

# Public Document Pack



## TRAFFORD COUNCIL

### AGENDA PAPERS FOR SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday, 21 March 2013

Time: 6.30 pm

Place: Rooms 7 and 8, Ground Floor, Quay West, Trafford Wharf Road, Trafford Park, Manchester M17 1HH

AGENDA	PART I	Pages
1.	<b>ATTENDANCES</b>	
	To note attendances, including Officers, and any apologies for absence.	
2.	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
	Members to give notice of any interest and the nature of that interest relating to any item on the agenda in accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct.	
3.	<b>CALL IN OF EXECUTIVE DECISION: E/4.03.13-5 - CHILDREN'S CENTRES</b>	
	The Committee are requested to consider the call in of the above Executive decision in relation to Children's Centres.	
	(a) Executive Decision Report and Supporting Documentation	1 - 86
	(b) Supplementary Report of the Executive Member, Supporting Children and Families	87 - 92
	(c) Executive Decision Statement	93 - 94
	(d) Call In Proforma	95 - 98
4.	<b>URGENT BUSINESS (IF ANY)</b>	
	Any other item or items (not likely to disclose "exempt information") which, by reason of special circumstances (to be specified), the Chairman of the meeting is of the opinion should be considered at this meeting as a matter of	

urgency.

**5. EXCLUSION RESOLUTION (REMAINING ITEMS)**

Motion (Which may be amended as Members think fit):

That the public be excluded from this meeting during consideration of the remaining items on the agenda, because of the likelihood of disclosure of “exempt information” which falls within one or more descriptive category or categories of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, as amended by The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, and specified on the agenda item or report relating to each such item respectively.

**THERESA GRANT**

Chief Executive

Membership of the Committee

Councillors B. Shaw (Chairman), M. Cordingley (Vice-Chairman), C. Candish, R Chilton, Mrs. P. Dixon, A. Duffield, S. Adshead, J.R. Reilly, D. Higgins, R. Bowker, D. Western and J. Lloyd (ex-Officio)

Further Information

For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact:

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This agenda was issued on **Friday, 15 March 2013** by the Legal and Democratic Services Section, Trafford Council, Quay West, Trafford Wharf Road, Trafford Park, Manchester, M17 1HH.

## TRAFFORD COUNCIL

**Report to:** Executive  
**Date:** 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013  
**Report for:** Decision  
**Report of:** Executive Member for Children and Young People Services

### Report Title

<b>RECONFIGURATION OF TRAFFORD CHILDREN CENTRES: POST CONSULTATION FEEDBACK ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
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### Summary

This paper reports on the findings of the Trafford Children Centres public consultation and provides options and recommendations for consideration by the Council's Executive.

The report attached (Appendix A) provides a comprehensive analysis of the feedback received from the public consultation held from 22nd October 2012 until 14th January 2013, on the proposal to reconfigure Trafford's 16 Children Centres to develop 6 Children Centre Hubs.

The proposal consulted upon was to reconfigure the 16 Children Centres to become 6 Children Centre Hubs that are aligned with the Area Family Support Teams (AFSTs) and to be located as follows:

- Lostock and Old Trafford (North Area)
- Partington and Urmston (West Area)
- Altrincham and Sale (South Area)

The key rationale for this proposed change to the existing service model is to enable a shift of emphasis towards prevention, early help and early intervention through strengthening multi-agency working to safeguard children and young people so they can achieve the best life outcomes.

The findings from the review of children centres (Dec 2012) has also highlighted the need for services to change, and for services to develop family outreach services working with the integrated AFSTs to support those children and families who are in the greatest need and thus the most vulnerable.

The consultation written responses do not indicate a strong objection to the proposal to refocus resources to deliver services to those children and families who are the most vulnerable and in greatest need;

There was however, significant feedback presented that required further examination of the proposals in respect to the number and location of the 6 proposed Hubs and the development of the Outreach provision.

## Recommendations

The Council Executive are requested to approve the following recommendations:

1. To approve the proposal to reconfigure 16 Children Centres to 6 Hubs that align with the North, West and South Area Family Support Teams
2. To approve the revision of the identified Hub for the North Area in the original proposal from Lostock Childrens Centre (Leithwaite) to Stretford Childrens Centre
3. To approve Sale Moor and Lostock (Leithwaite) Children Centres to remain open on a sessional basis as Child and Family Community Outreach (CFCO) bases.
4. To review the workforce to deliver the Hub and family outreach support service model
5. To review the commissioning plan for external services, including renegotiating a reduced contribution to Bookstart
6. To extend the age range to support children and young people aged 0-19years and the opening times of the Hubs.
7. To change the Hub opening times from 8.30am to 4.00pm (weekdays) and the family outreach support service to be provided 8.00am to 6.00pm (weekdays, but evenings and weekends subject to service user needs)

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Mrs Deborah Brownlee, Corporate Director Children, Young People and Families

Extension: 912 4676

Background Papers: None

Relationship to Policy Framework/Corporate Priorities	Proposal links to the Corporate Priority – Value for Money and Low Council Tax
Financial	The implementation of the proposed reconfiguration of the 16 Children Centres to 6 Hubs would enable savings to be made against the current expenditure on Children Centres. Estimated savings from proposed changes to the service delivery model are approx. £1.71m per annum.
Legal Implications:	The proposal in this report takes account of the requirements in the Childcare Act 2006; Sections 3, 3(2) and 5(A). The proposal recommendations will be compliant with the Capital Guidance for Sure Start Children’s Centres 2006.
Equality/Diversity Implications	A set of full EIA’s have been completed for both service and staff and are attached to this report. The Service EIA has been assessed as a <i>Medium Risk</i> and the Staff EIA as a <i>High Risk</i> . The completion of the EIA’s are in line with the Council’s Public Sector Equality Duty in S49 Equality Act 2010. The outcome of the Service EIA has been taken into account in formulating these proposals
Sustainability	The proposal recommendations will lead to the provision of a

Implications	more targeted service to those children and families who are the most vulnerable and difficult to engage with; the implementation of the proposal and the alignment with the Area Family Support Teams will provide a shift towards early help and early intervention models of support, thus reducing safeguarding risks and reducing generational transfer of risks.
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	The proposal will have the following staffing implications: 24.84 fte posts and 17 casual creche posts will be disestablished. 88 staff (people) are identified as at risk (the end number of people who will receive posts following the implementation of the recommendations is undefined at present as it is subject to the competitive recruitment and selection process) 62.27fte posts will remain in the proposed structure.
Risk Management Implications	Not Applicable
Health and Safety Implications	Not Applicable

**1.0 Background**

The key influencing factors that informed the development of these proposals are:

- The changing needs of Children and Young People and the social, health and economic challenges faced by families since the inception of Childrens Centres
- The change in service models, with a greater emphasis now on strengthening partnership arrangements and improved multi- agency working to safeguard children and young people so as they can achieve the best life outcomes
- A review of the functions and service delivery model of Children Centres began in August 2012 and the emerging early findings were suggesting the need for Children Centre functions to shift towards an outreach family support model of service with an alignment with the Area Family Support Teams
- Early evidence collected during the Children Centres review clearly suggested that the number of families registered with Children Centres were not necessarily engaging with the Centres; in particular, the groups who were failing to take up the Children Centre offer were from vulnerable groups. The review found the following:
  - Only 3% of fathers accessed a children’s centre
  - Only 8% of teenage mothers accessed a children’s centre
  - Only 15% of lone parents accessed a children’s centre
  - Only 13% of children from BME backgrounds accessed a children’s centre
  - Only 23% of children with disabilities accessed a children’s centre

1.2 The Consultation Process: Full details of the consultation process are provided in Appendix A. Questionnaires and online surveys were widely distributed and made available during the consultation period. Parent Forums, Advisory Board and Extraordinary Meetings were held to enable parents, stakeholders to receive information in respect to the proposal. During the whole consultation process the council consulted with a total of 71 different types of partner agencies /stakeholders and 185 responses were received.

- 1.3 The detailed extensive analysis of the feedback of the consultation showed that there were two distinct categories of responses
- a) the consultation process;
  - b) the proposal to reduce the number of centres and develop a Hub and family support outreach model of service
- 1.4 There was no adverse written feedback from the consultation to suggest that the essence of the original proposal was unsupported, that is to refocus resources to deliver services to those children and families who are the most vulnerable and in greatest need;
- 1.5 Feedback raised concerns in respect to the location of the Hubs, in particular to Stretford and Sale Moor.
- 1.6 The proposal remains to;
- continue to provide the Children Centre core offer to those who choose to engage with the centres,
  - shift the emphasis towards a preventative, early help and early intervention model of service delivery.
  - achieve the unprecedented budget challenges that are facing the public sector at present, by prioritising Children Centre funding towards delivering a service which is targeted at vulnerable groups to ensure those that need support can receive it.
- 1.7 The proposals set out in the paper at Section 7 would have significant financial implications as the recommended reconfiguration of children centres from 16 to 6 Hubs will make a saving of approx £1.71m annually.

### **Other Options**

1. Status Quo: to retain the status quo would not address the issue of engaging those who are in greatest need.
2. Whole Systems Change: to close all Children Centres and reform the workforce to Family Support /Early Intervention Workers, this option would not have provided the core children centre offer of universality
3. Charging for Service: to charge for the service is an option which was identified by a few respondents to the public consultation, this may be an option that could be explored at a later date, but, the early indication is that this option would not be financially viable at this stage to generate enough revenue to deliver both a universal and a targeted service across 16 centres.

### **Consultation**

The council conducted an extensive public consultation on the proposal to reduce 16 Children Centres to 6 Centres and align them with the Area Family Support Teams.

The 12 week public consultation period ran from 22nd October 2012 until 14th January 2013. Full details are included in Appendix A

The following methods were used to consult with, and gather views from the public in respect to the proposals:

- Communication with service users (verbal and written)
- Information letters explaining the proposal were sent to all other stakeholders

- Briefing Sessions and Information sheets were provided to all key partnerships and advisory boards
- Publication of all the relevant consultation documents on the CYPS and Trafford MBC websites: which included a full communication briefing on the proposed changes; 'Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Sheet; All related policies and a feedback form were also made available on the websites
- Equality Impact Assessment documents were completed to accompany each of the recommendations associated with the consultation on the proposals.

## **Legal issues**

Under s.3(2) of the Childcare Act 2006 the council must make arrangements to secure that early childhood services in their area are provided in an integrated manner which is calculated to (a) facilitate access to those services, and (b) maximise the benefit of those services to parents, prospective parents and young children. It is clear that the current arrangements for the operation of children's centres are not reaching the most vulnerable parents, prospective parents and children (see paragraph 1.0 above).

Under s.5A of the Act arrangements made under [section 3\(2\)](#) must, so far as is reasonably practicable, include arrangements for sufficient provision of children's centres to meet local need. In this context "local need" is the need of parents, prospective parents and young children in the authority's area.

Although the number of centres in Trafford will reduce under the current proposals the way in which the early childhood services will function in future means that the need for such centres should also reduce as more services are delivered in the community.

Under the Equality Act 2010 the council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. Those characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. This means that in deciding how to organise the operation of children's centres the council must consider how its proposals are likely to affect people with the protected characteristics and take that into account as one of the factors to consider alongside other relevant factors when deciding what decision to make. The Equality Impact Assessment set out at Appendix F will help the Executive to do that.

## **Reasons for Recommendation**

The rationale for a revision of a Hub from Lostock CC to Stretford CC is based on the following:

- The Stretford reach area has significant variances in the level of needs of families across its geographical areas; there are particular pockets of high levels of need. One particular area in Stretford is recorded as being one of the 10% most deprived areas in England
- The Children's centre profile for Stretford shows that 37% of children in this area are living in poverty

- Lostock which was identified as the Hub for the North Areas does not have any areas within it that fall into the 10% most disadvantaged
- Stretford Children's Centre has a purpose built play area which has been developed with the local community and has recently been adapted to provide a facility which can be accessed and provide a positive play area for children and adults with physical disabilities, therefore enabling the centre to meet the requirements of level 3 Inclusion accreditation

The rationale for the retention of Sale Moor as a CFCO is based on the following:

- The building is located within the 20% most deprived areas, therefore, services need to be easily accessible to families living in those communities
- The South Area has the highest number of children and sits within the largest geographical area
- There are a limited number of appropriate and accessible community venues available within the Sale area.
- Sale Moor has very low engagement figures
- Sale Moor is purpose built with excellent outdoor play facilities located on the school site which would enhance the partnership with the Area Family Support Teams
- Sale Moor has a domestic facility for the development of parents 'independent living skills'

**Key Decision**

**If Key Decision, has 28-day notice been given?**

**Yes  
Yes**

**Finance Officer Clearance** (type in initials).....PH.....

**Legal Officer Clearance** (type in initials).....MJ.....

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE** (electronic)



To confirm that the Financial and Legal Implications have been considered and the Executive Member has cleared the report.



## Appendix A



**TRAFFORD**  
COUNCIL

# **Trafford Children's Centres Post Consultation Report February 2013**

## Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction .....
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6.0	Suggestions for alternative models .....
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8.0	Summary.....

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This paper reports on the findings of the Trafford Children Centres public consultation and also provides options and recommendations for consideration by the Council's Executive.
- 1.2 Trafford Children Centres provide a range of activities and services from various locations across the Borough.

The key influencing factors that informed the development of the budget proposal are:

- The changing needs of Children and Young People and the social, health and economic challenges faced by families since the inception of Childrens Centres
- The change in service models, with a greater emphasis now on strengthening partnership arrangements and improved multi- agency working to safeguard children and young people so as they can achieve the best life outcomes
- A review of the functions and service delivery model of Children Centres began in August 2012 and the emerging early findings were suggesting the need for Children Centre functions to shift towards an outreach family support model of service with an alignment with the Area Family Support Teams
- Early evidence collected during the Children Centres review clearly suggested that the number of families registered with Children Centres were not necessarily engaging with the Centres; in particular, the groups who were failing to take up the Children Centre offer were from vulnerable groups. The review found the following:
  - Only 3% of fathers accessed a children's centre
  - Only 8% of teenage mothers accessed a children's centre
  - Only 15% of lone parents accessed a children's centre
  - Only 13% of children from BME backgrounds accessed a children's centre
  - Only 23% of children with disabilities accessed a children's centre

- 1.3 Trafford Council, therefore, decided to conduct an extensive public consultation on the proposal to reduce 16 Children Centres to 6 Centres and align them with the Area Family Support Teams.
- 1.4 The 12 week public consultation period ran from 22nd October 2012 until 14th January 2013.

- 1.5 The following methods were used to consult with, and gather views from the public in respect to the proposals:
- Communication with service users (verbal and written)
  - Information letters explaining the proposal were sent to all other stakeholders
  - Briefing Sessions and Information sheets were provided to all key partnerships and advisory boards
  - Publication of all the relevant consultation documents on the CYPS and Trafford MBC websites: which included a full communication briefing on the proposed changes; 'Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Sheet; All related policies and a feedback form were also made available on the websites
- 1.6 Equality Impact Assessment documents were completed to accompany each of the recommendations associated with the consultation on the proposals.
- 1.7 The written responses received and views expressed in respect to the proposals as part of the public consultation have now been analysed, and carefully considered.
- 1.8 The key findings from the analysis of the consultation feedback on the Children Centre proposals are shown in Sections 3-5 of this paper.
- 1.9. The recommendations based on the findings can be viewed in Section 7.0 of this paper.

## 2.0 The Consultation Process

### 2.1 The Questionnaires /Survey

Questionnaires and an online survey were widely distributed and made available during the Consultation period.

