

Decision No: CYP1 – 6 July 2009

Forward Plan No: CYP10140

This record relates to Agenda Item 11 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET MEMBER DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: COUNCILLOR VANESSA BROWN

PORTFOLIO AREA: CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

SUBJECT: EARLY YEARS CAPITAL GRANT

AUTHOR: CAROLINE PARKER

THE DECISION

1. That the development of the Preston Park Children's Centre at the Fiveways Pre School Playgroup, off Florence Road, be agreed as per the proposals set out in the report.
2. That the following allocations for the Early Years Capital Grant (full details as set out in annex 1 to the report, all subject to further local consultation) be agreed:
 - Stringer Playgroup, Surrenden Campus – up to £160,000
 - St Joseph's Playgroup, Hollingdean- up to £50,000
 - Little Ducklings, Hangleton – up to £70,000
 - Roundabout Nursery – up to £200,000
 - Brighton Unemployed Centre – up to £90,000
 - Village Under Fives, Portslade – up to £300,000
 - Refurbishment and/or rebuilding of sport pavilions housing early years providers including Dolphins in Nevill Park, Hollingbury Park Playgroup and Westdene Playgroup subject to further assessments and local consultation – up to £790,000.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

1. Fiveways is an extended day playgroup based on local authority land off Florence Road. They are one of the largest early years providers in the city with 52 places and were attended by 101 3 and 4 year olds in January 2009 including 16 children from disadvantaged areas. They also provide places for 2 year olds and collect children from Balfour and Downs Schools for after school care. Fiveways have an outstanding Ofsted judgement.
2. The early years capital funding aims to improve the quality of the learning environment with a strong emphasis on children accessing a high quality outside environment. There are just over 100 daycare providers in the city in the private, voluntary and independent sector with a wide variation in the standards of premises. An audit has been completed of groups in rented accommodation across the city looking at the state of repair of the building including access to natural light, disability access and children's access to a safe outside space. Many of these buildings and sites are owned by the Council. The poorest quality accommodation is based in buildings which are multi-purpose eg. sports pavilions and have to meet the needs of different users and pre-fabricated buildings that were installed in the 1970s and are now coming to the end of their lifespan.
3. The report also proposes an extension to the Roundabout nursery to increase the number of spaces for two year olds. This is needed to provide places for children on the child protection register and free places for the city's most disadvantaged two year olds.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

1. In Preston Park Fiveways Playgroup was the only provider to express an interest in hosting the Children's Centre by the deadline.
2. The recommendations follow the guidance from the Department for Children, Families and Schools to target the funding on the private and voluntary sector and for the funding to be based on an assessment of need. The alternative would be to spread the funding across a larger number of childcare providers so that more providers could have made smaller improvements. The audit and feasibility studies have shown that there are a number of buildings in a very poor state of repair. This may be the only chance of replacing these buildings. Many of the groups in these buildings are run by voluntary management committees and tend to charge affordable fees to parents. Targeting the funding on the settings in greatest need supports the Council's duty to improve early years outcomes and narrow the gap between the most disadvantaged children and their peers.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The decision-maker did not declare a personal or prejudicial interest in the matters set out in the report.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD:

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision

Date:

06 July 2009

Decision Maker:

Councillor Vanessa Brown
Cabinet Member for Children & Young People

Signed:



Proper Officer:

06 July 2009

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come into force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of the meeting at which the decision was taken subject to any requirement for earlier implementation of the decision.

Call-In Period

7 – 13 July 2009

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No: CYP2 – 6 July 2009

Forward Plan No: CYP11275

This record relates to Agenda Item 12 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET MEMBER DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: COUNCILLOR VANESSA BROWN

PORTFOLIO AREA: CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

SUBJECT: PROVISION OF FREE CHILD CARE PLACES FOR TWO YEAR-OLDS IN THE MOST DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

AUTHOR: VICKY JENKINS

THE DECISION

1. That free childcare places be offered to the most disadvantaged two year olds in Brighton & Hove from September 2009.
2. That the following eligibility criteria for children's participation in the scheme be agreed:
 - (i) Lives in one of the 10% most disadvantaged areas according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), and
 - (ii) Lives in a family dependent on workless benefits, and
 - (iii) Is targeted to receive additional health visiting support, and
 - (iv) There is a suitable place available in the scheme
3. That it be agreed that providers participating in the scheme must meet appropriate quality standards, including having a good or outstanding Ofsted grading.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

1. The report seeks approval for implementation of a scheme which will benefit the most disadvantaged two year olds in Brighton & Hove. It will also support the parents of these children in gaining any additional support they might need and improving their children's home learning environment.
2. Because funding for the scheme is limited it is necessary to establish eligibility criteria so that it is focussed on the most disadvantaged children. Approval of the eligibility criteria will enable children's centre staff to start to identify the first children who will benefit from free childcare provision.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The recommendation follows DCSF guidance. Targeting the funding on children in most disadvantaged communities supports the council's statutory duty under the Childcare Act 2006 (s1) to improve the well-being of young children and reduce inequalities between young children.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The decision-maker did not declare a personal or prejudicial interest in the matters set out in the report.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD:

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision

Date:

06 July 2009

Decision Maker:

Councillor Vanessa Brown
Cabinet Member for Children & Young
People

Signed:



Proper Officer:

06 July 2009

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come into force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of the meeting at which the decision was taken subject to any requirement for earlier implementation of the decision.

