

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 (2nd Floor, TTH) 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: Cordingley, Carter, D Western, Dagnall, Lloyd

Date: 26th February 2016

- [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.]

EXECUTIVE DECISION TO BE CALLED IN: (Title & Ref. No.) Review of in-house children's homes E/22.02.16/6	
DECISION TAKER: Executive	DATE OF MEETING / DECISION 22 02 2016
Decision: 1. That the closure of Fairview Children's Home from April 2016 be approved. 2. That approval be given to the recommendation not to proceed with the establishment of a new 3 bed Children's Home at Flixton Road as previously agreed in December 2014.	
Criteria checklist (MUST be specified): ✓	
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: The report put to the executive on 22nd February was insufficient in detail to allow for decision to be made.	

Testing the external market.

Within the report there was reference to the practice of other authorities and their reliance on the external market. However there was no evidence put forward as to the robustness of the external market as applicable to Trafford (other than reference below to an ongoing piece of market-testing). No assurance was given that there was sufficient capacity within the Trafford authority area, nearby or far away, and therefore no risk assessment of such distances . The line quoted below did not give anything like the robustness or level of detail we would have expected.

“We are also undertaking a substantial piece of work with the external market to ensure ongoing sufficiency of placements for young people with similar needs.”

Evidence of demand

Information was given as to the current take-up of places, but we would have expected to see figures showing take-up over a longer period. The position in December 2014 was that Trafford considered that the capacity was needed. Officers have not put forward any data suggesting demand has gone down but have highlighted that there is currently unused capacity. Is this typical, and has it been factored into the business case? At what point in terms of take-up does it become financially prudent to provide our own accommodation. We have not seen evidence of this analysis.

Alternative use of Fairview for Respite ‘Edge of Care’ Support

At 3.1 ‘The Steering Group for Keeping Families Together have identified the value of having a respite offer but are proposing to use the Specialist in-house Fostering Provision known as Me2 for this provision.’ There is no explanation offered for this proposal or context to the consideration. We are not given any information in the report as to capacity.


Savings

The savings quoted of £551,140 per annum are based on the running cost of Fairview but assume that there will not be costs from external providers with the loss of this capacity.

Impact on staff

There is a lack detail in the information relating to staff. The report does not actually say how many staff are affected.

PLEASE NOW FORWARD THIS PROFORMA DIRECTLY TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES (2ND FLOOR, TTH) FOR RECORDING AND REFERRAL TO THE CHAIRMAN OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<p>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: <u> D </u>. I therefore request that the Chief Executive calls in this matter for consideration by the Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>Signed <u></u> Chairman, Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>Date <u>27/2/16</u></p>
<p>* I have not upheld this call-in request for the following reasons:</p>
<p>Any additional comments from the Chairman:</p>
<p>[Note for the Chairman: On completion, please forward this form to Democratic Services (2nd Floor, TTH) for immediate attention.]</p>