The Questionnaires	
<b>Questionnaires</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Do you agree with the proposals to form Locality Hubs?</li> <li>2. Will the proposed structure meet the statutory responsibilities of the Local Authority?</li> <li>3. What services would you see as a priority?</li> <li>4. Do you have any alternative suggestions?</li> </ol>
<b>Online Survey</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Do you agree with the plans to re-configure the Children's Centre's?</li> <li>2. Will the proposed structure meet the statutory responsibilities of the Local Authority?</li> <li>3. What services would you see as a priority in the children's Centre's?</li> <li>4. Do you have any alternative suggestions or comments?</li> </ol>

### 2.2 The Timeframe:

The period of consultation started on 23rd October 2012 and ended on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

### 2.3 The number of attendances at forums and board meetings were:

**21** Parent Forums were held and 98 parents attended and **12** Advisory Board meetings were held with 31 parents and 67 partners representing 15 different agencies attended, these were held during the consultation period.

### 2.4 The responses which were received fell into two distinct areas:

- a) Feedback on the actual consultation process; and
- b) Feedback on the proposals to reduce the number of children centres and the change the service delivery model

Feedback has been categorised into themes in the left hand column;

Consultation Process Category	Feedback: Key Issues (Frequency of specific responses in brackets)	Total No of responses:	Trafford Council Response:
Publicity of Consultation	<p>During the whole consultation process CYPS consulted with a total of 71 different types of partner agencies /stakeholders, these include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service users – parents, carers and young people</li> <li>• Each parent registered with a Children Centre received a letter describing the proposals</li> <li>• Each Parent Forum, Advisory Board and Sure Start Steering Group received a presentation describing the proposals</li> <li>• Voluntary/ community sector</li> <li>• Housing Providers</li> <li>• Schools (mainstream and special) and colleges</li> <li>• Local Authority representatives within CYPS and external to the directorate</li> <li>• Health professionals within CYPS and external to the Directorate</li> </ul>	67 partners from 15 different agencies	

Consultation Process Category	Feedback: Key Issues (Frequency of specific responses in brackets)	Total No of responses:	Trafford Council Response:
Comments made regarding publicity of form (an extract)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A freepost option for forms would have been helpful</li> <li>• Requesting people to look at a web page makes the consultation difficult and is not inclusive</li> <li>• Heard about it through another parent otherwise would not have known</li> <li>• Not everyone has received a copy of the consultation. Some had to actively seek out the documents and do their own research to respond, even those who were registered <b>(3)</b> (2 of these were whole parent forums)</li> <li>• Felt uneasy about asking for consultation form at the Centre</li> <li>• Parents would like to have their own meetings about the consultation and advertise these at the centre's Form hard to find on line, should have had link on main council website page <b>(3)</b></li> <li>• Form not promoted by Children's Centre</li> <li>• Was form available in different languages?</li> <li>• Was promotion to form given for parents who are not yet registered, such as parents to be?</li> <li>• Form was not accessible, understood or promoted</li> </ul>	14	<p>The council attempted to use several different methods to communicate the proposals to the public; Children Centre staff were requested to explain the proposals to any families or service users who may have had challenges to read or understand the letters or the publicity materials. The web page was a further method of collecting responses to the proposals; service users and the public were able to drop their feedback forms off at centres or any other council facilities; some service users wrote letters without using the feedback forms and these letters have been considered as part of the analysis and deliberation process.</p> <p>It is acknowledged there were issues regarding the receipt of information via email initially. Each centre was asked to follow this up and additional documentation was sent out to service users by post. The council will ensure that any publicity leaflets and feedback sheets in any future consultations will be made available for service users to access without them having to ask for the feedback forms. Parents were free to hold their own meetings to discuss the proposals; only notices or formal consultation meetings were publicised in the centres. The form was made available in different languages upon request.</p>

Consultation Process Category	Feedback: Key Issues (Frequency of specific responses in brackets)	Total No of responses:	Trafford Council Response:
			Mums and fathers to be who use Children Centre facilities for ante natal care would be able to access the forms as would any other user; other parents to be would have the same access to the forms as would the public
No of total responses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easy Read Responses <b>(33)</b></li> <li>• Groups and Forums <b>(17)</b></li> <li>• Email/other responses from general public <b>(55)</b></li> <li>• Online Survey from general public <b>(45)</b> (includes written questionnaires; personal attendance at meetings)</li> </ul>	Total Responses; 185	
Comments regarding content and complexity of forms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document too vague and not easy to understand <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• Very wordy, poor reading, complicated <b>(5)</b></li> <li>• Didn't understand wording of the form. If English is not your first language and you are not on the internet you can't use this form</li> <li>• Parents struggling with literacy will be voices unheard</li> <li>• A very poor consultation document</li> <li>• No idea what the new proposals are from reading this</li> <li>• Form not inclusive because of its complexity</li> <li>• Questions difficult to answer such as "alternative Suggestions." Feel as if strategic decisions are required</li> <li>• Consultation forms need redesigning</li> <li>• Form is in "Management speak," confusing and full of jargon</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 14	<p>Easy read versions of the proposals were made available and parent forum groups were also held to discuss the document. Please refer to <b><u>Appendix B.</u></b></p> <p>Translated copies were made available.</p> <p>All parent forums provided written feedback as part of the consultation process with the support of the centre.</p>



Consultation Process Category	Feedback: Key Issues (Frequency of specific responses in brackets)	Total No of responses:	Trafford Council Response:
<p>Comments around amount and type of information given</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unless you have the statutory responsibilities explained to you, or they are somewhere on the consultation document, you can't possibly answer Question 2 <b>(11)</b></li> <li>• Minimal and inadequate information given <b>(9)</b></li> <li>• All we are told is there will be a reduction in services, not enough to answer questions given <b>(3)</b></li> <li>• Spurious question when the information needed to answer is not given</li> <li>• Would need to know specific location where the services will be provided to answer questions.</li> <li>• Would definitely need help to answer this form</li> </ul>	<p>Total Responses: 24</p>	<p>The consultation document was also to enable the council to consult with statutory partners in addition to the public.</p> <p>The council accepts that some of the questions could have been interpreted as difficult to answer - such as are we meeting our 'statutory duties'. An easy read document detailing the 'statutory duties' was produced and made available following parent feedback on this particular question.</p> <p>Some questions which parents felt remained unanswered were part of the consultation e.g. what services will be available? This particular question was not able to be answered specifically as services are not fixed to a specific location but are offered on a needs basis and in discussion at advisory boards. Parents who attended meetings and during individual discussions were asked to identify those centres and services that they thought were the most important and most beneficial so they could be considered as part of the future service provision. The six proposed hubs and locations were detailed in the consultation documents as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urmston and Partington</li> <li>• Altrincham and Sale</li> <li>• Old Trafford and Lostock.</li> </ul>

Consultation Process Category	Feedback: Key Issues (Frequency of specific responses in brackets)	Total No of responses:	Trafford Council Response:
Suggestions regarding meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Could centres run question and answer sessions about the changes? More opportunities for parents to hear what is happening and make their views heard</li> <li>• Parents would like to meet with and talk to decision makers</li> <li>• Questions have remained unanswered at meetings and attempt to reschedule meeting unsuccessful</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 3	<p>A Q&amp;A sheet had been distributed to assist the members of the public to feedback their views.</p> <p>Part way through the consultation period a newsletter updating parents on the process and feedback so far was made available to all parents through their local centre.</p> <p>An additional three meetings were arranged for parents to meet with Cllr Blackburn, Corporate Director of Children's Services Deborah Brownlee, and Joint Director CYPS (Healthcare) Carol Baker Longshaw.</p>
No of public attendees	How many parents attended the public meeting?	Total Responses: 12	Parents were represented at the additional Parent Advisory Meetings that were held with the Corporate Director, the Joint Director CYPS and the Executive Member Cllr Blackburn

### 3.0 Question 1 – Reconfiguration of Children's Centres to develop Hubs

NB: A series of graphs can be referenced in [Appendix C](#) to support the list of detailed responses below.

#### 3.1 Do you agree with the Proposals to form Locality Hubs and to re-configure the Children's Centres?

The majority of respondents (73%) did not agree with the proposals to form Locality Hubs and reconfigure Children's Centre's.

Responses	No.	% of the total responses
In support	25	24
No	76	73
Insufficient evidence	3	2
Don't know	1	1

### 3.2 Detailed Responses to Question 1

Category	Responses and Comments made by you (multiple responses totals in brackets)	Total No of Responses	Trafford Council Response:
Location/ transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hubs will not be local for everyone and harder to access for families without transport to travel, totally inaccessible for some. <b>(30)</b></li> <li>• Hubs will be too far from existing Children centres where people go for advice and support and should be easily accessible. <b>(24)</b></li> <li>• Will be very expensive for families who will in many cases have to get 2 buses too hub. <b>(8)</b></li> <li>• Travelling a long way for play sessions will mean not be able to get back in time to collect other children from school <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• Some of the groups and walk-ins are first come first served. If you have walked 10 mins and are turned away it's not too bad, but if you have got 2 buses with 3 kids?</li> <li>• Journey time to new hubs such as Stretford to Leathwaite and Broomwood to Broadheath are too high to be feasible <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• There is not one public transport link to Broadheath from Hale, Bowden, Timperley or Broomwood.</li> <li>• If families did struggle to get to the hubs, will they be able to meet the needs of all those that previously used the centre's?</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 69	<p>The concept of the Hub is that this will be the base from which a range of community based activities will be coordinated.</p> <p>The independent review of children centres has highlighted the need for services to change and be provided in the family's home environment and community settings, so as they can support those families that are the most vulnerable.</p> <p>Hubs have been located in areas of greatest need.</p> <p>Many families will not need to go to a hub as services will be delivered in local community venues.</p> <p>A list of community venues has been made available and circulated to all centres to share with service users and parents. Please refer to <b><u>Appendix D.</u></b></p>

Category	Responses and Comments made by you (multiple responses totals in brackets)	Total No of Responses	Trafford Council Response:
Site Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Libraries are not designed as play centres.</li> <li>• There should be sufficient community venues to provide services <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• Hubs will be too small for all the families to attend groups from the larger areas they will cover resulting in people being turned away <b>(5)</b></li> <li>• Using a large community venue shared with a number of other services will reduce the opportunity for unplanned meetings with needy parents</li> <li>• So much time, effort and money has been invested in in the CCs and this will be wasted, Availability and suitability of other rooms will be poor <b>(6)</b></li> <li>• Leithwaite is too small with hardly any facilities <b>(4)</b></li> <li>• Relook at Hub no 5. If the existing CC can no longer be used it would be far better for Sale West community centre/youth club rooms to be used than the proposed hub <b>(3)</b></li> </ul>	Total Responses: 14	<p>Yes we agree that Libraries are not designed as play centres, therefore we are intending to deliver play sessions from different venues such as church halls, school halls, parks.</p> <p>More support can be offered in family homes on a 1:1 basis. Any delivery within community venues will be risk assessed to ensure it is suitable for children and families</p> <p>The Leithwaite centre is a smaller building and community venues and parks are available locally.</p> <p>Services are already delivered within Sale West community centre and would continue e.g. sensory room, playgroup.</p>
Safeguarding/ Child Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To comply with safeguarding standards and ofsted requirements there has to be a reduced risk of phone calls being overheard which will be more difficult in a communal building <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• Open access buildings will create issues with safeguarding <b>(2)</b></li> </ul>	Total Responses: 4	<p>All staff are trained with regards to safeguarding policies and procedures, including confidentiality which forms part of their professional code of practice and/or the councils policies.</p> <p>Signing in and out procedures and welfare requirements will be adapted within the hub or building in use</p>

#### 4.0 Question 2 – Will the proposed structure meet the statutory responsibilities of the Local Authority?

NB: A series of graphs can be referenced in [Appendix C](#) to support the list of detailed responses below.

##### 4.1 Question 2: Will the proposed structure meet the statutory responsibilities of the Local Authority?

The majority of respondents (53%) do not agree that the proposed structure will meet the statutory responsibilities of the Local Authority.

Response	No.	% of the total responses
Yes	19	24
No	43	53
Insufficient info	16	20
Don't know	3	4

NB: A series of graphs can be referenced in [Appendix C](#) to support the list of detailed responses below

#### 5.0 Question3 – What Services would you see as a priority?

##### 5.1 Breakdown of Service Respondents

Of all the responses received 20% referenced the Play and Stay service as being a priority service; this supports the findings from the feedback at briefing meetings with stakeholders who also indicated that the Play and Stay service was valued by service users.

NB: A series of graphs can be referenced in [Appendix C](#) to support the list of detailed responses below.

<b>Service</b>	<b>No of times service mentioned</b>	<b>% of Respondents</b>
Play and Stay	50	20
Breastfeeding Support	29	11
S & L support such as Talking Together and Chatterbox	20	8
Family Support	17	7
Parenting classes such as incredible years	16	6.3
Baby Group/Club	15	6
Midwife services such as antenatal clinics, drop in midwife sessions	15	6
Employment and training services for Parents	7	3
Parents group, young Parents group, young Mums group	7	3
Story and Rhyme Times	7	3
Dietician services, such as toddler feeding, healthy eating workshops and drop in sessions	7	3
Early Intervention/information	6	2.4
All current services	6	2.4
Toddler gym	6	2.4
Baby massage	6	2.4
Sure Start Centers in multiple locations	4	2
Sensory Play	4	2
Dad's group	4	2
Post Natal Depression	3	1.2
Bookstart group	2	1
Partington Pathway	2	1

Mental health support provisions	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Nursery preparations groups	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Targeted groups	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Budgeting advice and increased support for parents in light of the proposed Welfare Reform 2013/14	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
Outdoor play	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
2 yr old funding	<b>1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Stretford Children's Centre	<b>1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Translation availability	<b>1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Adoptive parents group	<b>1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Children's services in hospitals	<b>1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Smoking cessation support	<b>1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Funding for Poor families, vulnerable families And single parents	<b>1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Child care	<b>1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Parent advocacy	<b>1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Special needs play	<b>1</b>	<b>0.4</b>



## 5.2 Responses (written) to Question 3

Centre Services/ Activities	Responses (multiple responses totals in brackets)	Total Responses	Trafford Council Response:
0-19 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What services will be available for 0-19 and how will these be delivered with reduced resources?</li> <li>• Need to think about using schools rooms and resources to cope with wider age range</li> <li>• Extending services for up to 19 will be hugely beneficial for families</li> <li>• Will these services be available for all or just those receiving family support</li> <li>• How could the widening age range be supported if centres are only open school hours?</li> <li>• Will staff be up skilled to provide these services?</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 7	Many of the services are already available within the Area Family Support teams e.g. youth workers, school nurses, connexions and the integration of the children's centres with the AFST will strengthen a 0-19 years services.
Early Intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging local families, highlighting and preventing issues has been key so far, fears that this will be lost <b>(6)</b></li> <li>• Reducing early intervention now, will only increase costs later due to increases in antisocial behavior, health issues and troubled families <b>(14)</b></li> <li>• How can Early Intervention take place if the new venues are not really suitable <b>(1)</b></li> </ul>	Total Responses: 21	Early intervention and prevention services remain a priority for Trafford Children and Young Peoples Services. This is offered in all areas regardless of a child's age or where they live.
Service offer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The original remit of sure start centres is that they be within "pram pushing distance." This will no longer be the case. 2 buses needed in some cases <b>(4)</b></li> </ul>	Total Responses: 16	Children centre staff can deliver services in a variety of local community venues including family's homes. They do not have to always be delivered from the children's centre 'hub'.

