

Children's Social Care and Learning Select Committee 2 February 2018

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Call-in Request Form

Decision Title:	Early Help Review
Decision Number:	Not yet published
Decision-taker:	Cabinet
Date decision made:	8/1/18
Was the decision taken under the urgent action procedure?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, please set out why you believe the decision is not genuinely urgent: (max 250 words)	
N/A	
Reasons for the call-in: <i>Please provide supporting information on the reasons for your call-in request (see guidance for examples of grounds). Please limit your summary to no more than 1,000 words for this entire section.</i>	
<p>Whilst acknowledging that this issue has been reviewed by the Children's & Social Care Select Committee at its meeting on Tuesday 17th October before it went to Cabinet on Monday 8th January, I strongly believe that not all the relevant matters were taken into account in reaching the decision as a number of issues have since come to light.</p> <p>Below is a summary of the main reasons for calling in this decision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cabinet Member report contained a number of contradictions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promoting prevention, but using the existing Troubled Families outcome measure (page 196, paragraph 25); ○ The Equality Impact statement says that pregnant women will receive more support (page 15), when actually they will receive less support (page 4). • There was an inadequate consultation process as many members of the public who provided feedback on the consultation said that they were confused about the consultation. • There was insufficient engagement with all County Councillors, particularly involving discussions around the potential future use of buildings in their local areas. • Safeguarding issues have not been adequately addressed and should be further reviewed to ensure full confidence in the new proposal. • Service users of Bucks County Council should not have to repeat their histories as a matter of good practice therefore this should not be used to justify the Cabinet 	

decision.

- Local knowledge has not been considered as part of the decision-making process - there was no mention in the Cabinet report about the impact that this decision will have on the local schools who currently jointly use facilities. Have those affected been consulted on the plans and if so, have their concerns been considered (and these should be reflected in the Cabinet report to ensure clear and transparent decision-making).
- Again local knowledge was lacking in the Cabinet report as the omission of Micklefield (IDACI Decile 2 most deprived, appendix 7 Cabinet Paper) and East Wycombe (Team area 8, Appendix 4, Cabinet Paper) for a hub cannot be justified.
- The consultation did not state that there would be a six month period to look at alternative uses of premises. It is unclear whether new management through charities etc will be funded or whether schools will be given additional funding. This work needs to be Member led and should have been done in advance of the decision.

Desired outcome/alternative course of action sought:

That the proposed recommendations are not brought into force until the following issues have been addressed:

- An unbiased and clear consultation is undertaken. To act in a transparent manner with the general public and Children Centre users (including local schools affected by the proposals).

In addition, if a new consultation is not undertaken, then the following should be undertaken:

- Reinstate £3m to Children's Services as they are rated as requiring improvement by Ofsted.
- To correct all anomalies in the Cabinet paper.
- To ensure that the 5 highest areas of deprivation are comprehensively served with locally accessible teams and services, including Micklefield.
- To ensure individual local Member involvement in all decisions about Centres in their divisions.
- To safeguard children in the community outreach.
- To confirm that no Bucks CC service users are expected to repeat their histories. To confirm that effective record keeping and data sharing protocols is in place.
- Assess the impact on schools prior to the decision.
- A review of the premises to be made prior to the decision.
- Review the decision to close Marlow Children's Centres and other frequently used Children's Centres.

If you would like to nominate witnesses to support your case, please use this section to provide their names and email and telephone contact details: *(maximum of three)*

- Alka Dass alkadass@yahoo.co.in (07834 394868)
- Councillor Matt Knight M.Knight@wycombe.gov.uk (07947 674352) or Councillor Andrea Baughan andrea.baughan@wycombe.gov.uk (07546 520712) (One of these subject to availability)
- Councillor Martin Farrow mfarrow@buckscc.gov.uk (07887 574888)

Are there any additional papers (to the decision report) that you would like the Select Committee to consider?

Yes No

If so, please list the documents here?

- July 2017 Early Help – You Tell Us
- September 2017 Supplementary information.

Any further documents will be provided 5 clear days before the Select Committee meeting.

<p>Lead Member: <i>(who will be the main contact and spokesperson for this call in request)</i></p>	<p>Julia Wassell</p>
<p>Names of other Members supporting the call in request: <i>(a minimum of two is required)</i> <i>(written evidence of the support of additional members is required by providing a copy of an email from a Member confirming their support for this call-in)</i></p>	<p>Niknam Hussain Chaudhary Ditta Martin Farrow</p>
<p>Date:11.1.18</p>	

This form will be submitted to the Monitoring Officer, Sarah Ashmead at monitoringofficer@buckscc.gov.uk

