

CABINET MEMBER DECISION

Decision:

Early Years and Childcare Service - authorisation of Capital Funding

(i) Details of decision

That the provision of early learning resources to settings across Surrey at a cost of £210,000 be approved.

(ii) Reasons for decision

In order to meet the statutory duty of building sufficient places for two year old children entitled to access Free Early Education, the Early Years and Childcare Service (EYCS) is working with providers across Surrey.

The aim of the service is to encourage providers to offer places to FEET children, ensuring they have resources which promote a quality early learning environment.

EYCS has managed to grow the market to 1100 places without any capital investment as there is already some capacity to pick up these two year olds, combined with some direct work provided by EYCS. EYCS is now at the point where further incentives are required to build capacity to 3000 places by September 2014. The gap in provision is 1,900 places and investment in the market is needed in order to bridge the gap.

By investing £630 with 340 settings, each provider will commit to providing places for two year olds so that the target of 3000 places can be achieved. This represents good value as there is an investment of £630 per setting with the potential to achieve between five and six places per setting.

The equipment that is being purchased is of the highest quality and providers will undertake a specific training programme regarding providing a high quality environment for two year olds before they are allocated any resources.

(iii) Details of any alternative options considered and rejected

None.

(iv) Details of any consultation and representations received not included in the published report

None.

Conflicts of Interest and any Dispensations Granted

(Any conflict of interest declared by any other Cabinet Member consulted in relation to the decision to be recorded and any dispensations granted by the Audit and Governance Committee)

None.

Decision taken by:

(i) Name: Linda Kemeny

(ii) **Portfolio:** Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning Decisions

Date of Decision: 03 December 2013

Date of Publication of Record of Decision: 3 December 2013

Date decision effective (i.e. 5 working days after date of publication of record of decision unless subject to call-in by the Children and Education Select Committee):
11 December 2013