation if / where significant alternative use of Children Centre buildings are proposed
 - e) July – Formal decisions on future use of Children's Centres
 - f) July – September – transition arrangements in line with new Starting Well service start on the 1 October 2016.

Purpose of the Meeting

10. The Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel is asked to:
 - consider the supporting information and ask questions to the respective Cabinet Members and Officers,
 - determine whether it would wish to carry out any further scrutiny, and
 - agree how it would like to be involved regarding the use of Children's Centre buildings

Supporting Information

- **Appendix 1 Starting Well Service Specification** – this explains to bidding providers the expectations for the new service
- **Appendix 2 Starting Well key performance indicators** – this clarifies to bidding providers how the County Council intends to measure the success of the Starting Well Service and how the Provider will be held to account
- **Appendix 3 Co-Production Summary report** – this is a short summary of the co-production work completed prior to publishing the tender documentation

- **Appendix 4 Tender pack information** – this has information for bidding providers and explains how the County Council will be evaluating the bids received
- **Appendix 5 Children's Centre Consultation Summary report** - this is a short summary of the recent children's centre consultation

Contact Points

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Director of Children, Families and Communities) the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and Minutes of the Cabinet on 19 November 2015
- Agenda and Minutes of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 1 February 2016

Minutes and Agendas for all County Council meetings are available [here](#).