

		AGENDA ITEM 5
		PAF/04/15
Committee:	People and Families Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	10 March 2016	
<u>Children's Centres Consultation Review</u>		
Enquiries to:	Carolyn Terry EYCC Commissioner for Sufficiency and Sustainability Integrated Commissioning and Vulnerable People – People Commissioning. Telephone: 03330 133338 Email: carolyn.terry@essex.gov.uk	

Attached is an update on the Children's Centres consultation, in the form of a PowerPoint presentation.

The report circulated to the Committee for the November 2015 meeting is appended, as a background paper.

Proposed changes to Sure Start Childrens Centres in Essex from April 2017



Essex County Council

- Background
- Engagement Activity Summary
- Outline of the consultation
- Consultation events
- Questions

Children and Young People's Plan 2016-2019

Sets direction Children and Young People's Services across Essex

- Focused on what changes as a result of coming together
- Improve joint accountability and decision making
- Move to a Family centred plan

Focus on improving outcomes for the most vulnerable through

- Collaboration;
- Integration and alignment of resource;
- Joint Commissioning.

Consultation on the Children and Young People's Plan has also gone live.



Pre Birth - 19 Health Wellbeing and Family Support Engagement

- ECC is in the process of redesigning the current service offer for Children's Centres and the Healthy Child Programme (Health Visiting, Family Nurse Partnership, School Nursing Services and Healthy Schools Programme).
- This places parents, children and families at the heart of the service re-design.
- We undertook some engagement activities in the Autumn that built upon the previous Early Years Review work and outputs from the Ethnographic Research in looking to understand how the services currently work and what may be improved.
- All of this activity has focused on designing systems to ensure that information, advice and support makes a real difference to families, children and young people.



Our new system

Our new system must... Work with and for families across Essex

We will...



Look first at families' strengths
especially those of parents (both Mums and Dads)
and take time to understand their needs fully



Focus on preventing problems
before they occur and offer flexible, responsive
support when and where it's required



Build the resilience of parents
and communities to support each other



Work together across the whole system
– aligning our resources so we can best support
families and 'do what needs to be done when it
needs to be done' (not necessarily what is on
our job description)



Base all we do on evidence
of both what is needed and of what works,
and be brave enough to stop things that
aren't working



Be clear and consistent about the outcomes
we expect, and judge what we do against them

We will know our system is successful if it delivers these outcomes:



Children...

- Are physically and emotionally healthy
- Are resilient and able to learn well
- Are supported by their families, their community, and - when necessary - professionals to thrive and be successful
- Live in environments that are safe and support their learning and development



Parents...

- Are supporting one another in their communities
- Know where to get help if they need it
- Have trusted relationships with practitioners, neighbours and other parents
- Are well informed about how best to help their child develop, and motivated to make great choices



Communities...

- See it as their collective responsibility to support parents and young children
- Are providing sustainable support through individuals, community groups, businesses and voluntary organisations
- Are seen, understood and valued by practitioners as being 'part of the solution'



Practitioners...

- Focus first on families and their strengths
- Work closely with families to understand what they need, and build trusting relationships
- Have a shared vision and understanding of outcomes and success
- Are skilled, knowledgeable and are co-creating and co-delivering approaches that work

Engagement Activities

- Following on from the findings of the Ethnographic Research we undertook a series of activities including local focus groups and workshops and an online survey for parents, young people and stakeholders. We received the following responses;
 - 742 parents/carers gave their views via the online survey
 - 130 stakeholders gave their views via the online survey
 - 306 children and young people gave their views



- Children's Centres are used by many (144 out of 367 respondents who have used services, 40%).
- The work Children's Centres do is valued.
- Parents say they are accessible (90%), in good locations (83%) and that they feel listened to when using them (71%).
- They help reduce the isolation some parents are feeling
- Some have perceived that services/activities have reduced and many want more
- Stakeholders say that Centres should offer a more integrated service, especially health services e.g. HVs
- Parents would like Centres open for longer and on different days. Some want to use them but they are closed when needed.



What Services Are Available To Me?

