



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

DECISION MADE BY: Cabinet DATE DECISION MADE: 4th February, 2016

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

**Apologies for Absence
County Borough Councillors:**

M.Webber

**Other County Borough Councillor(s)
in Attendance:-**

P Jarman & T Williams

1. DECISION MADE:

Agreed –

1. To note the outcomes of the consultation exercise undertaken in respect of the service change proposals;
2. To note the Equality Impact Assessments in respect of each service change proposal;
3. To note that in Officers' opinion the Council would be acting in compliance with its relevant statutory duties as outlined in the report, (together with its appendices) should Cabinet proceed with implementation of the service change proposals;
4. That following consideration of the outcomes of the consultation, the Equalities Impact Assessments and further information collated by officers during the consultation to implement the proposals as outlined below:-

Library Service - Service Change	Saving £'000
Reduction in number of Reference & Information Service Librarians	37
Reduce overall weekly opening hours of branch libraries to 31.5 hours per library	46
Reduce the Book Fund by 15% (N.B. <i>the proposal as consulted upon was to cut the Book Fund by 25%</i>)	53
Reduce the Mobile Libraries from 4 to 3 retaining a 2 weekly rota	37
Remove Community Learning Worker post (part time)	7
Reduce expenditure on magazines and newspapers purchased	6
Total	186

- Not to proceed with the proposal for single staffed branch libraries at the 5 branches indicated within the report, namely Hirwaun, Ferndale, Pontyclun, Mountain Ash and Rhydyfelin.
- Note the reduction in the above level of savings from £327k as consulted upon.

Youth Engagement & Participation Service - Service Change	Saving £'000
The number of core funded YEPS staff per cluster is reduced from 2 x FTE to 1.5 x FTE	303
Management arrangements are reviewed and reduced to reflect the reductions in frontline service delivery	43
Total	346

- Not to proceed with the review and reduction by 10% to the level of enrichment budget funding for mainstream schools.
- Note the reduction in the above level of savings from the £384k as consulted upon.

Supported Bus Routes – Service Change	Saving £'000
None of the proposals as consulted upon are to be taken forward (i.e. no reduction to Council subsidised local bus routes)	0
Total	0

- Note the reduction in the above level of savings, from the £50k as consulted upon.

Day Nurseries - Service Change	Saving £'000
Review and rationalise existing staff contracts and rotas to ensure optimum resource levels are attained and service flexibility assured (Minimum requirement)	Eliminates risk of overspend
Cease provision of 'fee paying' childcare places and provide Flying Start only services at Aberaman, Tylorstown and Tonyrefail day nurseries.	62
Close Llantrisant Nursery	63
Total	125

- Not to cease provision of 'fee paying' childcare places at Pontypridd Day Nursery.
- Note the reduction in the above level of savings, from the £176k as consulted upon.

5. That the Group Director, Corporate and Frontline Services reflect the financial implications of the decision taken above, (full year savings of £657k), within the 2016/17 budget strategy, prior to it being submitted to Council for approval.

N.B With the permission of the Chairman, County Borough Councillor P Jarman spoke on this item.

2. REASON FOR THE DECISION BEING MADE:

- The need to consider service change proposals as part of the Council's 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 2016/17 onwards.
- The need to consider all the documentation before Cabinet and information provided by Officers following additional queries at the meeting, including the results of the consultation exercise and the Equalities Impact Assessments.

3. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO DECISION BEING MADE:

- As outlined within Section 6 of the report, a consultation exercise was initiated by Cabinet following consideration of the proposal at a Cabinet meeting on the 10th November 2015, with the Consultation running for an eight week period from the 23rd November 2015 - 18th January 2016.
- A target consultation with service users was undertaken in respect of the Day Nurseries proposals (also for an eight week period).

4. PERSONAL INTERESTS DECLARED:

- County Borough Councillor K Montague declared the following personal and non prejudicial interest in respect of the agenda item – “I have friends who work within the Youth Engagement and Participation Service”.

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

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, County Borough Councillor P.Jarman stated that “On 26th November, 2015, following a request I made to the Standards Committee, I was granted a dispensation to speak and vote on all matters for the duration and adoption of the 2016-17 budget process in my capacity as Leader of an Opposition Group.”

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. **12th February 2016** 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)

.....
(Dated)



.....
(Proper Officer)

04.02.16
(Dated)