Call-In Period
7 – 13 July 2009

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No: CYP3 – 6 July 2009

Forward Plan No: CYP10144

This record relates to Agenda Item 13 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET MEMBER DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: COUNCILLOR VANESSA BROWN

PORTFOLIO AREA: CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

SUBJECT: EXPANSION OF DAVIGDOR INFANT SCHOOL AND SOMERHILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

AUTHOR: GILLIAN CHURCHILL

THE DECISION

1. That the permanent expansion of Davigdor Infant school by one form of entry with effect from September 2010, and the subsequent enlargement of the premises, be agreed.
2. That the permanent expansion of Somerhill Junior school by one form of entry with effect from September 2011, and the subsequent enlargement of the premises, be agreed.
3. That the statutory notices in relation to points (1) and (2) above be confirmed.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

1. Over the last few years there has been year on year growth in the number of pre-school age children registered with General Practice (GP) Surgeries in the city. This increase seems particularly acute in the area of the city served by Davigdor Infant School. It is anticipated that this situation is going to continue. Information on GP registration data shows that the number of children registered in this part of the city has increased from 150 in 1999 / 2000 to 350 in 2006/2007.
2. The council has a statutory duty to provide a maintained school place for any child that wants one. We are committed to working with schools to make them centres for community learning, and supporting them in meeting the wider needs of the community by engaging social services, health, the police, and the voluntary sector. For this to be successful it is important that children can access a primary school that is local to their home.
3. Expanding both schools by one form of entry (an additional 30 places each year) will ensure that more families can access their local school. This means that children will be able to attend school with friends that they have made prior to starting school, parents will not have to travel long distances to deliver their children to school and extended services offered by the schools can be tailored to meet the needs of the whole community.
4. The schools are covered by the Councils admissions arrangements which strives to provide truly local schools which serves its most immediate community and assists in the aspirations of the Local Authority in terms of green travel arrangements.
5. Capital is available under the Primary Capital Programme to implement the necessary changes to the school. A scheme has been designed that will enable the school to accommodate the additional pupils and also provides enhancements to disability access, pupil safety and school catering arrangements.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The alternative option would be to leave Davigdor Infant and Somerhill Junior schools as three form entry Schools. This is not considered as acceptable since it will not address the need to provide local school places where they are needed within the city.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The decision-maker did not declare a personal or prejudicial interest in the matters set out in the report.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD:

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision

Date:

06 July 2009

Decision Maker:

Councillor Vanessa Brown
Cabinet Member for Children & Young
People

Signed:



Proper Officer:

06 July 2009

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come into force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of the meeting at which the decision was taken subject to any requirement for earlier implementation of the decision.

Call-In Period

7 – 13 July 2009

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No: CYP4 – 6 July 2009

Forward Plan No: CYP10146

This record relates to Agenda Item 14 on the agenda for the
Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET MEMBER DECISION

DECISION-MAKER:	COUNCILLOR VANESSA BROWN
PORTFOLIO AREA:	CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE
SUBJECT:	EXPANSION OF LONGHILL SCHOOL
AUTHOR:	GILLIAN CHURCHILL

THE DECISION

1. That the permanent expansion of Longhill School by one form of entry with effect from September 2010, and the subsequent enlargement of the premises, be agreed.
2. That the statutory notice in relation to (1) above be confirmed.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

1. It is recommended that the proposal to expand Longhill School by one form of entry is approved as Brighton & Hove are currently experiencing rising rolls across most part so the city. The additional form of entry proposed at Longhill School will help meet this increased demand in a way that provides local places for pupils in the area where they live.
2. The school is covered by the Councils admissions arrangements which strives to provide a truly local school which serves its most immediate community and assists in the aspirations of the Local Authority in terms of green travel arrangements.
3. The public consultation prior to publication of the notices showed that a number of individuals were unhappy with the proposal to expand Longhill School by one form of entry as in their opinion this would make the school 'too large'. This point was considered at that time and on balance it was considered that this would not be the case. This view has not changed during the publication period. There are many examples of popular and successful secondary schools that are 9 forms of entry and larger.
4. The school currently provide a range of extended services to the school and wider community, this proposal will enhance the facilities that the school is able to offer to the community.
5. There were no objections or representations received during the course of the publication period.
6. Capital available under the Targeted Capital Fund to implement the necessary changes to the school. A scheme has been designed that will enable the school to accommodate the additional pupils and also provides enhancements to disability access, pupil safety and school catering arrangements.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The alternative option would be to leave Longhill School as an eight form entry School. This is not considered as acceptable since it will not address the need to provide school places where they are needed within the city.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The decision-maker did not declare a personal or prejudicial interest in the matters set out in the report.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD:

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision

Date:

06 July 2009

Decision Maker:

Councillor Vanessa Brown
Cabinet Member for Children & Young
People

Signed:



Proper Officer:

06 July 2009

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come into force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of the meeting at which the decision was taken subject to any requirement for earlier implementation of the decision.

Call-In Period

7 – 13 July 2009

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*