Centre Services/ Activities	Responses (multiple responses totals in brackets)	Total Responses	Trafford Council Response:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities on offer bound to be decreased to minimum <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• "Every child matters" information did not show how the hubs will be more effective at targeting the hard to reach than the current centres</li> <li>• How will essential services be maintained if these well-equipped Centre's are going?</li> <li>• Concerns that alternative community venues will not be as welcoming to all and create a barrier for the many troubled families that come to the attention of staff through universal services <b>(3)</b></li> <li>• Will the 0-19 services be open to all?</li> <li>• Does not fit in with statutory responsibilities esp. section 5A p7- that states, Universal access to Children's Centre's should be possible especially for the most deprived.</li> <li>• Is this affecting all universal services? Will these be reduced under the new proposals? <b>(3)</b></li> <li>• Waiting Lists may get longer if their less available appointments <b>(1)</b></li> </ul>		<p>Data shows that centres are not currently effective at targeting services to those 'hard to reach families.</p> <p>The joint work with the Area Family Support Teams will enhance how we identify and support families needing extra help at the earliest point. It will provide a more holistic approach to supporting families at a local level.</p> <p>Delivery of universal services will continue to be supported by volunteers with an aim to develop this further. Health Visitors continue to offer universal visits as part of the Area Family Support Services.</p>
Equality/ Inclusion/EIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choices of hub flawed as affluent areas bearing greatest losses</li> <li>• Having to travel long distances could put off vulnerable parents, the ones that need the help more than most <b>(7)</b></li> </ul>	Total Responses: 25	<p>The case for change is to target those children, young people and their families who are 'hard to reach.'</p> <p>The core purpose for Children's Centres is to support those families that are most in need.</p>

Centre Services/ Activities	Responses (multiple responses totals in brackets)	Total Responses	Trafford Council Response:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can 8 Children's Centre's be made into 2 without turning needy people away?</li> <li>• Families who suffer insecurities may find going to a large hub intimidating and overwhelming especially if they fear encountering certain other family members <b>(3)</b></li> <li>• Income and education levels of parents should not be the determining factor for them being able to access services. The new hubs may exclude the less advantaged by their area <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• There has been a far higher take up of recommendations to access speech therapy since the walk in sessions were established at the Children's Centre's, this could be reversed if hubs are brought in</li> <li>• Could be too ill after birth of baby to attend breastfeeding support if have to get buses to a hub</li> <li>• Will there be amenities for all walks of life as there are now</li> <li>• Children's Centre's are non-denominational. Using church halls as venues brings extra problems because of faith views <b>(3)</b></li> <li>• EIA still not available for this consultation <b>(6)</b></li> <li>• How many languages is the Children's Centre consultation available in?</li> </ul>		<p>The proposal is to support our most vulnerable families and this will be achieved through provision of effective outreach services within communities. This is offered through personalised care and individual family support packages.</p> <p>Speech and Language services will work with us collaboratively to continue to deliver the services</p> <p>The Breast feeding co-ordinator and the HV service will continue to provide support and advice to families within their domiciliary setting, should any new mum encounter any difficulties. Trafford CYPS Health service have just employed a new breast feeding support worker.</p> <p>A whole range of facilities/activities will be offered to meet the needs of young children.</p> <p>The EIA is a working document, and will be reviewed and revised as necessary throughout the consultation period, this is to enable us to consider all your feedback. The consultation would have been available in any language if requested by residents where English was not their first language.</p>

Centre Services/ Activities	Responses (multiple responses totals in brackets)	Total Responses	Trafford Council Response:
Communication and Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using hubs will mean having a single what's on guide for whole area, improving communication.</li> <li>• Having hubs will damage existing relationship between professionals and families and act against all the hard work that has built this up (4)</li> <li>• "Will lose my regular contact with the staff that is like a family. Care and support is incomparable"</li> <li>• Concern that new arrangement will be too impersonal and troubled families would be missed (7)</li> <li>• Families will simply not know what is on offer</li> <li>• Closing the Centre's could be counterproductive to the borough in that young families might move across to other boroughs that are still providing these services. Keeping the services could attract young families to the borough.</li> <li>• The Children's Centre link is essential to the engagement with the community</li> <li>• Information that you might Google is scattered and sparse but the Children's Centre's regularly send out and supply up to date reliable info regarding groups, advice and is a vital local point of contact for any person with a child. Swop this with a distant place you have hardly heard of and that will be lost (2)</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 17	<p>The Area Family Support Teams are considering developing a 'what's on' guide across cluster areas</p> <p>We acknowledge the need for some continuity in staff supporting families and a team will be located within the cluster area.</p> <p>The closer working with agencies will support vulnerable families not being missed. Family support will still offer a key worker for each family.</p> <p>The Family Information Service will continue to advertise groups and activities. Centres will continue to send out updates and information to all registered families.</p> <p>A website for each cluster is being developed to provide onsite forums and better information.</p>

Centre Services/ Activities	Responses (multiple responses totals in brackets)	Total Responses	Trafford Council Response:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The North Pathway has further developed multi agency working and early findings are showing increased intervention with babies. However staff are concerned that with Centre closures their client group won't travel to the next closest to them and therefore won't access services.(1)</li> <li>Ensure services are available to all, and local to all those within the cluster boundaries, increased support for parents in light of the proposed welfare reforms(1)</li> </ul>		<p>Data demonstrates that these families already travel across the cluster for services. Much of the increased intervention with babies is in the family home at primary and 28 day visits and the baby groups are run at community venues jointly with health.</p> <p>Staff are aware that the welfare reform act will bring significant challenges for a number of families. The Employment and Training Officers have started to be pro-active in preparing families in partnership with other agencies.</p>
Access to outdoor play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns around planned hubs not having access to outdoor play (8)</li> <li>Shocked that outdoor area in Stretford will be lost and replaced by a centre without one. So much emphasis has been put on this because of the increase in obesity etc(3)</li> <li>Outdoor play especially beneficial for supervised contacts</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 12	<p>The council acknowledges the importance of accessible outdoor play space for young children.</p> <p>The use of parks and community buildings with access to outdoor provision will always be considered in all plans.</p>
Other services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns that opening times of hubs will affect families being able to have "contact" after school (5)</li> <li>There will inevitably be a reduction in services not an improvement as stated (2)</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 7	<p>The Council has a contact centre specifically for supervised contacts. This has a large outdoor area and is available after school.</p>

## 6.0 Alternative Proposals

The responses below offer suggestions for alternative options regarding the proposal to reduce 16 Children Centre's to 6 Centre's and aligning them with the Area Family Support Teams.

The most popular proposal was to introduce a small charge for using facilities as it may still be cheaper for parents to do this than taking multiple children on public transport. This proposal was mentioned 9 times.

The second most requested alternative proposal was to consider using volunteers if it means keeping the centre's open this was referred to 5 times.

Alternative Proposals:	Comments (multiple responses totals in brackets)	Frequency	Trafford Council Response:
Charging for services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce a small charge for using facilities, it may still be cheaper for parents than taking multiple children on the bus <b>(9)</b></li> <li>• Would pay £1 for toddler gym/play &amp; stay <b>(3)</b></li> <li>• Would pay up to £2</li> <li>• Would pay up to £4</li> <li>• Ask for voluntary donations <b>(3)</b></li> <li>• Charge a small annual fee for all services</li> <li>• Sell toys, books etc. to boost income</li> </ul>	Total Response: 17	<p>A small donation has been made by some groups to contribute towards the cost of snacks. This does not cover any resources, staff and running costs of the building.</p> <p>Use of charging for services will be considered for future proposals.</p>

Alternative Proposals:	Comments (multiple responses totals in brackets)	Frequency	Trafford Council Response:
Role of volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider using volunteers if it means keeping the centres open <b>(5)</b></li> <li>• There are many talented parents who could run their own groups as volunteers <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• Do not use volunteers they do not have the same knowledge and commitment as Children's Centre staff <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• You build a relationship with the staff and they want to know you and they care. Volunteers will come and go and not be like that <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• Use the peer support system now used in breastfeeding support groups for other groups</li> <li>• Use mentors to teach cooking/life skills to teenagers</li> <li>• Volunteers feel well supported at present by children's centre staff but there are concerns about using other buildings, public safety, risk assessments, increased responsibilities for the volunteer would be off putting.</li> <li>• Volunteers may not feel comfortable dealing with such issues as PND whereas a qualified member of staff would.</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 15	<p>The role of volunteers within the Children's Centre's has been vital in delivering services over the past few years.</p> <p>This is an area that will be developed further as part of the Council's volunteering strategy to ensure continuity and sustainability of services.</p> <p>Volunteering has given many parents the confidence and experience towards gaining employment.</p> <p>Volunteers are able to provide information about services on offer and be a link person to their local children centres.</p>
Commissioned services – bookstart, daycare places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stop contracting services out. If it is profitable for them, surely Trafford Council must be able to do as good a job, but cheaper</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 2	If all contracted services are commissioned as part of a wider 0-19 years old approach, it would identify what services need to be delivered and which organisation is the most appropriate to deliver the service.

Alternative Proposals:	Comments (multiple responses totals in brackets)	Frequency	Trafford Council Response:
Partner agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link in with organisations such as GForce to run Children's Centre activities from other venues such as the Broomwood Centre.</li> <li>• Ask advice from other agencies as to how we could work together with them to maintain services</li> <li>• Increase working together, partners with Sure Start. E.g. Lostock Partnership and Sure Start-den building in the park and free cycling sessions worked well</li> <li>• Expand partnership services</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 4	The centres have some excellent examples of partnership working and it is proposed this would continue and be built upon.
Hiring CC services out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CC services could be bought by other agencies which could generate income</li> <li>• Loan out CC buildings in the evening for Health and Well-being classes for the community</li> <li>• Hire out the children's room for birthday parties etc. this will generate funds</li> <li>• Offer space to private concerns on a part time basis to generate funds</li> <li>• Further utilize centres rather than close. Share with other council funded services or hire privately to reduce running costs</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 5	The council has other venues that offer this service e.g. community centres, libraries. Voluntary, private and community groups have expressed an interest in renting rooms but this was on an ad-hoc basis which does not provide a sustainable income to cover any running costs.
Finance/ resourcing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review highly paid senior management positions</li> <li>• Give longer contracts to services so there is less time and money spent on proposals, funding bids</li> <li>• Find a way through procurement to allow goods and services to be provided free (such as a roof repair) to the Children's Centres</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 7	As part of the proposal there will be a reduction in staffing posts and the majority of these posts are related to management posts.  All council services have to follow the Council's procurement procedure.



Alternative Proposals:	Comments (multiple responses totals in brackets)	Frequency	Trafford Council Response:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Streamline procurement processes so that cheaper providers can be used <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• If centres do close, sell off the equipment to parents starting their own groups</li> <li>• Free gifts costly and unnecessary</li> </ul>		<p>All resources will be distributed and shared with partners in their local community.</p>
Usage of centres and other facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turn unused children's centre rooms if attached to a library into a communication and literacy room linked to Speech and language therapy, for story and rhyme time, Chatterbox etc.</li> <li>• Only merge 2 existing centres not 3 as in Altrincham, it spreads resources too thin.</li> <li>• Would be good to have hubs in town centres such as Urmston (not Flixton), central to all cluster users-high visibility-adequate parking-scope for wider age range</li> <li>• Could use unused rooms in Medical Centres. These are local and known to parents</li> <li>• Use of more community venues such as rooms in High Schools-more availability-closer links <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• Surely use of other community rooms and having to pay hire charges would cancel out savings incurred from moving out of the Children's Centres?</li> <li>• Keep open the larger centres where essential groups are run and shut the smaller ones, not the other way around <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• If you are only going to have one centre in Altrincham, please make it in the town centre for easy access for all.</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 11	<p>The rationale for the proposed 'hubs' is based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of children living in child poverty.</li> <li>• Areas with the highest deprivation.</li> <li>• The recommendations from the children centre's review</li> </ul> <p>The 'hubs' are intending to use existing children centre buildings as there is not financial resources to develop new sites within town centres.</p> <p>All suitable rooms in local communities will be considered for service delivery. Charges will be negotiated and shared usage of facilities across partners will be considered on a no cost basis.</p> <p>During 2010/11, the children centres capital grant was used to improve the accessibility and quality of specific community buildings for young children and in return negotiated free room hire.</p>

Alternative Proposals:	Comments (multiple responses totals in brackets)	Frequency	Trafford Council Response:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns around atmosphere suitable for breastfeeding support groups not being provided at other venues</li> <li>• Ensure better use of facilities – hardly anything goes on Monday and Friday in one</li> <li>• Share Sure Start premises with other services</li> <li>• If the new hours are to be 8.30-4.00pm how could the Centre support 0-19 years if the majority of this age group are in school during these times (1)</li> </ul>		<p>The Breast feeding co-ordinator and peer supporters will work with parents and centres to ensure venues are suitable.</p> <p>The hubs could be open after 4.00pm if required for other services.</p>
Publicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The hubs could work if events/groups/support for families/parents is widely advertised (4)</li> <li>• More proactive outreach service (2)</li> <li>• Don't close them – promote them</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 6	<p>All children's centre's have a 'what's on' guide advertising their services and activities within their local area. These are sent to all registered families, distributed by partner agencies or available in clinics/libraries.</p> <p>However the children's centre review did find that centres are not reaching all families and there is a need to be more pro-active in providing outreach services in shopping centres.</p>
Part time Children's Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have the centres open 4 days a week if it saves costs</li> <li>• Keep centres open half the week</li> <li>• Full time children's centres are needed not part time</li> </ul>	Total Responses: 3	It would be difficult to agree which days to open as some options would not suit all parents. The use of community buildings allow for services to be offered on a more flexible basis.

## 7.0 Trafford Council Response and Recommendations

- 7.1 Following an in-depth analysis and comprehensive consideration of the feedback from the public consultation process as documented in this paper it was found that the majority of the feedback received indicated a desire to continue with the 16 Children Centres and the existing service delivery model.
- 7.2 A significant number of responses indicated concerns in respect to the travelling distance between the Hubs if the proposed reduction in children centres was supported. This feedback has been addressed in section 5 of this report.
- 7.3 There was no evidence of adverse feedback to suggest that the essence of the original proposal was not supported to enable services to be refocused so as to provide a targeted service to those children and families who are the most vulnerable and in greatest need;
- 7.4 To achieve this vision – it is necessary to reduce the number of centres to free up resources to enable Trafford CYPS to deliver this ambition notwithstanding, that there will be a commitment to continue to provide the core offer at a universal level for those who wish to access and engage with children centres.
- 7.5 It is, therefore, recommended that Trafford Council proceed with the proposal to reduce Trafford's 16 Children Centres into a locality based model around 6 Children's Centre Hubs.

