



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

DECISION MADE BY: Cabinet DATE DECISION MADE: 10th November, 2015.

Agenda Item 2

SUBJECT:
Medium Term Service Planning – Service Change Proposals.

**Cabinet Members Present
County Borough Councillors:**

A.Morgan (Chairman), R.Bevan, A.Crimmings, M.Forey,
E. Hanagan, G Hopkins, K. Montague, J. Rosser & M.Webber

Other County Borough Councillor(s)

In Attendance:-
G Davies, P Jarman, M Powell

1. DECISION MADE:

Agreed –

- To initiate an 8 week consultation in respect of the service change proposal to **Library Service as follows** (and as set out in paragraph 4 of the report): -

Reduction in number of Reference & Information Service Librarians
Reduce overall weekly opening hours of branch libraries to 31.5 hours per library
Introduce single staffed branch libraries at 5 branches (Hirwaun, Ferndale, Pontyclun, Mountain Ash, Rhydyfelin)
Reduce the Book Fund by 25%
Reduce the Mobile Libraries from 4 to 3 retaining a 2 weekly rota
Remove Community Learning Worker post (part time)
Reduce expenditure on magazines and newspapers purchased

- To initiate an 8 week consultation in respect of the service change proposal to **Youth Engagement & Participation Service (YEPS)** as follows and (as set out in paragraph 5 of the report): -

The number of core funded YEPS staff per cluster is reduced from 2 x FTE to 1.5 x FTE
The level of enrichment budget funding for mainstream schools is reviewed and reduced by 10% to reflect the reduction in frontline staff
Management arrangements are reviewed and reduced to reflect the reductions in frontline service delivery

- To initiate an 8 week consultation in respect of the service change proposal to Supported **Bus Routes** as follows and(as set out in paragraph 6 of the report): -

Reduce Council subsidised local bus routes to £439k (achieve a saving of £50k) which results in ceasing to support the 3 lowest scoring routes on the service impact assessment as set out in Appendix 3A.
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N.B. The Director, Highways & Streetcare advised that a footnote had been omitted in Appendix 3A and confirmed that where scores for bus routes were equal, the cost of the route is applied as the final determinant in terms of ranking (i.e. cheapest route ranked higher)'. Advising that the cost of route 15 was cheaper than route 16.

- To initiate a **targeted** 8 week consultation with service users on the following service change proposal: -

➤ **Day Nurseries** as follows (and as set out in paragraph 7 of the report): -

Review and rationalise existing staff contracts and rotas to ensure optimum resource levels are attained and service flexibility assured (Minimum requirement)
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Cease provision of 'fee paying' childcare places and provide Flying Start only services at Aberaman, Tylorstown, Tonyrefail and Pontypridd day nurseries.

Close Llantrisant Nursery

- To receive a further report detailing the results and feedback from the consultation processes as outlined above and referred to in sections 2.1 and 2.2 of the report, including the results of the Equality Impact Assessments which would be undertaken, in order to determine whether, and if so how, it wishes to progress with the proposals;
- To implement as soon as is practicable the following service change proposal:

➤ **Customer Care** as follows (and as set out in paragraph 8 of the report): -

Reduce One4aLL Advisors - A reduction of 0.5 FTE in each core centre
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Reduce current day time contact centre actual average response time of 125.5 seconds standard to 135 seconds - Reduce advisor capacity by 2 FTEs and reduce supervisor capacity by 1 FTE.

- To note that if implemented, the proposals outlined above would deliver £1.057M of full year savings for the Council.
- To implement the identified efficiencies promptly and in advance of the beginning of financial year 2016/17 with any part year savings being transferred to the Medium Term Financial Planning and Service Transformation Reserve (transition funding), as set out in paragraph 9 of the report.

N.B With the permission of the Chairman the following people spoke on this item:-

County Borough Councillors - P Jarman, G Davies & M Powell
Member of the Public - Mr P Southway,

2. REASON FOR THE DECISION BEING MADE:

- The need to initiate a consultation with interested parties and relevant stakeholders in respect of the service changes proposals outlined within the report
- The need for Cabinet to consider the service change proposals required as part of the Councils Medium Term Service planning arrangements, specifically in the context of the need to reduce spend and enable the Council to fulfil its statutory responsibility and set a balanced budget from 2016 /2017, in light of the Council's estimated budget gap over the 3years from 2016/17 – 2018/19 of £63.2M, with an initial 2016/17 gap of £27.2M.

3. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO DECISION BEING MADE:

- N/A.

4. PERSONAL INTERESTS DECLARED:

- County Borough Councillor K Montague declared the following personal and non prejudicial interest – “I have friends who work within the Youth Engagement & participation Service”

Non Cabinet Member

- County Borough Councillor P Jarman declared the following personal and non prejudicial interest – “I am a Governor on Mountain Ash Comprehensive School”.

5. DISPENSATION TO SPEAK (AS GRANTED BY STANDARDS COMMITTEE):

N/A

6. (a) IS THE DECISION URGENT AND NOT TO BE THE SUBJECT OF ANY CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

YES NO ✓

Note: This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 5 clear working days after its publication i.e. **18th November 2015** to enable it to be the subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

6. (b) IF YES, REASONS WHY IN THE OPINION OF THE DECISION-MAKER THE DECISION IS URGENT:

N/A

6. (c) SIGNATURE OF MAYOR OR DEPUTY MAYOR OR HEAD OF PAID SERVICE CONFIRMING AGREEMENT THAT THE PROPOSED DECISION IS REASONABLE IN ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR IT BEING TREATED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULE 17.2:

N/A

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(Mayor)

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(Dated)



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(Proper Officer)

10.11.15
(Dated)