

Time began	3.00pm
Time ended	3.20pm

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE CABINET MEMBER MEETING 27 MARCH 2014

Present: Councillor Rawson

25/13 Apologies

There were no apologies.

26/13 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

27/13 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations.

28/13 Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 February 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2014 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

29/13 Darley Barn – Future Delivery of Outdoor Education in Derby City

The Cabinet Member received a report providing an update on the options for the future operation of Darley Barn Outdoor Education Centre and the delivery of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Derby City. The Service Director of Early Intervention and Integrated Safeguarding, presented the report.

The Cabinet Member noted that the current service was being run by Derby City Council's Children and Young People's Department from Darley Barn. It was acknowledged that whilst the service owned its own equipment the Department was having to pay for on-going essential maintenance to ensure safe operation, for which the Department did not hold any budget for and the centre was not managing to generate sufficient income to cover the costs incurred. There was only one full-time equivalent post at the centre and all other staff were volunteers.

It was also considered that whilst the centre supported and delivered the Duke of Edinburgh's Award this was a costly scheme and licence fee where many Derby schools now offer this award programme to pupils

The Service Director informed the Cabinet Member that five options, for the future of Darley Barn Education Centre, were considered in April 2013, these were:

- Do nothing and continue with operations as they were – this option was discounted
- Invest in the service – this option was discounted
- Close the service – this option was not favoured
- Proceed to full tender of the service – this option was not favoured
- Explore options for partnership delivery with another public sector organisation or Local Authority – this was the favoured option expressions of interest were received from Leesbrook Academy School and Derbyshire County Council. Leesbrook Academy School later withdrew from putting in a bid.

The Cabinet Member was advised that Derbyshire County Council had submitted a proposal with an initial action plan which was considered by Overview and Scrutiny at the Children and Young People Board on 18 March 2014

Resolved:

- 1) To agree to progress the development of a partnership arrangement with Derbyshire County Council Outdoor Education Service as outlined in the report to the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Board on 18 March 2014**
- 2) To recommend that Derby City Council retains a Duke of Edinburgh Awards licence**
- 3) To agree that the service achieves a cost neutral position by April 2016, with a proportionate subsidy reduction in 2014/15 and 2015/16**
- 4) To note the requirement for continued short-term subsidy until the cost neutral position can be achieved.**

MINUTES END