

Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Families - Tuesday, 10 August 2010

Statement of Decision

Present:

Leader: Councillor Keith R. Mitchell CBE (in place of the Cabinet member for Children, Young People & Families, Councillor Louise Chapman)

Officers: Meera Spillett, Director for Children, Young People & Families
 Annie Davy – Strategic Lead Early Years
 Sue whitehead (Democratic Services)

Apologies and Temporary Appointments for Absence

An apology was received from Councillor Louise Chapman (Councillor Keith Mitchell, CBE substituting)

Petitions and Public Address

The following request to address the meeting had been agreed: Mr N Grady, School's Forum elected representative for Oxfordshire's PVI Providers

Early Years Free Entitlement - Revised Provider Agreement

Documentation considered:

Report Early Years Free Entitlement - Revised Provider Agreement

A copy is attached to the signed copy of this decision.

Summary of representations in person

Mr Grady, as a representative for Oxfordshire's PVI providers spoke against the provider agreement which it was felt by providers would not deliver the high quality of child care purported. Providers believed that there was a shortfall between the funding provided and the level of quality required and that providers were being asked to subsidise this difference. He requested that the agreement be redrafted to make it clear that this was the case.

Mr Grady added that some voluntary organisation would find themselves in debt as a result of the agreement and that the Council might find itself with a shortfall of provision.

Leader Comments

The Leader responding to the comments made stated that it was not possible to amend the agreement as suggested but that Mr Grady's comments would be recorded as part of the minute of the meeting.

Meera Spillett added that the position was challenging and that steps had been taken to inform and consult the Schools Forum and interested parties on schools funding and the people premium. There was to be a single funding stream from April 2011. There would be further opportunities for ongoing discussion as the process continued.

Decision

Having regard to the arguments and options set out in the documentation before me, the representations made to me and the further considerations set out above, I confirm my decisions on this matter as follows:

to approve the revised Provider Agreement as attached at Annex 1 and to delegate to the Director for Children, Young People & Families decisions on any future amendments of an operational nature which may be needed

Signed
Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Families

Date