It is recommended that Trafford Council review and revise one of the North Area Hubs from Lostock (Leithwaite Centre) to Stretford Childrens Centre (**See Appendix E**) due to the following:

- Closer proximity to North AFST in respect to Stretford being a base for outreach workers
- Stretford is the only Children's Centre which currently shares a site with a VCS organisation, Home Start. This sharing of workspace will enable closer joint working and developments such as, a shared referral route to ensure smooth transition of care provision between agencies
- The Stretford reach area has significant variances in the level of needs of families across its geographical areas; there are particular pockets of high levels of need. One particular area in the Stretford is recorded as being one of the 10% most deprived areas in England
- The Children's centre profile for Stretford shows that 37% of children in this area are living in poverty
- Lostock which was identified as the Hub for the North Areas does not have any areas within it that fall into the 10% most disadvantaged
- Stretford Children's Centre has a purpose built play area which has been developed with the local community and has recently been adapted to provide a facility which can be accessed and provide a positive play area for children and adults with physical disabilities, therefore enabling the centre to meet the requirements of level 3 Inclusion accreditation

- Consultation feedback from parents responding to the proposals strongly opposed the closure of the centre with particular reference to the loss of the garden area having a significant impact on the local communities
- This is especially pertinent given the rising obesity levels in the locality area (Profile info 11.19% in Stretford compared with 9.15% Lostock and Gorse Hill). More recent data shows these figures have decreased for both areas; however, Stretford remains higher than Lostock and Gorsehill and above the Trafford average
- There are fewer dentists, doctors and chemists in Stretford area than Lostock and Gorsehill and the CC profile states that families residing in Stretford travel further for services than in Trafford as a whole
- FIS reported that Lostock and Gorsehill have 61 different types of organised family and leisure activities whereas Stretford had 46 types
- Opportunities to increase the wider use of the Stretford building by the local community and partners is a realistic aspiration in particular enhancing opportunities to harness innovative and creative opportunities with a number of services outside of children's centre provision. This would enhance provision for families and encourage community ownership of Stretford Children Centre through extending the use of volunteers
- Stretford has 350 children attending 3 / 4 yr old funded early education compared with Lostock and Gorsehill who have 425 children attending (110% Stretford resident 3 / 4 yr olds compared to 116% L&G). It is, therefore, it is important that the children not attending this education provision are supported in activities such as Home Learning / Take Away Play / Small Talk as the EYFSP scores for Stretford children are below the Trafford average
- Stretford venue is large, with multiple rooms; therefore, it can house larger groups of adults and children, therefore reducing the costs of sessions to the Authority
- Lostock have higher numbers of children eligible for 2 yr funding, therefore increasing the need in Stretford for provision
- The EYFSP gap is wider in Stretford (27.52%) than Lostock and Gorsehill (26.0%)

**7.6** The remaining 6 Children Centres will provide Community Hubs for children and their families, and services will also be offered within the family home or local community venues.

**7.7** The consultation feedback has indicated that it would be beneficial if Sale Moor Children Centre remained open on a part time/sessional basis as Child and Family Community Outreach (CFCO) base, with the South Cluster Hub staff delivering activities from the CFCO on a sessional basis;

**7.8** It is recommended therefore, that Sale Moor remain open as Child and Family Community Outreach (CFCO) base. The CFCO base will not be staffed full time but will be used as a venue which will enable volunteers, partner agencies and the Area Family Support Team to deliver groups and activities for children aged 0-19 years and their families locally.

- 7.9** The rationale for the retention of Sale Moor as a CFCO is based on the following:
- The building is located within the 20% most deprived areas, therefore, services need to be easily accessible to families living in those communities
  - The South Area has the highest number of children and sits within the largest geographical area
  - There is a limited number of appropriate and accessible community venues available within the Sale area
  - Sale Moor has very low engagement figures
  - Sale Moor is purpose built with excellent outdoor play facilities located on school sites which would enhance the partnership with the Area Family Support Teams
  - Sale Moor has a domestic facility to support programmes for 'independent living'
- 7.10** It is recommended that in order to support the redesign of the Children Centre provision which will enable the development of a locality Hub based model, a review of the workforce will be necessary.
- 7.11** This is to ensure that the skill mix and competencies reflect a workforce that can deliver a robust outreach and family support service to children and young people aged 0-19 years and their families.
- 7.12** It is also recommended that the 6 Children's Centre Hubs will be open 8.30 am to 4.00 pm to provide a flexible community space for children and families.
- 7.13** It is also recommended that a review of externally commissioned services by Children Centres will be completed by the end of March 2013, e.g. Midwifery and Speech & Language Therapy; this review will enable a more coherent strategic approach to commissioning support to enhance the children centres core offer.
- 7.14** It is also recommended that the contribution from the Children Centres budget to the bookstart programme should continue but at a negotiated reduced price.

## **8.0 Summary**

- 8.1** It is recommended that the Executive Council support the proposal to redesign the service model for the delivery of the children centre provision, by reconfiguring services by reducing the number of children centres from **16** to **6** Locality Hubs which will be aligned with the North, South and West Area Family Support Teams, including reviewing the workforce, the commissioning of external services, extending the age range from 0-19years and the opening times of the Hubs.

**8.2** The original proposal was to establish locality Hubs at :  
(North). Lostock and Old Trafford  
(West). Urmston and Partington  
(South) Sale and Altrincham

**8.3** Following consideration of the extensive feedback received, and based on the additional information provided in S7.5 and S7.9 above, it is recommended that the Council Executive approve:

- the revision of the original proposal and support the North Area Hub be changed from Lostock Children Centre to Stretford Childrens Centre and;
- Lostock Children Centre (Leithwaite) is redesignated as a Child and Family Community Outreach base;
- that Sale Moor Childrens Centre remains open, but is redesignated as a Child and Family Community Outreach base for the South of the Borough to provide community based sessional activities

## Children's centre's Statutory Duty

### What is the Guidance?



- Sure Start Children's Centre Statutory Guidance tells Trafford Council what the Government think Children's Centres should offer to support children and families.

### What does it say Children's Centres should help with?

It says that Sure Start Children's Centres should help families to find services like:



- Health – for example during pregnancy, help to breast feed, to eat well and to exercise.



- Parenting and family support – for example ideas to help your child develop, or support in managing difficult behaviour.



- Training and employment opportunities – for example confidence courses, college courses, volunteering and help getting into work.



- Early education and childcare – for example play and learning at home or in groups, advice to use and find 2, 3 and 4 yr funded child care places, help choosing childcare.

### **Does it say who should help Children's Centres do this?**

The guidance says that the local council is responsible for helping to improve the well-being of young children in their area.



It tells us how other groups such as Health Authorities and Job Centre Plus should work together with the local council to do this.

### **What difference does it say it wants Children's Centres to make for families?**

The guidance says each Children's Centre should:



Help children develop and be ready to go to school.

Centres should do this by supporting parents and giving opportunities for learning and play.



Improve child and family health and life chances. Centres should do this in lots of ways, some examples are: ante natal appointments, parent craft, breast feeding support, healthy eating advice, dental advice, exercise, first aid, safety at home.

### **How do centres know what is needed?**

The guidance says that to do all this well Children's Centres need to:



Listen to people in the local community and find out what they need. Also to use other information about the area to help make decisions.





Provide groups which have been tested so that we know they work. To offer this help to families who are struggling and who are most in need.

### **Who should Children's Centres talk to when they are planning what to do or when they are making changes?**



The statutory guidance tells Children's Centres that they should talk to the local community and with other agencies before making changes, and in planning services.

### **Is there a group to help Children's Centres plan and deliver services?**



Every Children's Centre has a group called an Advisory Board. This group helps choose what is happening in the centre and checks what difference the Children's Centre is making.



The Advisory Board has people attending from other services like Health and voluntary groups. It is also very important that parents from the local community attend these meetings.

## Who checks Children's Centres are safe and doing a good job?

Children's Centres are inspected by Ofsted.



Ofsted's job is to look at the services offered, speak to parents to hear what they think and to see if the children's centre is making a difference to families. They look at how well different organisations work together to meet families needs.

Ofsted also check that the Children's Centre and staff are safe and that they support the most vulnerable children and adults in the local area.

The full guidance can be found at the Department of Education Website:

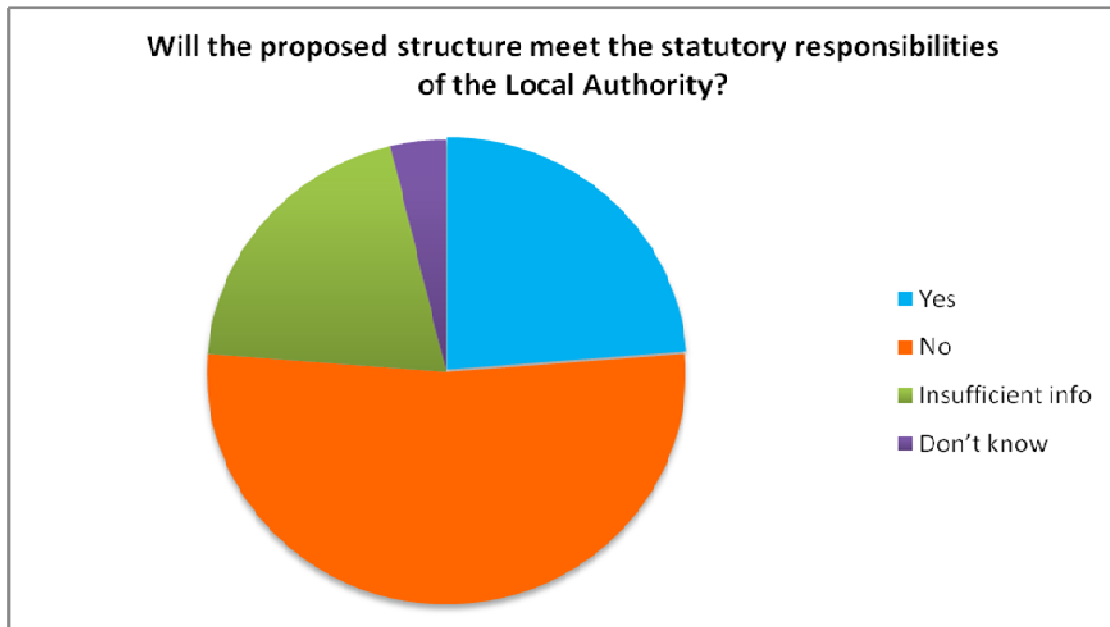
[www.education.gov.uk](http://www.education.gov.uk)

### Graphs of Consultation Responses

Question 1- Do you agree with the Proposals to form Locality Hubs/ plans to reconfigure the Children's Centres?

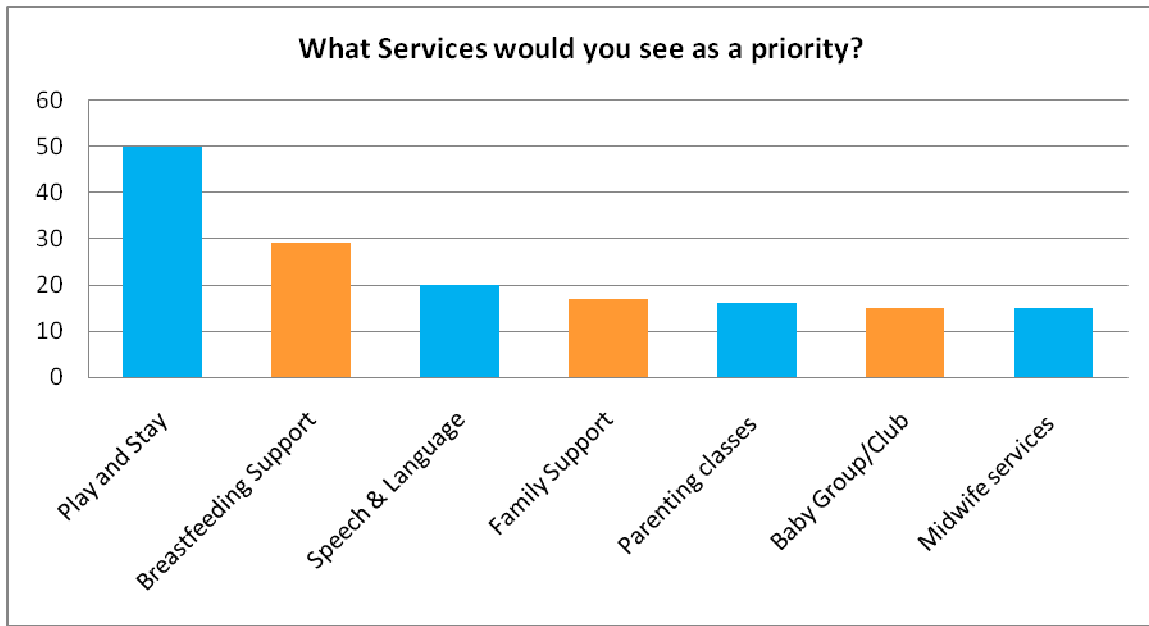


Question 2 Will the proposed structure meet the statutory responsibilities of the Local Authority?



## Graphs of Consultation Responses

Question 3 - What services would you see as a priority?



**Community venues in children's centre communities – December 2012**

Trafford children's centres use a variety of venues in local communities to make sure services are accessible to families.

Below is a list of example venues available in each of the current children's centre areas, as requested during recent parent consultation events.

Please note: not all of these venues are currently used but could be in the future. Centres only use venues that have been checked for safety and suitability.

<b>NORTH</b>					
<b>Old Trafford</b>					
Old Trafford Library/ Community Centre and Children's Centre Shrewsbury Street Old Trafford M16 9AX	Old Trafford Family Centre Powell Street Old Trafford M16 7QQ	Seymour Community Park Primary School Northumberland Road Old Trafford M16 9QE	St John's Hall St. Johns Road Old Trafford M16 7GX	Sports Barn (Talk Two) Seymour Grove Park Old Trafford M16 9PQ	Community Room Seven Sisters Flats Old Trafford Manchester
Old Trafford Community School Malvern Street Old Trafford M15 4FL	Sharon Youth Association Chorlton Road M16 7WQ	Bright Horizons 463 Stretford Road Old Trafford M16 9AB	St Antony's Centre Eleventh Street Stretford M17 1JF	blueSCI 54-56 Seymour Grove Old Trafford M16 0LN	St. Alphonsus R.C. Primary School Hamilton Street Old Trafford M16 7PT

Community Venues in Children's Centre Communities

<b>Firwood</b>					
Kings Road Primary School and Firwood Children's Centre Kings Road Firwood M16 0GR	St Hilda's School Warwick Road South Firwood M16 0EX	St. Hilda's Church Warwick Road/South Kings Road Firwood Old Trafford	Firwood Community Centre The Quadrant Greatstone Road Stretford M32 8QS	St Teresa's Primary School St Teresa's Rd Firwood Stretford M16 0GQ	Seymour Grove Health Centre 70 Seymour Grove M16 0LW
Longford Park School 74 Cromwell Road Stretford M32 8QJ	Longford Park Stadium Ryebank Road Chorlton-cum-Hardy M21 9TA				
<b>Stretford</b>					
Stretford Children's Centre Poplar Road Stretford M32 9AN	Stretford Public Hall Chester Road Stretford M32 0LG	Chester Road Day Nursery 1056-1058 Chester Road Stretford M32 0HF	St Matthews Playgroup St Matthews Church Chapel Lane Stretford	Salvation Army Hall Meadows Community Church Brunswick Street Stretford M32 8NJ	Fledglings Day Nursery Burleigh Road Stretford M32 0PF
Barton Clough Primary School Audley Avenue Stretford M32 9TG	Stretford Library Kingsway Stretford M32 8AP	The Quest Barton Road Stretford M32 9PL	St Hugh of Lincoln Primary School Glastonbury Road, Stretford M32 9PD	Sevenways Methodist Church Barton Road Stretford M32 9RD	All Saints Church Barton Road Stretford M32 9RB

Community Venues in Children's Centre Communities

Delamere Centre Delamere Avenue Stretford M32 0DF	Moss Park Infant/Junior School Moss Park Road Stretford M32 9HR	St. Matthew's C.E. Primary School Poplar Road Stretford M32 9AN	St. Ann's R.C. Primary School Derbyshire Lane Stretford M32 8SH	Victoria Park Infant/Junior School Henshaw Street Stretford M32 8BU	Highfield Primary Bridgenorth Avenue Urmston M41 9PA
<b>Lostock &amp; Gorse Hill</b>					
Trafford College Talbot Road Stretford M32 0XH	Gorse Hill Studios Cavendish Road Trafford M32 0PS	Gorse Hill Methodist Church Wesley Street Stretford M32 0GL	Gorse Hill Medical Centre 879 Chester Road Stretford M32 0RN	Stretford Leisure Centre Greatstone Road Stretford M32 0ZS	Gorse Hill Primary School Burleigh Road Stretford M32 0PF
Stretford Grammar School Granby Road Stretford M32 8JB	Stretford High School Great Stone Road Stretford M32 0XA	The Lodge Scout Hut Beresford Rd Gorse Hill M32 0PY	Lostock College Selby Road Stretford M32 9PL	The Leithwaite Centre and Lostock & Gorse Hill Children's Centre 229 Winchester Road Stretford, M32 9PT	
<b>WEST</b>					
<b>Flixton &amp; Woodsend</b>					
Acre Hall Primary School and Children's Centre Irlam Road Flixton M41 6NA	Woodsend Community Group - 8th Flixton Scout Hut Woodsend Crescent Road Flixton	Woodsend Library Woodsend Road Flixton M41 8GN	The Croft St Michael's Parish Church - The Rectory 348 Church Road Flixton, M41 6HR	St John's C of E Church Irlam Road Flixton M41 6AP	Flixton House Flixton Road Flixton M41 5GJ

