

Meeting:	Health and social care overview and scrutiny committee
Meeting date:	6 July 2016
Title of report:	Task and finish group: Review of early years provision and children's centres
Report by:	Task and finish group (Chairman: Councillor CA Gandy)

Classification

Open

Key decision

This is not an executive decision.

Wards affected

Countywide

Purpose

To consider the findings of the scrutiny task and finish group and to recommend the report to the executive for consideration.

Recommendation(s)

THAT:

- (a) the committee consider the report of the task and finish group: review of early years provision and children's centres, in particular its recommendations, and determine whether it wishes to agree the findings for submission to the executive; and**
- (b) subject to the review report being approved, the cabinet's response to the review, including an action plan, is requested to be reported to the first available meeting of the committee after due consideration by the executive.**

Alternative options

1. The committee can agree, not agree or can vary the recommendations. If the committee agrees with the findings and recommendations from the review, the

attached report will be submitted to the executive for consideration. It will be for the executive to decide whether some, all or none of the recommendations be approved. Any changes to the recommendations should be made having regard to the evidence available.

Reasons for recommendations

2. The committee commissioned a task and finish group to review the provision of early years services. The report of the task and finish group, enclosed as appendix a, is submitted for consideration and approval by the committee.

Key considerations

3. The task and finish group was set up as a result of scrutiny identifying a need for a review of early years services and children's centres to ensure that they meet the needs of the children and parents of the county. It was agreed at that meeting of 22 September 2015 that a task and finish group be commissioned.
4. The task and finish group was established to review the current provision and determine whether this was meeting the needs of children and families as intended by the children and young peoples' plan.
5. The appended report identifies eight recommendations arising from the findings of the task and finish group.

Community impact

6. If the committee agrees with the findings of the task and finish group, the report will need to be considered by the executive and, depending on their decision, community impact will need to be assessed.

Equality duty

7. If the committee agrees with the findings of the task and finish group, the report will need to be considered by the executive and, depending on their decision, equality and human rights issues will need to be assessed.

Financial implications

8. If the committee agrees with the findings of the task and finish group, the report will need to be considered by the executive and, depending on their decision, the financial implications of any of the recommendations will need to be assessed.

Legal implications

9. If the committee agrees with the findings of the task and finish group, the report will need to be considered by the executive and, depending on their decision, the legal implications of any of the recommendations will need to be assessed.

Risk management

10. If the committee agrees with the findings of the task and finish group, the report will need to be considered by the executive and, depending on their decision, the risk management implications of implementing any of the recommendations will need to be assessed.

Consultees

11. The consultees are detailed at section 4.4 of the appended report.

Appendices

Appendix A – Task and finish group report: review of early years services

Background Papers

None