- Many don't know what's available to them. Half of respondents said this when asked why they had not received formal advice, information or support
- They don't know where to go to get help or who to contact
- And are not accessing services as a result
- Stakeholders agree that not knowing who to contact is key for those wishing to access services
- They also need better information in order to signpost



More Information Please?

- More information is needed on what services are available.
- This must be up to date
- Be wary of information overload
- Simple, meaningful signposting – **what** help is available, **where** to go for it and **who** to ask
- One-stop-shops of information
 - Parents
 - Stakeholders
 - Children and young people



Sure Start Children's Centres Consultation

The consultation is seeking family and stakeholders views about the proposed changes to the current children's centre buildings

We are proposing to extend current children's centre service by increasing the age range to support families with children from pregnancy to the age 19 (up to 25 with SEND) and by bringing these five services together:

- 0-5 Healthy Child Programme
- 5-19 Healthy Child Programme
- Childrens Centres
- Healthy Schools
- Family Nurse Partnership



Through these
proposals we
need to

Because we want to

Reduce the
number of
Children's
Centre
buildings

Offer support
in places that
you already go
to

Increase the
number of
ways that you
can access
services

Bring health
services
together with
Children's
Centres

Deliver
services when
and where you
need them

Provide
support for
children from
pregnancy to
19 in one place

Support you
early, before
little problems
get bigger



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We are proposing to stop calling our buildings Children's Centres and call them Family Hubs. This is because they will be important places for young people and families as well as children and the name reflects the wider range of services that will be on offer.

It is proposed that one existing Children's Centre in every District will become a Family Hub and the focal point for co-ordinating services and support for families in the area.



Family Hubs

- One in each district open for 50 hours per week
- Co-ordinate all of the support and services for families with children from pregnancy to 19
- Signpost to other support services

Family Hub Delivery Sites

- Local places and buildings offering services 20-30 hours per week
- Places where different organisations who support children and families already work
- Multiple offer of support and information

Family Hub Outreach Sites

- Opportunity for face to face information advice and guidance
- Located in places defined through local need i.e. local libraries



What does this mean?

- Services without walls
- Services delivered more flexibly and tailored to meet individual needs
- Improved opportunities to improve outcomes for families
- Targeting services at those that most need support
- Increased age range



What does this mean?

- Building Community Capacity, enabling people to deliver their own services where appropriate
- Provision of an improved Early Help Offer
- Integrated service offer for an increased age range
- Opportunity to offer flexible opening hours
- Opportunity for some buildings to be used as additional childcare