Community Venues in Children's Centre Communities

Flixton Academy of Performing Arts Curzon Building Princess Road Urmston, M41 5SQ	St Monica's Church Woodsend Road South Flixton M41 6QB	Delamere Toy Library The Toy House 91 Irlam Road Flixton M41 6AP	Flixton Cricket Club Lawrence Road M41 8UU	Flixton Infant School Mardale Avenue Flixton M41 5SA	Flixton Junior School Delamere Road Flixton M41 5QL
Flixton Girls High School Flixton Road Flixton M41 5DR	Wellacre Academy Irlam Road Flixton M41 3WA	Woodsend Education Centre Lydney Road Flixton, M41 8RN			
<b>Urmston</b>					
Urmston Library and Children's Centre Unit 34, Golden Way Urmston, M41 0NA	Urmston Grammar School Newton Road Urmston M41 5UG	Urmston Infant/Junior School Wycliffe Road Urmston, M41 5AH	St Clements Church Hall Stretford Road Urmston, M41 9JZ	Urmston Cricket Club Moorside Road Urmston M41 5UU	Urmston Unitarian Church Queens Road Urmston M41 9HA
Greenfield Church Primrose Avenue Urmston M41 0TY	Urmston Methodist Church George Street Urmston M41 9BA	5 <sup>th</sup> Urmston Scouts Easbrook Urmston M41 9JA	Urmston Leisure Centre Bowfell Road Urmston M41 5RR	St. Antony's Catholic College Bradfield Road Urmston, M41 9PD	Jane Jarvis Dance Studio 9A Atkinson Road Urmston M41 9AD
Urmston Masonic Hall 15 Westbourne Road Urmston M41 0XQ	English Martyrs' R.C. Primary School Wycliffe Road Urmston, M41 5AH				



Community Venues in Children's Centre Communities

<b>Davyhulme</b>					
Davyhulme Library and Children's Centre Hayeswater Road Davyhulme M41 7BL	St Mary's Primary School Cornhill Road Davyhulme M41 5TJ	Christchurch Church Hall Lostock Road Davyhulme M41 0TD	Davyhulme Infant School Cantebury Road Davyhulme M41 0RX	Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Centre Davyhulme Road Davyhulme M41 7DS	Hartford Community Centre Canterbury Rd Davyhulme M41 0RX
George H Carnall Kingsway Park Davyhulme M41 7FJ	Cornerstones Methodist Church Hayeswater Rd Davyhulme M41 7BL	Davyhulme Youth Centre Davyhulme Road Davyhulme M41 7DN	St Mary's Church Hall Davyhulme Road Davyhulme M41 7BU	Kingsway Primary School Davyhulme Road Davyhulme M41 7BU	Our Lady of the Rosary R.C. Primary School Davyhulme Road Davyhulme M41 7DS
Woodhouse Primary School Nursery Road Davyhulme M41 2WW	Egerton High School Kingsway Park Davyhulme M41 7FF				
<b>Partington</b>					
Partington Community Centre Central Road Partington M31 4FL	Partington Primary School Central Road Partington M31 4FL	Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School Lock Lane Partington M31 4PJ	The People's Church Chapel lane Partington M31 4EY	Partington Sports Village Chapel Lane Partington M31 4ES	The Fuse Warburton Lane Partington M31 4BU

Community Venues in Children's Centre Communities

Partington Social Club Warburton Lane Partington M31 4NR	Forest Gate Primary School Daniel Adamson Avenue Partington M31 4PN	Broadoak School Warburton Lane Partington M32 4BU	Partington & Carrington Children's Centre Central Road Partington M31 4FL	The Healthy Living Centre Central Road Partington M31 4FL	
<b>SOUTH</b>					
<b>Sale Moor</b>					
Sale Private Day Nursery 96 Northenden Road Sale M33 3HB	Sale Moor Methodist Church Northenden Road Sale M33 2PP	Lime Tree Primary School and Sale Moor Children's Centre Budworth Road Sale, M33 2RP	St Francis Church Budworth Road Sale M33 2RP	Conway Rd Health Centre Conway Road Sale M33 2TB	Sale Moor Community Centre 359 Norris Rd Sale M33 2UP
The Scout Hut Raglan Road Walton Park Sale M33 4AW	Holy Family Catholic Primary School Old Hall Road Sale Moor M33 2JA	Walton Park Sports Centre Raglan Road Sale M33 4AG	Brooklands Primary School Woodbourne Road Sale M33 3SY	Sale Moor Community Partnership 359 Norris Road Sale Moor, M33 2UP	Refresh Norris Road Sale Moor M33 2UP
<b>Sale Central</b>					
Chapel Road Clinic 70 Chapel Road Sale M33 7EG	Sale Library and Sale Central Children's Centre Sale Waterside Sale M33 7ZF	St. Anne's C.E. Primary School Trinity Road Sale M33 3ED	Templemoor Infant School Nursery Close Sale M33 2EG	Sale Masonic Hall Tatton Road Sale M33 7EE	Waterside Arts Centre 1 Waterside Sale M33 7ZF

Community Venues in Children's Centre Communities

Sale Leisure Centre Broad Road Sale Manchester M33 2AL	St Joseph's Playgroup St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Marlborough Road Sale, M33 3AF	Voluntary Community Action Trafford (VCAT) Park House 73 Northenden Road Sale, M33 2DG	Sport Trafford Crossford Bridge Pavilion Danefield Road Sale, M33 7WR	St Paul's Church 15 Springfield Road Sale M33 7YA	Trinity Methodist Church 3 Cheltenham Drive Sale M33 2DQ
Amblehurst Hotel 44 Washway Road Sale M33 7QZ	Worthington Primary School Worthington Road Sale M33 2JJ	Cadmans Dance Centre 11A Ashfield Road Sale M33 7DY	Sale Grammar School Marsland Road Sale M33 3NH		
<b>Ashton on Mersey</b>					
United Reformed Church Whitefield Road Sale M33 6NZ	Wellfield Infant School and Ashton upon Mersey Children's Centre Church Lane Ashton on Mersey, Sale M33 5QW	Ashton Upon Mersey Cricket and Tennis Club Little Ees Lane Sale Cheshire M33 5GT	Carrington Lane Methodist Church Ennerdale Drive Sale M33 5NE	St.Mary Magdalene 44 Moss Lane Ashton on Mersey Sale M33 6GD	The Salvation Army 27 Ashton Lane Sale M33 6NP
Firs Primary School Firs Road Sale Cheshire M33 5EI	All Saints' Catholic Primary School Cedar Road Sale M33 5NW	Ashton on Mersey Golf Club Ltd Church Lane Sale M33 5QQ	St. Mary's Church of England Primary School St. Mary's Road Sale M33 6SA	Wellfield Junior School Dumber Lane Ashton on Mersey Sale M33 5QX	Park Road Primary School Abbey Road Sale M33 6HT

Community Venues in Children's Centre Communities

Ashton on Mersey School Cecil Avenue Sale Cheshire M33 5BP	Forest Park School at Lauriston House 27 Oakfield Ashton-upon-Mersey M33 6NB	Ashton on Mersey Rugby Club Banky Lane Sale M33 5SL	Trafford Metrovicks Finneybank Road Sale M33 6LR		
<b>Sale West</b>					
Sale West Youth Centre Newbury Avenue Sale M33 4QW	Cherry Manor Centre Cherry Lane Sale M33 4GY	Manor High School Manor Avenue Sale M33 5JX	Sale West Development Centre 120 Manor Avenue Sale, M33 5JX	Meadway Health Centre Meadway Sale M33 4PS	St. Margaret Ward Catholic Primary School Cherry Lane Sale, M33 4GY
Tyntesfield Primary School Alma Road Sale M33 4HE	Bodmin Road Health Centre Bodmin Road Sale M33 5JH	Woodheys Primary School Meadway Sale M33 4PG	Coppice Library and Sale West Children's Centre Coppice Avenue Sale, M33 4ND	Coppice Avenue Scout Hut (behind the Coppice Avenue Library) M33 4ND	Firs Primary School Firs Road Sale M33 5EL
<b>Broomwood &amp; Timperley</b>					
Broomwood Primary School and Broomwood & Timperley Children's Centre Mainwood Road Timperley, WA15 7JU	Broomwood Community Centre Mainwood Road Timperley WA15 7JU	The Larkhill Centre Thorley Lane Altrincham WA15 7AZ	Heyes Lane Primary School Crofton Avenue Timperley WA15 6BZ	The Scout Hut Brook Close Timperley Altrincham WA15 6RH	Brentwood School Brentwood Avenue Timperley WA14 1SR

Community Venues in Children's Centre Communities

Pictor School Grove Lane Timperley WA15 6PH	Timperley Methodist Church Hall Stockport Road Altrincham WA15 7UG	Timperley Library 405 Stockport Road Timperley WA15 7XR	Timperley Health Centre 169 Grove Lane Timperley Altrincham WA15 6PH	Timperley Community Centre 121 Park Road Timperley WA15 6QQ	Cloverlea Primary School Green Lane North Timperley Altrincham WA15 7NQ
Park Road Academy Primary School Frieston Road Timperley WA14 5AP	St. Hugh's Catholic Primary School Park Road Timperley WA15 6TQ	Altrincham United Reformed Church 19 Woodlands Parkway Timperley WA15 7QT	The Pelican Hotel 350 Manchester Rd Timperley WA14 5NH	Altrincham Kersal RFC Kersal Drive Stelfox Avenue Timperley WA15 6UL	St. Vincent's Catholic Primary School Orchard Road Altrincham WA15 8EY
Willows Primary School Victoria Road Timperley Altrincham WA15 6PP	Wellington School Wellington Road Timperley Altrincham WA15 7RH				
<b>Hale Barns</b>					
All Saints Church Hale Road Hale Barns WA15 8ST	Unitarian Church Hall Hale Road Hale Barns Altrincham WA15 8SP	Shay Lane Medical Centre Hale Barns Altrincham WA15 8NZ	Elmridge Primary School and Hale Barns Children's Centre Wilton Drive Hale Barns, WA15 0JF	Well Green Primary School Briony Avenue Hale WA15 8QA	St Peters C of E Church Harrop Road Hale WA15 9BU

Community Venues in Children's Centre Communities

Altrincham Grange Sports & Social Club Grange Avenue Timperley WA15 6DX	Manchester Airport Marriot Hotel Hale Road Hale Barns WA15 8XW	Hale Chapel Hall Hale Road Hale Barns WA15 8SS	All Saints Hale Barns with Ringway Parish Church Hale Road, Hale Barns Altrincham, WA15 8ST	Shay Lane Medical Centre Hale Barns Altrincham WA15 8NZ	St. Ambrose College Wicker Lane Hale Barns WA15 0HF
<b>Broadheath &amp; Dunham</b>					
The Hub Altrincham Baptist Church Pownall Road Altrincham, WA14 2SZ	Navigation Primary School Hawarden Road Altrincham WA14 1NG	Oldfield Brow Primary School Taylor Road Altrincham, WA14 4LE	Altrincham Library 20 Stamford New Road Altrincham WA14 1EJ	Altrincham Town Hall Market Street Altrincham WA14 1PG	Dunham Road Unitarian Chapel Dunham Rd WA14 4NX
Altrincham Methodist Church Barrington Road Altrincham WA14 1HF	London Midland Railway Club Altrincham Club 127 Navigation Road Altrincham WA14 1LJ	St. George's Parish Centre Off Church Walk Behind St. George's Church Altrincham WA14 4DS	Cresta Court Hotel Church Street Altrincham WA14 4DP	Altrincham Leisure Centre Oakfield Road Altrincham WA15 8EW	St Alban's Church Lindsell Road Altrincham WA14 5NX
Broadheath Primary School and Broadheath & Dunham Children's Centre Sinderland Road Altrincham, WA14 5JQ	Altrincham C of E Primary School Townfield Road Altrincham WA14 4DS				

Community Venues in Children's Centre Communities

Hale & Bowdon					
Bowdon C of E Community Room and Primary School Grange Road Bowdon, WA14 3EX	Hale Library Leigh Road Hale WA15 9BG	Bowdon Assembly Rooms (The Cinnamon Club) The Firs Altrincham, WA14 2TQ	Mercure Altrincham/ Bowdon Hotel Langham Road Bowdon, WA14 2HT	St. Ambrose College Wicker Lane Hale Barns WA15 0HF	Hale Methodist Church Hale Road Hale WA15 9HQ
Altrincham United Reform Church - Trinity Hale Church 81 Cecil Road Hale, WA15 9NT	Bowdon Vale Methodist Church Priory Street Bowdon, WA14 3BQ	The Stamford Arms The Firs Bowdon WA14 2TW	Bollin Primary School Apsley Grove Bowdon WA14 3AH	Stamford Park Infant/Junior School Cedar Road Hale WA15 9JB	Loreto Grammar School Dunham Road Altrincham WA14 4AH
Altrincham College of Arts Green Lane Timperley WA15 8QW	Altrincham Grammar School for Boys Marlborough Road Bowdon WA14 2RS	Altrincham Grammar School for Girls Cavendish Road Bowdon WA14 2NL	Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College Urban Road Altrincham WA15 8HT		

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Comparison between Stretford and Lostock Children Centres (Reach Areas)

	Stretford	Lostock	Rationale for each
Reach area	20% -130 children 30% - 93 children 70% - 617 children	20% - 149 children 30% - 523 children 70% - 365 children	Lostock has 65% of children under five years old living in a disadvantaged area against 27% in Stretford.
Outreach Family Support	High number	Low numbers.	Lostock does not have the level of engagement from families and requires more early intervention support.
Budget	£53,000 running costs (£30,000 bills, £10,000 cleaning, £13,000 caretaking)	£0 running costs (Trafford Housing Trust fund the building running costs)	Lostock does not have any running costs following a capital agreement which states free room rental for 10 years. One reception staff would be required for whichever hub and has already been factored into the budget.
Venue	It is a purpose built building with excellent outdoor facilities. It has rooms that would allow for community usage.	Lostock is in the heart of the community next to shops and a proposed IT café	Stretford CC offers a quality purpose built provision for young children.
Obesity rates at reception	9.22%	8.75%	Stretford has the highest obesity rates
Workless Households	25.95%	34.11%	Lostock has the highest workless households
Trafford Deprivation ranking (out of 16 centres)	5	3	Lostock is ranked 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 16 children's centres with the highest needs
EYFSP	69.39%	71.89%	
EYFSP % GAP	27.52%	26.02%	

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## EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE - TRAFFORD COUNCIL (Service)

A. Summary Details		
1	Title of EIA:	Re-configuration of Children Centres
2	Person responsible for the assessment:	Jenny Hunt – Children’s Centre Strategic Lead
3	Contact details:	07760167000 <a href="mailto:Jenny.hunt@trafford.gov.uk">Jenny.hunt@trafford.gov.uk</a>
4	Section & Directorate:	CYPS - Early years
5	Name and roles of other officers involved in the EIA, if applicable:	Carol Baker-Longshaw Joint Director for Health and Social Care – CYPS

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B. Policy or Function		
1	Is this EIA for a policy or function?	Policy <input type="radio"/> Function <input checked="" type="radio"/>
2	Is this EIA for a new or existing policy or function?	New <input type="radio"/> Existing <input type="radio"/> Change to an existing policy or function <input checked="" type="radio"/>

3	What is the main purpose of the policy/function?	<p>The core purpose of Sure Start Children's Centres is to improve outcomes for young children and their families, with a particular focus on the most disadvantaged, so children are equipped for life and ready for school.</p> <p>The proposal intends to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-configure Trafford's 16 Children centres into a geographical model based on 6 children's centres. These would reflect the three CYPS Area Family Support Teams with 2 centres in the north area, 2 in west area and 2 in south area. The 6 centres would provide a community hub for children and their families while services will be offered within a family home or local community venues.</li> <li>• Re-configure core staff to enhance an outreach, creche and family support provision for 0-19 years and their families. The 6 Children's Centre hubs would be open 8.30 – 4.00 and provide a flexible community space for children and families. This would lead to a reduction in management and front line staff and some of the existing Children's Centre building would no longer be funded.</li> </ul>
4	Is the policy/function associated with any other policies of the Authority?	Yes the function reflects policies within CYPS e.g. Safeguarding.
5	Do any written procedures exist to enable delivery of this policy/function?	Yes, there are a number of procedures associated to the delivery of this function in particular Sure Start Statutory Guidance for Children's Centres.
6	Are there elements of common practice not clearly defined within the written procedures? If yes, please state.	No.

