

Time began 1.00pm
Time ended 1.05pm

Safeguarding and Children and Young People Cabinet Member Meeting

15 July 2015

Present: Councillor Bolton

01/15 Apologies

There were no apologies.

02/15 Late Items

There were no late items.

03/15 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations.

04/15 The Light House Nursery Service Review

The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Strategic Director for Children and Young People on The Light House Nursery Service Review. The report was presented by the Director of Specialist Services and the head of Youth Offending Service.

It was reported that the original transfer of the nursery service from the hospital in 2009 was a temporary solution to the inability of the hospital to provide sufficiency of placements and high levels of parental complaints.

It was further reported that from 12 May 2014, the three children accessing services from the Nursery were re-located to alternative provision, appropriate equipment was provided and the Light House Nursery team supported the alternative provider's staff until specific training could be arranged. The Cabinet Member noted that the alternative mainstream nurseries had assumed total responsibility for the care of the children without Light House support for the last two weeks of the academic year 2014. The Cabinet Member also noted that the three children had settled well and parental feedback of these provisions had been positive.

It was reported that the public consultation on the future of the nursery was open for eight weeks between 3 October 2014 and 28 November 2014. It was further reported that the respondents were asked to comment on, accessibility, affordability and adequacy of the existing provision. The cabinet Member noted that there had been 27 responses.

It was reported that the current staff employed by the Council to deliver the nursery services comprised one part time teacher, one part time teaching assistant and one

part time health care aide. It was further reported that all were currently undertaking alternative duties but would need to become subject to internal consultation processes.

The Cabinet Member noted that the consultation responses were considered by the Departmental Management team of the Children and Young People's Directorate on 4 February 2015, with a recommendation to agree closure of the nursery and take forward to a Cabinet Member meeting.

Resolved:

- 1. to agree closure of the existing nursery provision at the Light House;**
- 2. to continue with the agreed strategy with STePs Team and the Childcare and Family Information Service to enable delivery of a tailored service to existing nurseries currently providing specialist provision for disabled children with complex needs; and**
- 3. to begin internal consultation under the Re-Structure, Re-Deployment and Redundancy process with the existing staff.**

MINUTES END