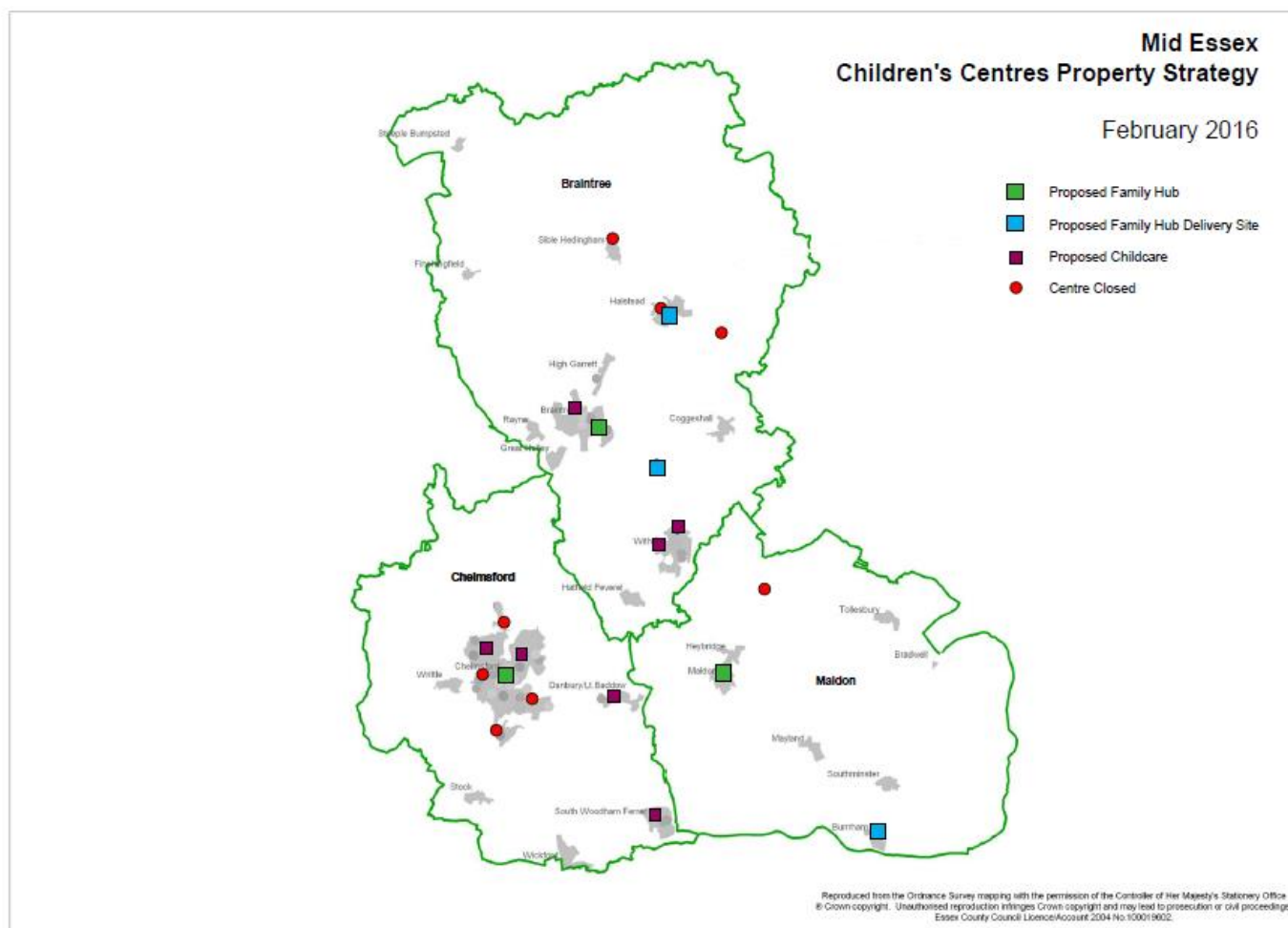
Childcare places

Families have shared concerns over shortage of childcare

This gives some potential to use some of the current Children's Centre buildings as an opportunity to provide more childcare places in areas of need once the consultation has concluded