7	Who are the main stakeholders of the policy? How are they expected to benefit?	<p>Parents /Service Users  Job Centre Plus  Midwifery  Colleges  CYPS  Housing providers  Voluntary and Community Organisations  Childcare Providers  Libraries  Schools</p> <p>Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a holistic approach for the whole family through the Area Family Support teams.</li> <li>• Ofsted inspections on a cluster model.</li> <li>• Develop a co-production model at a neighbourhood level.</li> <li>• Focus on the most vulnerable families.</li> </ul>
8	How will the policy/function (or change/improvement), be implemented?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through consultation and analysis of feedback from services users, stakeholders and staff.</li> <li>• Recruitment process into new staffing structures.</li> </ul>
9	What factors could contribute or detract from achieving these outcomes for service users?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The outcome of the consultation could change the proposed configuration.</li> <li>• Resistance from public &amp; staff when implementing any change.</li> <li>• As services and resources will be focused on the most vulnerable or minority groups, we need to ensure that families who (traditionally) do not meet either criteria receive support as and when needed.</li> </ul>
10	Is the responsibility for the proposed policy or function shared with another department or authority or organisation? If so, please state?	The proposal is to re-shape and integrated the children's centres with CYPS Area Family Support Team's to support a holistic approach to our most vulnerable families.

<b>C. Data Collection</b>		
1	What monitoring data do you have on the number of people (from different equality groups) who are using or are potentially impacted upon by your policy/ function?	Lone parents Ethnicity Young parents Fathers Children with a disability
2	Please specify monitoring information you have available and attach relevant information*	Number of families who accessed services in 2011/12:  3% of fathers (140 from 4797) 8% of teenage mothers (11 from 135) 15% of lone parents (236 from 1558) 13% of children from BME backgrounds (374 from 2913) 23% of children with disabilities (34 from 143)  Further information is available from the Performance team.
3	If monitoring has NOT been undertaken, will it be done in the future or do you have access to relevant monitoring data?	Data is updated on a quarterly basis.

*\*Your monitoring information should be compared to the current available census data to see whether a proportionate number of people are taking up your service.*

**D. Consultation & Involvement**

1	Are you using information from any previous consultations and/or local/national consultations, research or practical guidance that will assist you in completing this EIA?	<p>A number of factors were taken into consideration when designing the above model:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data sets related to Child Poverty, Indices of Multiple Deprivation, the number of children (under five) living in lower super output areas and number of under five living within each centre footprint</li> <li>• Recommendation from the Children’s Centre Review</li> <li>• The Trafford Partnership four neighbourhood locality model</li> <li>• National Guidance on the core purpose of centres states that centres should have a particular focus on families in greatest need of support, and where possible ‘natural catchment areas’</li> <li>• The number of children that accessed a centre irrespective of where they lived</li> </ul>
2	Please list any consultations planned, methods used and groups you plan to target. (If applicable)	<p>Public consultation will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication to all service users</li> <li>• Letters to all other stakeholders</li> <li>• Briefing to all key partnerships and boards</li> <li>• Drop in sessions for service users and other stakeholders</li> <li>• Publication of all consultation documents including a full briefing, frequently asked questions, any draft policies and a feedback form placed on the CYPS and Trafford MBC websites</li> <li>• A press release to publicise the drop in sessions. Information and posters advertising the drop in sessions to be circulated to schools and other public venues</li> </ul>

EIA Service

		Staff consultation (including staff on maternity leave, sick leave or annual leave) will include briefing session, FAQ, 1-1 sessions, consultation feedback form. Consultation meetings with part-time staff and those on maternity leave will be held at a convenient time for them also to ensure inclusion.
3	**What barriers, if any, exist to effective consultation with these groups and how will you overcome them?	We will ensure that staff who are not present at work are kept fully informed of the proposals and are offered opportunity to attend face to face and group meetings. Consultation meetings with part-time staff and those on maternity leave will be held at a convenient time for them also to ensure inclusion.

*\*\*It is important to consider all available information that could help determine whether the policy/ function could have any potential adverse impact. Please attach examples of available research and consultation reports.*



**E: The Impact – Identify the potential impact of the policy/function on different equality target groups**

*The potential impact could be negative, positive or neutral. If you have assessed negative potential impact for any of the target groups you will also need to assess whether that negative potential impact is high, medium or low.*

	Positive	Negative (please specify if High, Medium or Low)	Neutral	Reason
Gender – both men and women, and transgender;		Medium		Reduction in staff means less universal services available to all families so families not considered as being vulnerable or with an identified need may be affected. Parents could feel isolated without peer support.
Pregnant women & women on maternity leave		Medium		Ante-natal checks are offered in some of the children's centre buildings proposed in the changes. Midwifery services require a health room suitable for consultation.
Gender Reassignment			Yes	Services would be available for all families with an identified need
Marriage & Civil Partnership			Yes	Services would be available for all families with an identified need

	Positive	Negative (please specify if High, Medium or Low)	Neutral	Reason
<b>Race</b> - include race, nationality & ethnicity (NB: the experiences may be different for different groups)		Medium		Specific children's centre buildings are seen within the local community as a safe place for mothers and their children to access services without their extended family for example; Muslim faiths. If services are to be delivered in other buildings this could disengage families.
<b>Disability</b> – physical, sensory & mental impairments		Medium		The reduction of children's centre buildings could reduce the number of accessibility child friendly buildings available with access to outdoor play.
<b>Age Group</b> - specify eg; older, younger etc)		Medium		Universal services available for children aged 0-5 years will reduce and limit opportunities for early identification of needs.
<b>Sexual Orientation</b> – Heterosexual, Lesbian, Gay Men, Bisexual people			Yes	Services would be available for all families with an identified need
<b>Religious/Faith groups</b> (specify)		Medium		Not having enough venues that recognise and reflect families religious backgrounds and what is acceptable for particular groups

As a result of completing the above what is the potential negative impact of your policy?

High †

Medium †

Low †

<b>F. Could you minimise or remove any negative potential impact? If yes, explain how.</b>	
Race:	Improve links with local community groups and explore the potential to expand their provision.
Gender, including pregnancy & maternity, gender reassignment, marriage & civil partnership	Audit existing universal services available for all families within their local community and promote the various activities on offer and signpost families appropriately. Ensure that families and partner agencies are aware of how to access children's centre services if and when needed. Midwifery service could locate to their local clinics and children's centres undertake outreach work in the clinics.
Disability:	To review the accessibility of venues available and explore how other children and families buildings could be used and resources shared e.g. youth centres
Age:	Provide an integrated approach with partner agencies and join up services with health who offer universal services to children under five years old. To ensure there are clear pathways for identifying and supporting families with particular needs. Ensure venues are suitable for babies and young children with access to outdoor provision.
Sexual Orientation:	N/A
Religious/Faith groups:	Ensure services are offered from a variety of settings in their local community that enable families to access the services. More outreach work will allow families to access support within the family's home.

Also consider the following:		
1	If there is an adverse impact, can it be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for a particular equality group or for another legitimate reason?	NO
2	Could the policy have an adverse impact on relations between different groups?	NO
3	If there is no evidence that the policy <i>promotes</i> equal opportunity, could it be adapted so that it does? If yes, how?	N/A

### G. EIA Action Plan

Consultation Activity	Organisations to be contacted	Method of Engagement	Date to initiate activity	Date for completion	1st Six weeks: Progress 26.11.12	2nd Six weeks: Progress 14.01.13
Publication of full consultation document	Available to all interested parties containing the consultation questions	Written consultation document produced and available to download from council website	w/c 15th October 2012	W/e 19th October 2012	Completed	Completed

<b>Consultation Activity</b>	<b>Organisations to be contacted</b>	<b>Method of Engagement</b>	<b>Date to initiate activity</b>	<b>Date for completion</b>	<b>1st Six weeks: Progress 26.11.12</b>	<b>2nd Six weeks: Progress 14.01.13</b>
Contact made with schools and libraries where centres are co-located	Kings Rd Primary School, Lime Tree Primary School, Broomwood Primary School, Acrehall Primary School, Elmridge Primary School, Wellfield Primary, Trafford Housing Trust, Sarah Curran- Library manager.	Written letters and telephone call	w/c 15th October 2012	W/e 19th October 2012	<b>Telephone calls were made on 15th October</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Contact made with all key stakeholders	Libraries, SLT, midwifery, dietetic, homestart, job-centre, college, health visitors, social care, early years, childcare providers, police, housing, schools.	Written letters	w/c 15th October 2012	W/e 19th October 2012	<b>Completed</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Seeking responses to consultation questions	Available to all interested parties containing the consultation questions	Online questionnaire	w/c 15th October 2012	Closes 14th January 2012	<b>Responses being received and collated.</b>	<b>On going until 14th January</b>

<b>Consultation Activity</b>	<b>Organisations to be contacted</b>	<b>Method of Engagement</b>	<b>Date to initiate activity</b>	<b>Date for completion</b>	<b>1st Six weeks: Progress 26.11.12</b>	<b>2nd Six weeks: Progress 14.01.13</b>
Briefing to all Children's Centre Advisory Boards and Children's Centre Steering Group	Children's Centres Steering group, Broomwood, Broadheath, Davyhulme, Firswood/Old Trafford, Flixton, Partington, Sale Moor, Sale West, Stretford Advisory Boards	Face to face	W/c 22nd October 2012	End of November 2012	<b>All advisory board briefings completed apart from Lostock which is on the 4th December 2012. CC steering group was cancelled awaiting another date. 4 have been completed thus far.</b>	<b>Lostock Advisory Board held 4th Dec CC steering group held 11th Dec 2012.</b>
Newsletter to service users	Posted out to all service users	Newsletter posted to service users and available in children's centres	W/c 22nd October 2012	End of November 2012	<b>To be drafted and circulated by 7th Dec 2012.</b>	<b>Completed - circulated 19th Dec 2012.</b>

Parent forums  
 Easy read version  
 Online, paper, email

Please ensure that all actions identified are included in the attached action plan and in your service plan.

**Signed:** .....

**Name:** Jenny Hunt  
**Designation:** Lead Officer

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Signed:** .....

**Name:** Carol Baker-Longshaw  
**Designation:** Joint Director Services for Children, Young People & Families

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> January 2013

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**Final Report:**

**Review of Trafford MBC**

**Children's Centre Services 2012**

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## Introduction

1. This report sets out the context, main findings and key recommendations of the independent review of children's centre services undertaken between September and November 2012.

1.1. This report is supplemented by appendix 1 – 'National Best Practice in Children's Centres', which was developed as part of the review, and appendix 2 – 'Trafford data analysis of children's centre performance'.

### **Executive Summary**

- Trafford is a high performing local authority in terms of children's centre key performance indicators. However, this very positive picture masks some inequalities in outcomes for some children and families.
- Registration and engagement rates of children and families, including target groups, are generally lower than those seen nationally in centres judged to be good or outstanding by Ofsted.

In line with national changes, Trafford MBC CYPS should target children's centre services further to meet the needs of more disadvantaged children and families by:

- Merging / clustering children's centres and related resources to focus even more on targeted early intervention and to align more closely with area based services and locality hubs.
- Clarifying children's centre worker roles so that outreach and family support work is more clearly defined and the roles are distinct from each other.
- Developing a locality based team approach to outreach (engagement of target families) and family support.
- Strengthening governance and performance management / service improvement arrangements so that targets are more focused on improving outcomes for those families who are disadvantaged, and in line with the Government's stated core purpose of children's centres. Amalgamate advisory boards to align with the proposed cluster model.
- Improving the use of data and implementing a consistent approach to evidencing impact so that self evaluation is more robust and needs / gaps are identified and met at a local level.

2. The national context in which children's centres operate changed in April 2012, when HM Government stated that:
  - 2.1. 'The core purpose of Sure Start Children's Centres is to improve outcomes for young children and their families, **with a particular focus on the most disadvantaged, so children are equipped for life and ready for school, no matter what their background or family circumstances.**'
  - 2.2. 'Children's centres should focus on **reducing inequalities** in child development and school readiness and support improvements in:
    - 2.2.1. parenting aspirations, self esteem and parenting skills;
    - 2.2.2. child and family health and life chances.'
  - 2.3. 'Evidence shows that development during the early years of a child's life lays an essential foundation for progress throughout life. Parenting and the home learning environment, health and economic wellbeing all have an impact on child development.'
  - 2.4. '**Local authorities should assess the strengths and need across the area to inform the local commissioning of services.**'
    - 2.4.1. 'This joint approach involves sharing data and assessing strengths and need across the local community to identify gaps and opportunities. This would inform a local, integrated offer of access to services through each children's centre, which ensures funding and resources are aimed at those in greatest need.'
    - 2.4.2. It will require children's centre leaders to assess what services already exist locally and decide what evidence suggests about which additional services are needed to improve outcomes for all parts of the local community but particularly for those with the greatest needs.'
3. In September 2012, Trafford CYPS initiated a project to review its current children's centre services.
  - 3.1. The review was undertaken between September and November 2012 by a team of reviewers with expertise and knowledge in commissioning, inspecting and delivering children's centre services nationally:
    - **Michael Blakey**, Children's Centre Inspector
    - **Nicola Jackson**, Former Commissioner of Children's Centres

- **Gemma Roberts**, Former Children's Centre Officer
- **Ryan Edgeler**, Young Consultant and Former Children's Centre user
- **Maegan Whiteley**, Participatory Research Specialist
- **Hazel Plant**, Data Analyst.

3.2. A children's centre steering group established by Trafford MBC oversaw the review.

3.3. The review was undertaken in five stages.

3.3.1. **Phase 1a** – data collection and analysis.

- Desk based research including an analysis of self evaluation documentation, development plans and published Ofsted reports for each of the children's centres.
- Desk based analysis of a wide range of data on reach, engagement and impact of services in Trafford. This included analysing data for each Super Output Area covered by each children's centre (appendix 2).

3.3.2. **Phase 1b** – national best practice review.

- Best practice review of a wide range of research into the effectiveness of children's centres. Reports on children's centres judged to be outstanding by Ofsted across England were reviewed (appendix 1).

3.3.3. **Phase 2** – stakeholder workshops and surveys.

- Street based parent consultations and parent workshops / attending 'Stay & Play' and 'Baby Club' activities.
- Stakeholder and staff workshops.
- Stakeholder (n=42) and staff (n=90) surveys.

