

CALL IN: Decision FP/467/04/16: Procurement of a New Model to Deliver Integrated Pre-birth to 19 Health, Wellbeing and Family Support Services (Greenstead).

Informal meeting held on Thursday, 30 June 2016 at 10.30 a.m. in Committee Room 3

Present

Councillor Dick Madden (Cabinet Member for Adults and Children), Councillor Julie Young

Contributing Officers: Dave Hill, Executive Director for People Commissioning

Officers present: Robert Fox, Peter Randall

Introduction

Councillor Madden outlined the three strands of the 0-19 service, call-in namely:

- The Children's Centres philosophy following the consultation
- The Children's Centre in Greenstead
- The consequences and impact on the community centre

The evidence shows that the Children's Centre in Greenstead has been delivering 11 hours a week. Footfall has reduced whilst outreach has increased. However, the aspect of the impact on the community centre and the consequences lead to the suggestion that the current arrangements at Greenstead continue for the rest of the financial year and then into 2017/18.

Beyond this a long-term arrangement with a new provider following the procurement process may be possible. However, there will be no detail on this until a new provider is established.

The core philosophy is to have a service with much more outreach as the evidence from around the country shows that the most vulnerable people do not attend the centres.

The suggestion would be to construct an arrangement that will work with the new provider and utilise the building so that a long-term solution for Greenstead can be found. The potential is to design the service at Greenstead in a bespoke way.

The procurement process will start in the next month following the call-in's with the aim to have a new provider in place by April 2017. The procurement process will be through active dialogue with the contracted provider being held to outcomes for the children of Essex. There will be the opportunity at this point for the community to be

actively engaged in this dialogue which will be going on throughout the autumn. The Greenstead community should engage in this process.

The offer was reiterated that Essex County Council will continue to fund the Children's Centre at Greenstead delivering its current provision until the new arrangement is put in place with a new provider.

20-30 hours per week until the end of financial year 2017/18 allowing time to work out a long-term agreement which could become part of the seven years of the new provider contract.

Councillor Young response

Councillor Young requested a short recess to consider the offer and respond to the Cabinet Member by email with regard to whether the call-in continue or be withdrawn.

Outcome

Thank you for coming to Greenstead to better understand the community on Tuesday and for your offer to work with the community to focus services that meet the needs of the Greenstead community in a better way.

As Cllr Annie Feltham said we need to focus our attention on offering more and not less services.

I am completely up for the challenge you have offered and I think we have a unique opportunity to run better services under a different model. As you can see and as Tim explained the Greenstead community is very resource rich in the way we rally and come together, over the years we have had to be so.

I therefore am withdrawing the call in.

Councillor Julie Young

Robert Fox
30 June 2016