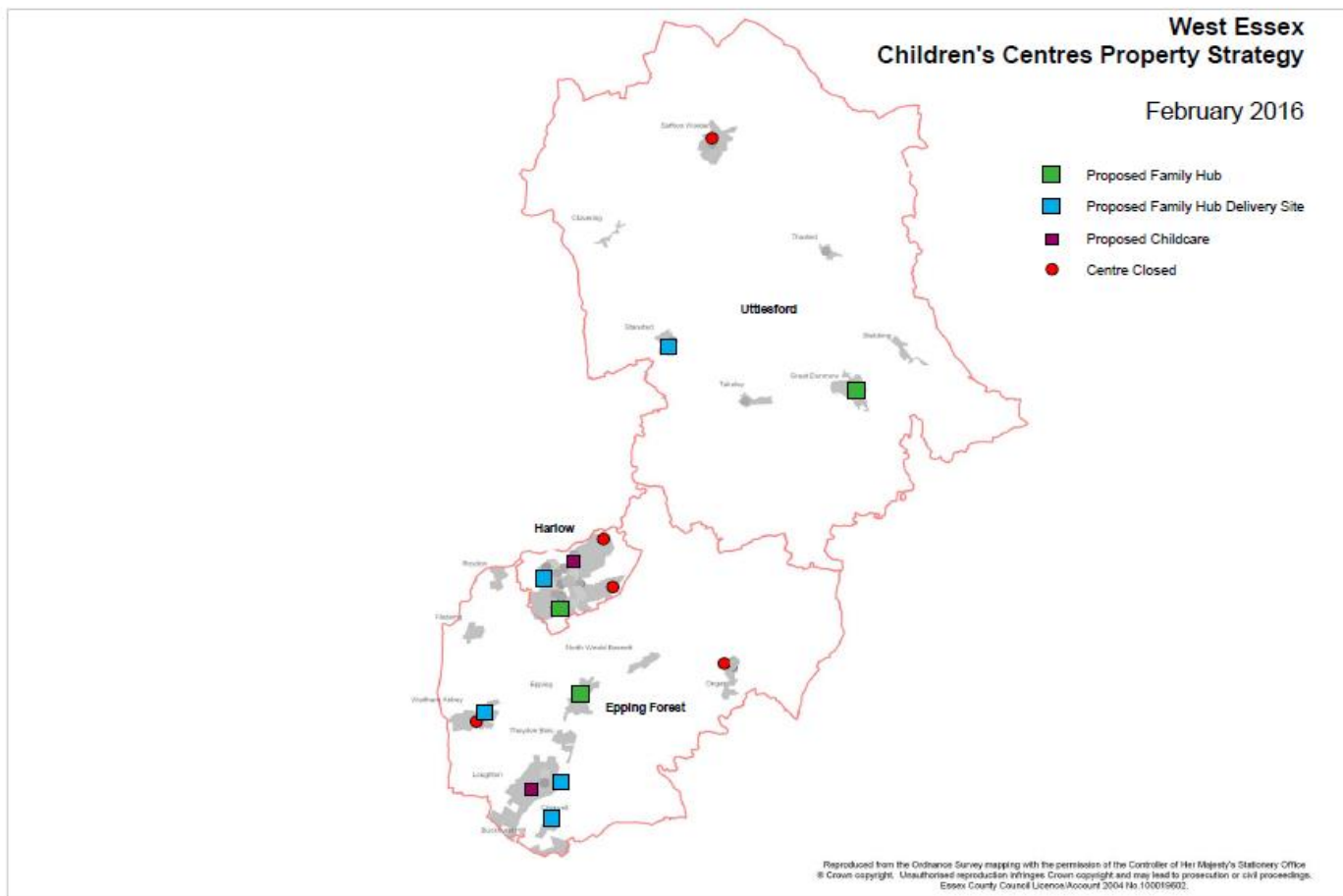
Proposed local changes – Mid Essex



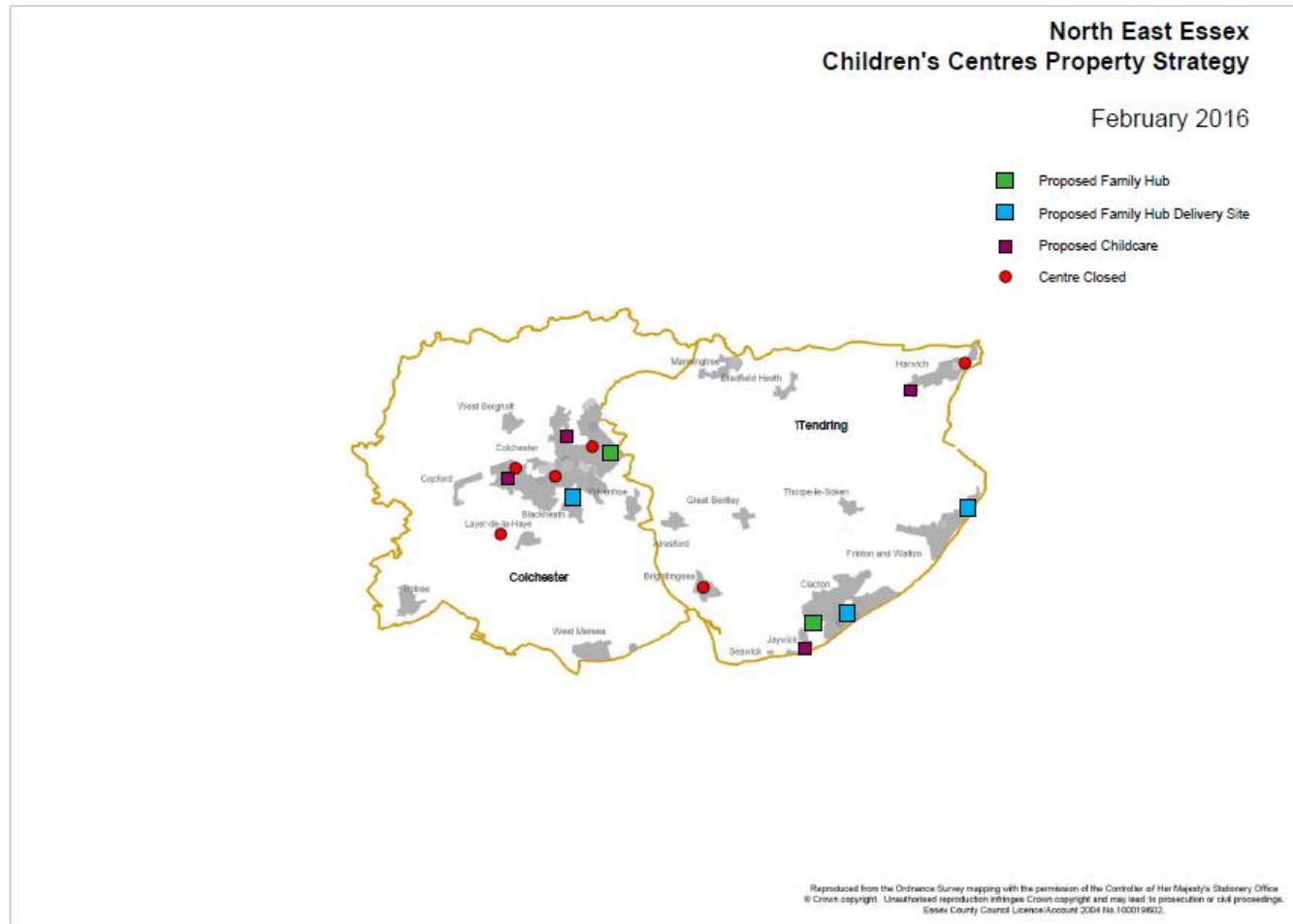
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Proposed local changes – West Essex



Proposed local changes – North East Essex



Family Consultation Events

North Essex (Colchester and Tendring)

- 11th March 2016, 9.30am to 11.30am at Berechurch Children's Centre, The Ormiston Centre, School Road, Monkwick, Colchester CO2 8NN
- 22nd March 2016, 6.30pm to 8.30pm at Clacton Library, Station Road, Clacton CO15 1SF

South Essex (Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point and Rochford)

- 3rd March 2016, 11.30am to 2.30pm at Runnymede Hall, Kiln Road, Thundersley SS7 1TF
- 29th March 2016, 6.30pm to 8.30pm at Sunnyside Children's Centre, Rosebay Ave, Billericay CM12 0GH

West Essex (Harlow, Epping and Uttlesford)

- 2nd March 2016, 4.30pm to 6.30pm at Spangles Children's Centre, Lower Street, Off Chapel Hill, Mountfitchet, Stansted, CM24 8LR
- 9th March 2016, 2.00pm to 4.00pm at The Meadows Children's Centre, Harbets Road, Harlow CM19 4DL

Mid Essex (Chelmsford, Maldon and Braintree)

- 9th March 2016, 6.30pm to 8.30pm at Carousel Children's Centre, Chapel Hill, Braintree CM7 3QZ
- 18th March 2016, 2.00pm – 4.00pm at Chetwood Children's Centre, Shirebourne Vale, Off Gandalf's Rise, South Woodham Ferrers CM3 5ZX

Please note we are in the process of arranging some additional events in Canvey, Basildon, Chelmsford and Harwich



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Stakeholder Consultation Events

Wednesday 2 nd March	3–4pm	Uttlesford
Monday 7 th March	2-3pm	West, Epping Forest
Monday 7 th March	2-3pm	Mid, Chelmsford
Tuesday 8 th March	2-3pm	South, Castle Point & Rochford
Monday 14 th March	2-3pm	Mid, Braintree
Tuesday 15 th March	2-3pm	South, Basildon
Tuesday 15 th March	2-3pm	North East, Colchester
Wednesday 23 rd March	10 -11am	North East, Holland on Sea
Wednesday 23 rd March	10-11am	West, Harlow



Proposed changes to Sure Start Children's Centres in Essex

Essex County Council is reviewing how it provides services from pre-birth up to the age of 19. As part of this review we are proposing changes to how and where we provide Sure Start Children's centres in Essex.

