

Education, Children and Families Committee

10am, Tuesday, 6 October 2015

Review and Redesign affordable childcare support to children and young people with disabilities in mainstream childcare settings

Item number 8.5
Report number
Executive/routine
Wards

Executive summary

This report outlines plans for the review and redesign of the service which supports the inclusion of children and young people (0- 18yrs) with disabilities in mainstream childcare settings whilst their parent/carer is in work, training or education. It is proposed that a new commissioned service will be in place by 1 April 2017.

Links

Coalition pledges [P1](#)
Council outcomes [CO1 – CO4 and CO6](#)
Single Outcome Agreement [SO3](#)

Review and Redesign affordable childcare support to children and young People with disabilities in mainstream childcare settings

Recommendations

- 1.1 Note that a consultation/commissioning process will be carried out with stakeholders to design a new specification for the delivery of this service.
- 1.2 Note that a request will be made to Finance and Resources Committee for a waiver from Contract Standing Orders to maintain current funding arrangements until 31 March 2017. This will ensure continuity of service and to give sufficient time to complete the commissioning process.

Background

- 2.1 City of Edinburgh Council has a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Capability Scotland to deliver this service which is known as Edinburgh Childcare 4 All (E4ALL). The SLA ends 31 March 2016.
- 2.2 EC4ALL allocate Inclusion grants to childcare providers who are assessed as requiring additional staff to support a child or young person's inclusion in their setting. Funding is also used for staff training and to purchase resources to enable the child or young person to participate more fully.
- 2.3 The service also uses an increasing capacity reducing dependency model which supports childcare providers to sustain a child's or young person's place in the setting without the need for long term adult intervention. This means that funding can be used to support more children and young people with disabilities in a greater number of mainstream childcare settings.
- 2.4 The current annual budget for this service is £200,169.

Main report

- 3.1 The delivery of increasingly flexible services to meet the changing needs of children and families is a key aim within The Early Years Strategy and Action Plan 2010.

- 3.2 We want to continue to support the inclusion of children and young people with disabilities in mainstream childcare settings and be able to respond to ongoing demands for this service whilst delivering best value for the City of Edinburgh Council. By using a co-production approach we want to review and redesign the service currently commissioned through its annual Service Level Agreement with Capability Scotland.
- 3.3 The views of stakeholders will be important in shaping a future service which will support parent/carer's accessibility to mainstream childcare for children and young people with disabilities

Measures of success

- 4.1 A new Service Specification will be agreed and a provider in place by 1 April 2017.

Financial impact

- 5.1 The current annual budget is £200,169 which ends 31 March 2016.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 As current funding for this service ends 31st March 2016 there is a risk that this service will cease
- 6.2 We are seeking approval to waive Contract Standing Orders to maintain current funding arrangements until 31 March 2017.

Equalities impact

- 7.1 Ongoing monitoring of this service shows that children and young people with disabilities are being supported in mainstream childcare settings in a meaningful and long term way.
- 7.2 Successful inclusion of children and young people in mainstream childcare settings has resulted in parents being able to continue in work, training and education.

Sustainability impact

- 8.1 The duties of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 have been considered in respect of this report. Implementation of the redesign does not contradict our duties as a public body under this legislation.

Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 A co-production approach will be used to deliver the redesigned specifications of the service.

Background reading/external references

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Links

Coalition pledges	P1 - Increase support for vulnerable children, including help for families so that fewer go into care
Council outcomes	C01 - Our children have the best start in life, are able to make and sustain relationships and are ready to succeed CO2 Our children and young people are successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens making a positive contribution to their communities CO3 Our children and young people at risk, or with a disability, have improved life chances C04 Our children and young people are physically and emotionally healthy CO6 Our children's and young people's outcomes are not undermined by poverty and inequality
Single Outcome Agreement	SO3 Edinburgh's children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential
Appendices	