

Meeting:	Cabinet
Meeting date:	13 October 2016
Title of report:	Executive response to the review of early years provision and children's centres
Report by:	Cabinet member young people and children's wellbeing

Classification

Open

Key decision

This is not a key decision.

Wards affected

Countywide

Purpose

To agree the executive response to the recommendations from the task and finish group review of early years and children's centres.

Recommendation(s)

THAT:

- (a) **the responses to the health and social care overview and scrutiny committee's recommendations regarding the early years and children's centres report, as attached at appendix 1 be considered and approved.**

Alternative options

1. None proposed; it is a statutory requirement to provide a response to the recommendations.

Reasons for recommendations

2. To provide a response to the recommendations from the health and social care overview and scrutiny committee.

Key considerations

3. The health and social care overview and scrutiny committee met on 6 July 2016 and reviewed the report from the task and finish group on the early years and children's centres as attached at appendix 2.
4. The committee made a number of recommendations; these are contained within appendix 1 along with the proposed responses.
5. Work is already underway and taking place, covering a number of the recommendations and an update on these is included within appendix 1.

Community impact

6. Early years provision and children's centre services are an important and integral part of Herefordshire's communities and having provision within the county supports the growth and development of an area. Many different settings see themselves as an integral part of the community and provide their services through the shared use of facilities and accommodation of nursery provision.

Equality duty

7. The proposed responses ensure that the council pay due regard to its public sector equality in the exercise of its functions, having due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the act.
8. We do this by ensuring that we advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and ensure that we foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Financial implications

9. There are no cost implications to these recommendations.

Legal implications

10. There is a statutory duty to ensure that the recommendations of the task and finish group are responded to and agreed.

Risk management

11. There are no risks associated with agreeing the content of this report as the recommendations provide information and indicate how the work is being taken forward. Risks associated with the actual activity are managed through the children's wellbeing directorate risk register and where necessary are escalated to the council's corporate risk register.

Consultees

12. None

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Summary of recommendations and executive responses to the review of early years provision and children's centres

Appendix 2 – Early years and children's centres task and finish group report

Background papers

- None identified