We are placing parents, children and families at the heart of our service re-design.



We want to know what you think about our proposals to make children's centre buildings more flexible in offering a wider range of services from pre-birth right up to the age of 19.

<http://surveys.essexinsight.org.uk/childrenscentresconsultation2016>

Consultation runs 15 Feb - 10 April



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Questions

		AGENDA ITEM 6
		PAF/22/15
Committee:	People and Families Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	12 November 2015	
<u>Children's Centres and Healthy Child Programme Consultation</u>		
Enquiries to:	Stav Yiannou Head of Commissioning Early Years and Childcare, Integrated Commissioning and Vulnerable People - People Commissioning Telephone: 03330 136608 Mobile: 07809314847 <u>stav.yiannou@essex.gov.uk</u>	

Purpose of the Paper:

To advise People and Families Scrutiny Committee of the early engagement activities taking place with families, young people and stakeholders across Essex on the design of an Integrated Pre Birth – 19 Health Wellbeing and Family Support model.

Executive Summary

We are in the process of redesigning the current service offer for Children's Centres and the Healthy Child Programme (0 – 5 and 5 -19) and want to place parents, children and families at the heart of our service re-design. We want to understand how the services we currently have in place work for families and want to ensure any change to our systems is reflective of what families feel/need/want.

We are undertaking further engagement work with families and stakeholders to inform a public consultation scheduled to take place in the New Year. This engagement work will help us develop our proposals which we will officially consult on and will build on the existing engagement work, and the ethnographic research. We will be particularly interested in five key areas:

- Family isolation
- Accessibility of services
- Provision of services
- Whether families feel listened to
- How families might like to self-serve and find their own solutions

An on line survey and face to face engagement activities will run from **5th October 2015 – 28th November 2015**.

Background

The support that families experience from conception through birth and throughout childhood should support ECC's vision that every child in Essex has the best start in life.

In Autumn 2014 Essex undertook an ambitious review of Early Years services across the county. The review purposefully took an innovative approach, bringing together a range of different data including ethnographic insight from families, international horizon scanning, and intelligence about the local Essex context for families with children up to 19 years of age, to generate a Case for Change and identify potentially alternative solutions

The EY review revealed how complex the systems are for children and families to navigate and access support due to the fragmentation of current services. The work developed a new unifying vision, Our New System, a visualisation of the features of an ideal Children's System needed to deliver strengths-based, preventative support that reduces isolation and builds resilience amongst families with children (see System document imbedded below).

During the period October – November 2015 ECC are going to engage with families and stakeholders through a range of face to face sessions including focus groups and interviews. Following the engagement period wider consultation with families and stakeholders will take place on future service models. This consultation will take place between **7th January and 4th March 2016**.

Contracts that service the Early Years system currently are Children's Centres (CC) and 0-5 Healthy Child Programme (HCP). In the new system this will also include 5-19 HCP. These services are currently commissioned independently of each other. This provides Essex County Council with the opportunity to commission an integrated pre-birth – 19 Health Wellbeing and Family Support model from April 2017.

The engagement will consist of:-

- <http://surveys.essexinsight.org.uk/prebirth19> - survey for parents and carers
- <http://surveys.essexinsight.org.uk/prebirth19stake> - survey for stakeholders
- <http://surveys.essexinsight.org.uk/prebirth19cyp> - survey for children and young people
- Focus groups with families, children and young people
- Face to face engagement with families and young people
- Stakeholder engagement sessions

Supporting information

Our New System Flyer attached as Appendix