

		AGENDA ITEM 7
		PAF/02/16
Committee:	People and Families Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	14 January 2016	
<u>Essex Sure Start Children's Centres - Consultation</u>		
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For the reasons stated below, there will be no presentation of this item at the meeting on 14 January 2016.

Statement from Stav Yiannou:

Essex Sure Start Children's Centres - Consultation Delayed

As you may know we have been planning to provide a new Integrated Pre-birth – 19, Health, Wellbeing and Family Support service for children, young people and families from April 2017. For this reason we have engaged with families, young people and professionals to help us re-design our new model and we have been speaking specifically to families accessing support through Essex Sure Start Children's Centres in and around your area.

We were due to start a consultation regarding Essex Sure Start Childrens Centres on the 7th January. However, this has now being delayed as a result of the government's spending review and the unexpected financial challenges the settlement has posed on our proposed model.

Whilst this does not change the findings and principles that we previously shared with you as a consequence of the programme, the challenging settlement outcome does require us to reflect and consider in greater detail the programme outline that we previously shared with you.

Delaying the Sure Start Children's Centres consultation will give us time to reconsider the wider scope of the review and reflect on the feasibility of all the proposals we had in mind. However, please do bear with us. Throughout this process we have valued your input and contributions. As such we will continue to

be as inclusive as possible when considering the future challenges we face as a system committed to children and their families in Essex.

We will be launching our Sure Start Children's Centres consultation as soon as possible and your thoughts and opinions will now be even more important to us than ever. Please watch out for our update on the new consultation launch date.