



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMISSION 7 NOVEMBER 2006

Report of the Corporate Director for Children and Young People

### Consultation on the future location of the Ronnie MacKeith Assessment Nursery

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 To consider the proposals currently being consulted over and agree any response the Commission may wish to make.

#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Children and Young People's Service (CYPS) have recently been successful in securing £7.4m to rebuild Ivy House School. The new school is expected to open during the academic year 2008-09. The development of the school provides an opportunity to review those services currently being delivered by the Children and Young People's Partnership within other specialist settings, one of which is Ronnie MacKeith Assessment Nursery.
- 2.2 The nursery is currently based within the Ronnie MacKeith Child Development Centre at the Derbyshire Children's Hospital. The current location, organisation and staffing of the Ronnie MacKeith Nursery restricts the ability to respond effectively to changing pupil, staffing and curriculum needs. In addition, the ongoing development of early years' education within the city provides parents with an opportunity to access local, flexible, extended childcare.
- 2.3 The development of the CYPS and subsequent partnership arrangements has promoted the development of locality delivered services. The relocation of the nursery to Ivy House School would further support the agreed principles of the CYPS to provide services to children and their families within an inclusive community of schools. The proposed development would also allow for improved joint commissioning of service delivery between the CYPS and Primary Care Trust as reflected in the Children and Young People's Plan.
- 2.4 The relocation would allow for the realignment of resources at Ronnie MacKeith Assessment Nursery to provide outreach support to pre-school and Foundation Stage One pupils in other mainstream settings.

- 2.5 The nursery provides for 12 full-time equivalent placements for multi-agency assessment and interventions for children aged two – five years identified with complex needs, which may require a range of therapeutic, medical and educational interventions.
- 2.6 The nursery is staffed by one teacher and one full-time teaching assistant from the Early Years Intervention Team of the CYPS. In addition, there are 60 hours of health care assistant - term time only - provided by the Derbyshire Children's Hospital.
- 2.7 From September 2006 there will be seven pupils on roll, of which only three pupils will take up their Foundation Stage One entitlement of five sessions of nursery education a week, totalling 12.5 hours each.
- 2.8 Trend data shows that over half of all pupils who attend the nursery are later placed full-time at Ivy House School. The remaining pupils are placed at their local neighbourhood nursery or primary school, depending on parental preference.
- 2.9 Consultation will take place with staff, trade unions, parents, elected members, other professionals and stakeholders. A copy of the consultation document can be downloaded from:

[http://www.derby.gov.uk/EducationLearning/General Information/Consultation .htm](http://www.derby.gov.uk/EducationLearning/General%20Information/Consultation.htm)

The consultation period will close on 20 December 2006.

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	Appendix 1 – Implications

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

- 1 The cost of the relocation of the nursery provision and services will be managed within the existing budget allocations.

**Legal**

- 2 The Council has a duty to make appropriate educational provision for pupils with Additional Educational Needs.

**Personnel**

- 3.1 One teacher and one full-time teaching assistant from the Early Intervention Team of the Children and Young People's Service would need to relocate their principal work base.
- 3.2 Sixty hours of Health Care Assistants, term time only, funded from the Foundation Trust of the Derbyshire Children's Hospital.

**Equalities impact**

- 4 The proposed relocation of the nursery will provide children and families with improved facilities as a part of the new school. The relocation of the nursery will further support the principles of flexible integrated service provision.

**Corporate Priorities**

- 5 This proposal supports the Council's key priority of providing joined-up services to children and families within their localities.