

# CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE COMMISSION 11 MARCH 2008

Report of the Chair

# Forward Plan: Monitoring and Tracking

# **RECOMMENDATION**

1. To consider the reasons for entries appearing in the Forward Plan for less than four months.

# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

2.1 Regulation 13 (2) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations states that a 'forward plan shall contain details of all the matters likely to be the subject of key decisions for a period of four months'. The 22 January meeting of the Commission decided to routinely track the inclusion of relevant entries.

This new entry was made to the **February 2008** Forward Plan.

Key Decision	Required entry date	Comment by C&YP Department
59/07 Children's Centres - Phase 3 (19/0208)	November 07	Guidance not received

These new entries were made to the March 2008 Forward Plan.

Key Decision	Required entry date	Comment by C&YP Department
62/07 Determination of Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools (22/04/08)	January 08	Submitted on 28.01.08. As this is an annual item, the timescale for which is laid down by central government and which doesn't change from year to year, couldn't items such as this be rolled forwards from one year to the next on the Forward Pan without the need for a reminder?
65/07 Connexions Transition (18/03/08)	December 07	Uncertainty about end point of joint planning with Derbyshire

66/07 Building Schools for the Future – Strategy for Change Part 2 (22/04/08)	January 08	Put on FP on 06.02.08. This should be down for 03.06.08 Cabinet. BSF Affordability should be down for 22.04.08 External government agency called Partnerships for Schools are imposing deadlines on LA's who are part of the BSF programme
67/07 Consultation on a proposal to relocate St Martin's Special School (22/04/08)	January 08	Consultation isn't a key decision – so this should come off.

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Background papers: Appendix 1 – Implications

List of appendices: None

# Appendix 1

#### **IMPLICATIONS**

#### Financial and Personnel

None directly arise from this report

#### Legal

The Forward Plan originates in primary legislation. Section 22 of the Local Government Act 2000 gave the Secretary of State the power to make regulations *requiring* prescribed information about executive functions to be made available to members of the public or members of the authority in advance of [key] decisions being taken.

The regulations made were the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations. Regulation 13 (2) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations states that a 'forward plan *shall* contain details of all the matters likely to be the subject of key decisions for a period of four months'.

The Forward Plan is not simply a bureaucratic legal requirement but is a key part of Derby citizens' entitlements. Article 3.2 of the Constitution says citizens have the right to 'find out from the forward plan what key decisions will be taken by the Council Cabinet and when'.

### **Equalities** impact

Timely entries in the Forward Plan are particularly important for the information to successfully circulate to hard-to-reach communities – either through socio-economic exclusion or not speaking English – who rely on word-of-mouth.

# **Corporate Objectives, Values and Priorities**

This report related to the Council's stated values of being open, transparent and honest about everything we do.