

**CABINET MEMBER FOR SAFEGUARDING AND
DEVELOPING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN
22nd September, 2010**

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair); Councillors Havenhand and Currie.

**D59. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 8TH SEPTEMBER,
2010**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th September, 2010 be approved as a correct record.

**D60. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES
TRUST BOARD HELD ON 8TH SEPTEMBER, 2010**

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Children and Young People's Trust Board, held on 8th September, 2010, be noted.

D61. 14 - 19 LEARNING PLAN 2010 TO 2015

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Learning Services Co-ordinator detailing the progress in developing a new Rotherham 14-19 (up to 25 for young people with Learning Difficulties and/ or Disabilities) Learning Plan for 2010-2015, as a response to the 'Raising Expectations: Enabling the System to Deliver' White Paper (2008) and the Apprenticeship, Skills and Learning Act 2009.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That a re-draft of the 14-19 (25) Learning Plan, which will take account of the announcement by the Secretary of State for Education on 20 July 2010, be endorsed.

(3) That Cabinet be informed that the 14-19 (25) Learning Plan will not be submitted to Elected Members for consideration, as it will no longer be a key decision from September, 2010.

(4) That the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee be informed that the Borough Council is no longer required to commission 16-19 (25) provision and will therefore not be producing a Commissioning Statement requiring scrutiny in October, 2010.

D62. BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services stating that, on 5th July, 2010, the Department for Education ceased the Building Schools for the Future Programme. For Rotherham this ended the plans for new secondary and special schools for 20,000 young people as well as a 'state of the art' ICT infrastructure. Subsequently, the Secretary of State for Education has confirmed there will be capital spend on school projects dependent on the results of a Capital Review, whose findings should be known in December 2010. Discussion took place on the possible implications of the Capital Review for the Maltby Academy campus and premises.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the Council expresses its profound dismay at the cessation of the Building Schools for the Future Programme.

(3) That the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services submit a further report on the results of the Government's Capital Review process, to a meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Safeguarding and Developing Learning Opportunities for Children in December, 2010 or January, 2011.

D63. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING 2010/ 2011

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Finance manager stating that the Children and Young People's Services' Capital Programme 2010/ 2011 is £20,769,000. The capital programme is forecast to be fully spent by 31st March, 2011. This submitted report shows the capital programme's actual expenditure to 31st July, 2010 and projected expenditure to 31st March, 2011.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That it be noted that:-

(a) the Children and Young People's Services' Capital Programme for 2010/ 11 is £20,769,000, with expenditure to 31st July, 2010 totalling £4,804,000; and

(b) the Capital Programme is expected to spend to budget by 31st March, 2011.

D64. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended (information relating to financial or business affairs of both the Local Authority and private sector contractors).

D65. ORCHARD CHILDREN'S CENTRE - CONTRACT FOR WORK TO CHERRY TREE HOUSE GARDEN

Further to Minute No. D114 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 20th January, 2010, consideration was given to a report presented by the Orchard Centre Resource Manager concerning the initiative to redevelop the garden area within the Cherry Tree House unit of the Orchard Children's Centre.

As the specialist providers in the design and commissioning of play areas and interactive centres Groundwork Dearne Valley were commissioned to provide project designs based on the service users specifications. The designs were reported previously and the current report included an appraisal of the tenders received for the construction contract.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That consideration of this matter be deferred pending receipt of a further report concerning additional, detailed analysis of the submitted tenders.

D66. GOODWIN CRESCENT CHILDREN'S HOME, SWINTON - PROPOSED CLOSURE

Further to Minute No. D138(4) of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 10th March, 2010, consideration was given to a report presented by the Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting concerning the condition of the Children's Home premises at Goodwin Crescent, Swinton. The report stated that the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) had expressed concerns about the suitability of this Children's Home and, accordingly, Elected Members were being asked to consider a proposal to close the premises.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the Cabinet be requested to:-

- (a) approve the closure of the Children's Homes premises at Goodwin Crescent, Swinton by 31st March, 2011;
- (b) approve the necessary process of consultation involving residents, staff and other interested parties affected by the proposed closure of these premises; and
- (c) consider the future use or disposal of the land and premises.