3.3.4. **Phase 3** – analysis of stakeholder and staff feedback.

3.3.5. **Phase 4** – centre visits and future service models & recommendations. Each children's centre was visited by a reviewer to help the review team to understand the geographical setting of each centre. No further evaluation of the services delivered or outcomes achieved were undertaken during these visits.

3.3.6. **Phase 5** – Stakeholder and staff workshops to share good practice.

3.4. This report is structured around the proposed new inspection judgements that will apply to all inspections of children's centres<sup>1</sup>:

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to current consultation at [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

- access to services by young children and their families
- the quality and impact of practice and services
- the effectiveness of leadership, governance and management
  - This report uses Ofsted terminology when expressing proportions as words:

Proportion	Description
97-100%	Vast/overwhelming majority or almost all
80-96%	Very large majority, most
65-79%	Large majority
51-64%	Majority
35-49%	Minority
20-34%	Small minority
4-19%	Very small minority, few
0-3%	Almost no/very few

## Main Findings

### 4. Overall, Trafford MBC is a high performing local authority. However, although there are several positives messages in respect to Trafford’s children’s centres there are also areas for improvement in producing the best outcomes for children and families<sup>2</sup>.

#### 4.1. In terms of the key children’s centre performance indicators<sup>3</sup>:

- 4.1.1. (NI72) – The achievement of children at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage has been well above the national average over the last three years.
- 4.1.2. (NI92) – The gap between the lowest achieving children and their peers has been narrower than the national average over the last three years.
- 4.1.3. (NI55) – Obesity rates of children in Reception are falling and are now well below the national average.
- 4.1.4. (NI53) – Breastfeeding rates at 6-8 weeks are above the national average.
- 4.1.5. However, when data is analysed at a Super Output Area (SOA) level some inequalities become evident. For example, in 2010/11, NI72 overall was above the national average at Broadheath and Dunham Children’s Centre. However in

<sup>2</sup> Appendix 2

<sup>3</sup> These are the key indicators that inspectors must take account of. However, data on the number of children living in workless households and those taking up working tax credits is not included here because the data is deemed to be too old to draw conclusions from. Data on hospital admissions is included in appendix 2.

the 20% most deprived SOA in that reach area, the percentage of children achieving NI72 has fallen consistently: from 69.2% in 2008/09 to 46% in 2010/11, which is well below the national and Trafford average<sup>4</sup>.

- 4.2. Registration and attendance rates are considerably higher at Partington and Carrington Children's Centre than other children's centres in Trafford. This demonstrates the effectiveness of 'Partington Pathway' at increasing registrations, and strengthening links with health services. However, registration and attendance rates are generally lower across Trafford MBC than those of children's centres judged to be good or better by Ofsted nationally. Target groups are not always engaged and increasing the participation of these children and families should remain a priority.
- 4.3. Centres often have strong partnerships with a range of other services, for example, Speech and Language Therapy, CAMHS and TEDS, but the recording of these sessions with families is not always accurately done by children's centres. As a result a consistent approach to recording attendance at any service accessed at the children's centre, and ensuring that all families are registered, will help to identify areas for development and the sharing of good practice and resource within Trafford.
- 4.4. Staff and stakeholders generally hold positive views about the impact of children's centres:
  - 4.4.1. Over 75% of respondents to the staff survey reported that they felt that children's centres were good or excellent at improving outcomes.
  - 4.4.2. Over 85% of stakeholders stated that children's centres are good or excellent at improving outcomes.
  - 4.4.3. 95% of stakeholders stated that children's centres are good or excellent at helping families to stay safe.
- 4.5. To date, eight Trafford children's centres have been inspected by Ofsted (see below).
  - 4.5.1. All have been judged to be satisfactory or good.

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<sup>4</sup> Appendix 2

4.5.2. None have been judged to be outstanding, although there are examples in neighbouring local authorities – for example, Longsight Children’s Centre and Martenscroft Children’s Centre in Manchester.

4.5.3. Many of the recommendations in Trafford inspection reports are similar to those found in other inspection reports in similar authorities. However, some other urban local authorities have made faster progress in reshaping services to meet the Core Purpose.

4.5.4.

<b>Pre Sept 2011</b>	<b>Overall Effectiveness</b>	<b>Capacity for sustained improvement</b>
Broomwood & Timperley	Good	Good
Flixton & Woodsend	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Partington & Carrington	Good	Good
Stretford	Good	Good
<b>Post Sept 2011</b>	<b>Overall Effectiveness</b>	<b>Capacity for sustained improvement</b>
Davyhulme	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Firwood	Satisfactory	Good
Old Trafford	Good	Good
Sale West	Good	Good

4.5.5. Although some services are evaluated well, there is no consistent approach to evidencing the impact of services across children’s centres. Without this focus and rigour of evaluation it is more difficult for centres and Trafford MBC to work out what works well and which services / interactions have the greatest impact.

4.5.5.1. However, there is some good practice in Trafford. For example Report Cards are used well to demonstrate the impact of Curriculum Vitae workshops at Firwood Children’s Centre.



## Six Key Recommendations

5. This section outlines the key overarching recommendations from the review.
  - 5.1. In line with national changes, target children's centre services further to meet the needs of local families whose circumstances may make them more vulnerable:
    - 5.1.1. Trafford children's centres and resources need to focus even more on early intervention and to align more closely with area based services.
    - 5.1.2. Clarify children's centre worker roles so that outreach and family support work is more clearly defined and the roles are distinct from each other. Provide role specific training on engaging families and using data effectively.
    - 5.1.3. Develop a locality based team approach to outreach (engagement of target families) and family support.
  - 5.2. Increase registration and engagement rates, particularly of vulnerable groups. Ensure that all children and their parents are registered and that their attendance is accurately recorded. Streamline registration forms. Use live birth data and register families, whenever possible, at the point at which they register births.
  - 5.3. Strengthen links with health services, particularly health visitors and midwives, so that registration rates (and engagement rates) of target groups increase in all centres.
  - 5.4. Strengthen governance and performance management / service improvement arrangements so that targets are more focused on improving outcomes for those families who are disadvantaged, and in line with the Government's stated core purpose of children's centres.
    - 5.4.1. There is a need to strengthen the structures, systems and processes to provide Quality Assurance and professional challenge to leadership and management.
  - 5.5. Improve the use of data and implement a more consistent approach to evidencing impact so that self-evaluation is more robust and needs / gaps are identified and met.
  - 5.6. Promote children's centres well through a wide range of services, social media and through highly effective targeted outreach work.

## Access to services by young children and their families

6. Partington and Carrington Children’s Centre has significantly increased the rate at which it registers children so that the large majority of children living in the reach area are now registered. However, this trend is not typical in Trafford (Table 1). Overall, a minority, or small minority, of children are registered with children’s centre services in nine out of sixteen children’s centres. Examples of good practice can be taken from centres in Brighton and Hove who typically register the vast majority of children through effective health led arrangements. It is critical that children’s centres are in contact with the families living in their reach areas so that services can be appropriately targeted for those most in need.

6.1. Overall engagement rates are typically low, with the exception of Partington and Carrington children’s centre, which is a significant outlier. Overall, less than a third (27.8%) of children living in Trafford accessed a children’s centre service at any children’s centre in 2011/2012.

Registration Rates 2011/12								Engagement Rates 2011/12										
	Almost no/very few	Very small minority, few	Small minority	Minority	Majority	Large majority	Very large majority, most	Vast/overwhelming majority or almost all		Almost no/very few	Very small minority, few	Small minority	Minority	Majority	Large majority	Very large majority, most	Vast/overwhelming majority or almost all	
Old Trafford									Old Trafford									
Broomwood and Timperley									Broomwood and Timperley									
Hale Barn									Hale Barn									
Broadheath and Dunham									Broadheath and Dunham									
Hale and Bowdon									Hale and Bowdon									
Partington and Carrington									Partington and Carrington									
Sale Moor									Sale Moor									
Sale Central									Sale Central									
Ashton upon Mersey									Ashton Upon Mersey									
Sale West									Sale West									
Firswood									Firswood									
Stretford									Stretford									
Urmston									Urmston									
Flixton and Woodsend									Flixton and Woodsend									
Davyhulme									Davyhulme									
Lostock and Gorse Hill									Lostock and Gorse Hill									

Table 1 – Registration and engagement rates 2011/12

6.2. Engagement of target groups appears to be low overall as seen in the 2011/12 data:

- 3% of fathers accessed a children's centre
- 8% of teenage mothers accessed a children's centre
- 15% of lone parents accessed a children's centre
- 13% of children from BME backgrounds accessed a children's centre
- 23% of children with disabilities accessed a children's centre
- However, attendance is not always recorded and this will distort the data. For example, TEDS is delivered at children's centres but the attendance of children and families is not recorded by the centre.

6.3. Ofsted inspections have identified registration and engagement rates as areas for improvement:

6.3.1. 'Increase the number of local children and families registered with the centre' and 'Increase the registrations of children aged under two years of age' – Partington and Carrington.

6.3.2. 'Increase the level of engagement of children and families from across the reach area, including those in target groups, particularly teenage mothers, lone parents and fathers' – Davyhulme.

6.3.3. 'Ensure the Primary Care Trust speeds the process to overcome barriers to sharing relevant data about the location and number of children in the area' – Firwood.

6.4. Parental views support the Ofsted recommendations above. Typically, parents who do not access children's centres say: 'if you don't approach them to find out what's going on they won't approach you.' Also, parents who access services delivered by partners at children's centres often say: 'they didn't tell us anything else that is going on at the centre.'

## **The quality and impact of practice and services**

7. Parents that access children's centre services generally say that staff develop positive relationships with them.

7.1. The generic children's centre worker role can limit the work staff do with the most vulnerable families because the role is too broad and lacks focus. Staff strongly agree with this view:

- 7.1.1. 'Staff having specific roles such as: family support; groups and courses; registrations and promotions.'
  - 7.1.2. 'Specialists in different roles, rather than everyone doing a bit of something when they have the time. We have to wear too many hats.'
  - 7.1.3. 'A focused outreach team.'
  - 7.1.4. 'At present I feel that children's centre workers are spread too thinly and there should be more specific roles.'
  - 7.1.5. 'More specific roles for children's centre workers, for example family support workers and community engagement workers.'
8. Most staff believe that the data they receive is useful in helping them to carry out their role effectively.
- 8.1. However, data provided by the LA are not always provided in a timely manner to children's centres. Sometimes this data is not analysed sufficiently well or explained to staff so they can use it to inform development plans and to target services to those most in need.
  - 8.2. Targets which are set by the authority and centre managers are often based on registrations and do not include engagement targets. It is important to focus on both.
  - 8.3. Centre based development targets are not always specific enough – i.e. not broken down to Super Output Areas or taking into account narrowing the gap in outcomes between different groups. Data is not always provided to centres at SOA level, even when it is available. For example, EYFS NI72.
  - 8.4. Staff and stakeholders views confirm the judgements made in a number of inspections of children's centres. Ofsted recommendations include:
    - 8.4.1. 'Improve the analysis and quality of information gathered at centre level' – Firswood.
    - 8.4.2. 'Make more effective collection and use of data to identify gaps, plan provision and evaluate its impact on outcomes for users' – Stretford.
    - 8.4.3. 'Introduce rigour into the way in which the centre evaluates the impact of its work on improving the outcomes for children and families' – Flixton and Woodsend.

8.4.4. 'Continue, with the support of the council, to develop ways of evaluating the impact of the services provided' – Broomwood and Timperley.

## The effectiveness of leadership, governance and management

9. There is no consistent approach to evidencing the impact of services and staff and different centres have therefore developed several approaches to measuring the impact of the services they deliver. Without this evidence and robust tracking it is more difficult for advisory boards to support and challenge leadership and management.

9.1. Staff generally support this view, for example: 'There is an incredible amount of data but it is often conflicting and is distributed at different times, in different formats with a lack of analysis. This poses problems for centres and their boards in understanding and using the data to plan more effectively and also impacts on the performance management processes in place (e.g. quarterly reviews). It is important to note that some data which is essential cannot currently be accessed (e.g. referrals from live births for automatic registration).'

9.2. Another member of staff, attending a review workshop stated:

*Different places of recording information / different systems in place. People work in a variety of ways which may show difficult when people work across centres.*

10. Recommendations from Ofsted inspections include:

10.1. 'Strengthen self evaluation by:

10.1.1. developing further strategies to evaluate and demonstrate impact;  
and

10.1.2. with the local authority, improve information and data which demonstrates the proportions of relevant groups in touch with the centre and those who are not currently accessing the centres services.'

10.2. 'Strengthen the role of the advisory board in providing support to the centre and guiding its improvement planning' – Woodsend.

10.3. 'Develop the work of the advisory board so that they are able to provide more challenge to the centre by setting more specific and realistic targets for improvement' – Broomwood and Timperley.

11. Findings of the review support these Ofsted recommendations. There is significant duplication in the work of current advisory boards and leadership and management activity including the production of development plans and self evaluation documentation. Staff views support this approach:

• Amalgamate centres so only need 1 SEF / improvement etc. parents forum / advisory board.

12. Governance would be improved by:

12.1. Amalgamating self-evaluation documents and development plans to avoid duplication, particularly if centres are closely linked by management or geography for example.

12.2. Quality assuring the work of children's centres in a more robust way. Strengthening structures so that the quality assurance function becomes an independent performance improvement function, or an internal 'at arm's length' function.

12.3. Providing effective supervision for all staff, particularly those delivering front line services, and setting individual targets linked to development plans.

12.4. Providing 'data packs' to children's centres on a quarterly or six monthly basis and supporting children's centres to analyse these well.

12.5. Providing staff training to ensure that all staff become skilled in quality assurance, measuring impact and self-evaluation.

## Closing remarks

The review team would like to thank all those parents, staff and stakeholders who took part in this review.

We had a wealth of evidence available to us and through a process of synthesis and triangulation we have identified the key things that we believe will help make the biggest difference to the lives of vulnerable children and families. We have listened to many people and looked at evidence from around England about outstanding practice. Our recommendations are therefore founded on evidence of what works well.

Remaining focused on improving the lives of the most vulnerable – those that are often 'hidden' in the overwhelmingly positive picture in Trafford – is the most important thing that we can all do going forwards.

We recognise that there are significant changes ahead in Trafford and wish you well over the coming months.

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## TRAFFORD COUNCIL

**Report to:** Scrutiny Committee  
**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013  
**Report for:** Decision  
**Report of:** Executive Member for Children and Families

### 1.0 Report Title

Response to scrutiny call in of the Executive decision of 4/3/13 in relation to

#### **RECONFIGURATION OF TRAFFORD CHILDREN CENTRES: POST CONSULTATION FEEDBACK ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### 2.0 Background

The original proposal consulted upon was to reconfigure the 16 Children Centres to become 6 Children Centre Hubs that are aligned with the Area Family Support Teams (AFST's) and to be located as follows:

- Lostock and Old Trafford Hubs (North Area)
- Partington and Urmston Hubs (West Area)
- Altrincham and Sale Hubs (South Area)

The Executive decision on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013 was informed by a comprehensive analysis of the feedback received from the public consultation held from 22nd October 2012 until 14th January 2013.

The key rationale for the proposed change to the existing children centre service model is to shift the emphasis towards prevention, early help and early intervention service model, which will be achieved through strengthening multi-agency working to safeguard children and young people so as they can achieve the best life outcomes.

The findings from the review of children centres which began in August 2012 and completed in Dec 2012, also reinforced the need for children centres to change the way they delivered services, and the need to develop family outreach services working with the integrated AFSTs to support those children and families who are in the greatest need and thus the most vulnerable.

There was no adverse written feedback from the consultation to suggest that the essence of the original proposal to provide a more targeted service to those children and families who are most vulnerable and who are in greatest need was unsupported.

There was however, significant feedback presented that required further examination of the proposals in respect to the reduction in the number of children centres and the location of the proposed Hubs; this resulted in a change to the original proposals to move one of the North hubs from Lostock to Stretford and to create an additional two new Child and Family Community Outreach (CFCO) bases as follows:

- **Stretford** and Old Trafford Hubs and **Leithwaite (CFCO)** (North Area)
- Partington and Urmston Hubs (West Area)
- Altrincham and Sale Hubs and **Sale Moor (CFCO)** (South Area)

### 3.0 Council Decision

The Council Executive approved the following recommendations:

1. To approve the proposal to reconfigure 16 Children Centres to 6 Hubs that align with the North, West and South Area Family Support Teams
2. To approve the revision of the identified Hub for the North Area in the original proposal from Lostock Children's Centre (Leithwaite) to Stretford Children's Centre
3. To approve Sale Moor and Lostock (Leithwaite) Children Centres to remain open on a sessional basis as Child and Family Community Outreach (CFCO) bases.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Mrs Deborah Brownlee, Corporate Director Children, Young People and Families

Extension: 4676

Relationship to Policy Framework/Corporate Priorities	See previous paper (4 <sup>th</sup> March 2013 –Executive Members)
Financial	See previous paper (4 <sup>th</sup> March 2013 –Executive Members)
Legal Implications:	See previous paper (4 <sup>th</sup> March 2013 –Executive Members)
Equality/Diversity Implications	See previous paper (4 <sup>th</sup> March 2013 –Executive Members)
Sustainability Implications	See previous paper (4 <sup>th</sup> March 2013 –Executive Members)
Staffing/E-Government/Asset	See previous paper (4 <sup>th</sup> March 2013 –Executive Members)
Management Implications	See previous paper (4 <sup>th</sup> March 2013 –Executive Members)
Risk Management Implications	See previous paper (4 <sup>th</sup> March 2013 –Executive Members)
Health and Safety Implications	See previous paper (4 <sup>th</sup> March 2013 –Executive Members)

## 4. REASONS FOR CALL-IN:

### 4.1. INACCURATE INFORMATION

a) The report on page one suggests that 'consultation written responses do not indicate a strong objection to the proposal to refocus resources'; this claim is repeated again on p33, 7.3. This suggests support for the proposals, however

**73% of respondents opposed the proposals and the written submissions list a lot of concerns which are not reflected on in the Executive Summary.**

### **Response**

The above quote is taken out of context as the full paragraph reads:

*“The consultation written responses do not indicate a strong objection to the proposal to refocus resources to deliver services to those children and families who are the most vulnerable and in greatest need; There was however, significant feedback presented that required further examination of the proposals in respect to the number and location of the 6 proposed Hubs and the development of the Outreach provision.”*

This therefore clarifies that the principle that underpins the redesign was not objected to however, the number and location of the centres did receive significant negative feedback, and this informed changes to the original proposals, namely changing the Hub from Lostock to Stretford and creating two children and family community outreach bases at Leithwaite and Sale Moor.

All of the feedback analysis was provided to executive members in detail in Appendix A and was considered before any decisions were taken.

- b ) Pages 3 and 9 of the report list perceived weaknesses identified in the early stages of the Children’s Centre review, however this information has to be treated with caution as page 81 of the report highlights that attendance is not always recorded, which will distort the data.**

### **Response**

We acknowledge that the Review of the Children’s Centres report highlighted some under reporting of attendance, however the percentage reach to key vulnerable groups is so low that even accounting for an element of under recording would not change the fundamental need to radically improve engagement of these groups.

- c) The report starts by identifying ‘the need for Children Centre functions to shift towards an outreach family support model’ and suggests ‘the number of families registered with Children Centres were not necessarily engaging with the Centres’. However, this seems contrary to the rationale used to support the retention of a base in Sale Moor (p6-‘Sale Moor has very low engagement figures’).**

### **Response**

The two points are not contradictory. The new service model is based on a hub and spoke approach with outreach activity as a key way of reaching those who do not engage.

The retention of Sale Moor as a part time Child and Family Community Outreach base was identified as this is an area of low engagement where a significant amount of outreach activity will need to be developed. All the areas across the South were considered and the selection of Sale Moor is coherent with the overall model.

- d) **Parents have raised concerns about the suitability of some of the venues listed as community venues available to provide services. Parents have advised that some of the venues have already been rejected due to the expense of hire. This was not made clear before the Executive took their decision.**

### **Response**

**Appendix D of the report to executive members made it clear that the list of venues are** only an example of available venues in each area, and states clearly that some of the listed venues could be used in the future for activities but only if and when they have been checked for safety and suitability.

## **4.2. INADEQUATE CONSULTATION**

- a) **Pages 14-16 of the report highlight a number of concerns with the consultation process. Parents registered with Children's Centres were reporting to the Council as late as December that they had not received consultation information by email/post. Parents reported that forms were not promoted at the Children's Centres which is obviously a main access point for service users. Though the Council did produce an easy read version of the form, this does not address how parents struggling with literacy would be able to participate in the consultation with confidence.**

**The consultation period effectively lost two weeks over the Christmas period, requests were made by parents and councillors to extend the consultation period, which were refused.**

**The Executive did not pay due regard to the concerns raised about the consultation period when taking this decision.**

### **Response**

Section 2 of Appendix A of the report to Executive members details all of the concerns raised by the public regarding the process and provides a detailed response to each point. This information was available to, and considered by, the Executive in reaching their decision.

During the consultation period any concerns expressed about the process were responded to speedily and appropriately, for example additional meetings were called and an easy read explanation of statutory duties was produced and distributed. This is all detailed in Section 2 of Appendix A that was available to members when they took their decision on 4/3/13. Due to the volume and the breadth of the feedback received during the consultation, it is our judgement that the consultation was robust and valid.

#### **4.3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS WERE NOT GIVEN SUFFICIENT CONSIDERATION**

- a) **The report is framed to suggest that the changes proposed were triggered by the early findings of the Children's Centre review. This contrasts with the report presented to the Executive at the special meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2012, where the proposal is listed under the heading 'CYPS Savings Proposals'. It is therefore unclear whether the changes are being driven by a massive, £1.7m, reduction of the budget or the outcome of the children's centre review.**

##### **Response**

The proposal clearly form part of the budget proposals and are therefore designed to contribute to the significant savings target across the whole Local Authority.

A combination of the budget proposals and the early emerging findings from the review of the children centres informed the development of the redesign of service model.

The Children's Centre Review however has enabled us to develop proposals that whilst meeting the challenging financial targets also allow us to focus (as identified as guiding principles in the Councils Vision 2015 document and original budget proposals) on the most vulnerable.

- b) **With this being the case, the report does not demonstrate why the status quo would not address the issue of engaging those who are in greatest need. Page 4 of the report under the heading 'Other Options' indicates insufficient work carried out when considering alternatives, with three short paragraphs being devoted to this section within an 86 page report.**

##### **Response**

The three paragraphs on page 4 are a summary of Section 6 of Appendix A, which is a five page review of alternative proposals with detailed responses to all alternative suggestions considered. Executive members had this report available to them to inform their decision on 4<sup>th</sup> march 2013.

#### **4.4. INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE**

- a) **Page 2 of the report (Executive Summary) refers to the completion of EIA's for both service and staff, stating that both are attached to the report. The Service EIA, which identifies medium risks is included in the report, however the staff EIA, which identifies high risks, has not been included. This is key information not available to the Executive when they took the decision to approve the report's recommendations.**

##### **Response**

We acknowledge that page two of the report refers to both the service and staffing EIA's despite the fact that only the service EIA was included as an Appendix. This was a drafting error as only the Service EIA's are part of the budget decision making process. The staff EIA's are not public documents as they contain personal information and should not have been referred to in the report. This is the agreed approach across all Local Authority budget decisions

The report does contain information as to the likely numbers of staff who could be affected by the decisions. Statutory consultation is being conducted with the staff concerned and the EIA will be relevant to the decisions which will be made following the conclusion of that consultation process.

- b) A number of councillors have referred to services not being affected by the proposals; one example cited being the impact in Timperley following the closure of Broomwood Children's Centre. However, the Council's response to consultation suggests that this rests on recruiting more volunteers. The report does not make it clear that some services will not be able to continue without the support of volunteers and therefore requires further scrutiny.**

### **Response**

Page 3 of the Executive report provided to members to support their decision on 4/3/13 details the precise scale of the staff reductions.

The original consultation report (published in October 2012) makes it clear that we are proposing a fundamental redesign of the services offered and the consultation responses (see Section 5 of Appendix A) review in detail what parents consider should be the priority services in the future. There is no claim in the report that services will not be reduced, the report consistently references the need to shift the emphasis towards targeting services at those children and families who are most vulnerable and in greatest need.

Section 7 of Appendix A makes it clear that services need to be refocused in order to free up resources to enable the focus on the most vulnerable.

There is reference in Appendix A to the importance of our volunteering strategy to ensure continuity and sustainability of services. We value the volunteer support that is currently in place and will encourage further volunteer support in the future.

**STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISION**

<u>DATE OF DECISION</u>	4th March 2013	<u>DECISION MAKER</u>
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	E/4.03.13-5	<b>Executive</b> (Councillors Anstee, Dr. Barclay, Miss Blackburn, Colledge, Cornes, Coupe, Hyman, Mitchell, Williams and M. Young)
<u>RECORD OF THE DECISION</u>		
<p><u>Reconfiguration of Trafford Children Centres: Post Consultation Feedback Analysis and Recommendations</u></p> <p>That approval be given to the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To approve the proposal to reconfigure 16 Children Centres to 6 Hubs that align with the North, West and South Area Family Support Teams.</li> <li>2. To approve the revision of the identified Hub for the North Area in the original proposal from Lostock Childrens Centre (Leithwaite) to Stretford Childrens Centre.</li> <li>3. To approve Sale Moor and Lostock (Leithwaite) Children Centres to remain open on a sessional basis as Child and Family Community Outreach (CFCO) bases.</li> <li>4. To review the workforce to deliver the Hub and family outreach support service model.</li> <li>5. To review the commissioning plan for external services, including renegotiating a reduced contribution to Bookstart.</li> <li>6. To extend the age range to support children and young people aged 0-19years and the opening times of the Hubs.</li> <li>7. To change the Hub opening times from 8.30am to 4.00pm (weekdays) and the family outreach support service to be provided 8.00am to 6.00pm (weekdays, but evenings and weekends subject to service user needs).</li> </ol>		
<u>REASONS FOR THE DECISION</u>		
A detailed rationale for the decisions now taken is set out at pp. 5-6 of the report.		
<u>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS</u>		
Status quo; whole systems change including the closure of all Children Centres, and charging for the service.		
<u>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION</u>		
None.		

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE**  
**18<sup>th</sup> March 2013.** (Sixth working day after publication, unless called in.)

**PUBLICATION DATE**  
 8th March 2013

**RECORDED BY:**  
 Acting Director of Legal & Democratic Services

**RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES DIVISION, 6<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, QUAY WEST, TRAFFORD WHARF ROAD, TRAFFORD PARK, M17 1HH, AS SOON AS A DECISION IS MADE OR AS REASONABLY PRACTICABLE THEREAFTER.**

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**REQUEST FOR CALL IN OF AN EXECUTIVE DECISION**

**ON COMPLETION BY CALL-IN MEMBERS THIS PROFORMA SHOULD BE FORWARDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE DIRECTLY TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES (Floor 6, QW) FOR RECORDING AND REFERRAL TO THE CHAIRMAN OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**[N.B. NO EXECUTIVE DECISION MAY BE CALLED IN PRIOR TO PUBLICATION]**

**TO: CHAIRMAN OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**From: COUNCILLORS: Adshead, Cordingley, Duffield, Lloyd, D. Western**

**Date: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

- [Notes: (1) Only Overview & Scrutiny Councillors are entitled to request call-in of a decision.  
 (2) The Chairman or, where appropriate, the Vice-Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee can be asked by any 3 Overview & Scrutiny Members to exercise the right to request that the Chief Executive call in a decision.  
 (3) The Chairman can exercise the right to request call in of a decision under his / her own authority.]

<b>EXECUTIVE DECISION TO BE CALLED IN: (Title &amp; Ref. No.)</b> Reconfiguration of Trafford Children Centres: Post Consultation Feedback Analysis and Recommendations E/4.03.13-5	
<b>DECISION TAKER:</b> Executive (Councillors Anstee, Dr. Barclay, Miss Blackburn, Colledge, Cornes, Coupe, Hyman, Mitchell, Williams and M. Young)	<b>DATE OF MEETING / DECISION</b> Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
<b>Decision:</b> To approve the reconfiguration of Trafford's Children Centres	
<b>Criteria checklist (MUST be specified):</b> ✓	
a) Inaccurate information of a substantial nature given to decision taker	✓
b) Inadequate consultation was carried out	✓
c) Alternative options were not given sufficient consideration	✓
d) Insufficient information was available	✓

**Reasons for call-in:**

### **INACCURATE INFORMATION**

The report on page one suggests that 'consultation written responses do not indicate a strong objection to the proposal to refocus resources', this claim is repeated again on p33, 7.3. This suggests support for the proposals, however 73% of respondents opposed the proposals and the written submissions list a lot of concerns which are not reflected on in the Executive Summary.

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The report starts by identifying 'the need for Children Centre functions to shift towards an outreach family support model' and suggests 'the number of families registered with Children Centres were not necessarily engaging with the Centres'. However, this seems contrary to the rationale used to support the retention of a base in Sale Moor (p6-'Sale Moor has very low engagement figures').

Parents have raised concerns about the suitability of some of the venues listed as community venues available to provide services. Parents have advised that some of the venues have already been rejected due to the expense of hire. This was not made clear before the Executive took their decision.

### **INADEQUATE CONSULTATION**

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The consultation period effectively lost two weeks over the Christmas period, requests were made by parents and councillors to extend the consultation period, which were refused.

The Executive did not pay due regard to the concerns raised about the consultation period when taking this decision.



## **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS WERE NOT GIVEN SUFFICIENT CONSIDERATION**

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## **INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE**

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A number of councillors have referred to services not being affected by the proposals; one example cited being the impact in Timperley following the closure of Broomwood Children's Centre. However, the Council's response to consultation suggests that this rests on recruiting more volunteers. The report does not make it clear that some services will not be able to continue without the support of volunteers and therefore requires further scrutiny.

**PLEASE NOW FORWARD THIS PROFORMA DIRECTLY TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES (FLOOR 6, QW) FOR RECORDING AND REFERRAL TO THE CHAIRMAN OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

I accept / do not accept\* that one or more of the above criteria is met in relation to this decision. The criteria accepted, from those specified in the call-in request, are: \_\_\_\_\_. I therefore request that the Chief Executive calls in this matter for consideration by the \_\_\_\_\_ Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman, Scrutiny Committee

Date \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE NOW FORWARD THIS PROFORMA DIRECTLY TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES  
(FLOOR 6, QW) FOR RECORDING AND REFERRAL TO THE CHAIRMAN OF SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE

I accept / ~~do not accept~~ that one or more of the above criteria is met in relation to this decision. The criteria accepted, from those specified in the call-in request, are:

Inaccurate Information

Insufficient Information was available

I therefore request that the Chief Executive calls in this matter for consideration by the Scrutiny Committee.

Signed B Shaw.

Chairman, Scrutiny Committee

Date 15/3/13

\* I have not upheld this call-in request for the following reasons:

Any additional comments from the Chairman:

[Note for the Chairman: On completion, please forward this form to Democratic Services (Floor 6, QW) for immediate attention.]

Last Updated 05.03.13