

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

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|------------------------------------|---|
| Reference Number: | 1857 |
| Author: | Simone Ellis |
| Department: | Children and Families |
| Contact: | Simone Ellis (Job Title: Family support manager, Email: simone.ellis@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158761890) |
| Subject: | To create dedicated classroom spaces in Basford Children's Centre whilst continuing a Children's Centre hub |
| Total Value: | £57,000 savings (Type: Revenue) |
| Decision Being Taken: | To enter into an agreement with Whitemoor Academy to enable them to use the building to create additional school places, within the existing centre space to improve child and family health and life chances. Family Support and Health services will continue to be delivered from the building with additional groups and services being delivered from other community buildings such as libraries and Community Centres so maintaining the current Children's Centre service provision |
| Reasons for the Decision(s) | <p>More classroom space is urgently needed to teach local children in Basford to meet community need of 25 children not in Education and missed the first year. This proposal will make more effective use of the building whilst making savings for the City Council. The Academy will enter into a lease agreement and be responsible for the running costs of the building resulting in a saving for the city council of approximately £57k</p> <p>We need to be able to use our resources more flexibly to effectively target families and provide services that can meet the changing needs; this proposal will enable us to make better use of our staff resource and allow us to be more visible within the community whilst continuing to address what has been identified as an area of need.</p> <p>Front line services and staffing have not been affected based on the decision. Consultation was undertaken with partners, including health, police, community groups, board members as well as with citizens during July and August 2014.</p> |
| Briefing notes documents: | Basford Children's Centre Consultation - DDM Consultation.pdf |
| Other Options Considered: | The option to use the building to deliver the 2 yr old Early Learning Programme. This option was rejected because the Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) sector could meet this need whilst capacity in School could not increase without the additional space. |

Background Papers:

Published Works:

Article in the Nottingham Evening Post with a link to the public consultation in July 2014.

Affected Wards:

Basford

Colleague / Councillor Interests:

Exempt Information:

An appendix (or appendices) to this decision is exempt from publication under the following paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

5 - Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

In all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because the information sets out the legal risks inherent in the course of action proposed here, which the Portfolio Holder is arguably entitled to consider without Nottingham City Council's position being affected simply by the consideration of those risks.

Documents exempt from publication:

2015-01-29 exempt legal obs.pdf

Consultations:

Date: 13/02/2015
Ward Councillors: Cat Arnold, Alex Norris, Bill Ottewell
Agreed by Cllrs Arnold and Norris 1st July 2014 Agreed by Cllr Ottewell 13th February 2015

Date: 31/07/2014
Other: Public Consultation
Section 5D of the childcare act 2006 places a duty on local authorities to ensure there is consultation before any significant changes are made to children's centre provision in their area. See background papers for outcomes.

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

No implications expected. Basford Children's centre will continue to offer full core offer of services. More outreach in the area for Children's activities and family support and adult learning will be provided

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: No significant changes to Children's Centre service delivery.

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

Yes

Call In Expiry date:

03/03/2015

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance, Human Resources, Other: Chris Read(chris.read@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

Legal Advice:

This advice is exempt from publication and is contained within an exempt appendix

Finance Advice:

It is proposed to enter into an agreement with Whitemoor Academy, which will enable the academy to use Basford Childrens Centre to create additional school places, whilst continuing to deliver Family Support and Health services from the premises.

Under the agreement, Whitemoor Academy will be responsible for the running cost of the property, which will generate estimated annual savings of £57k for the City Council.

These savings will contribute to the Strategic Choice savings relating to Childrens Centres

Steve Lynk - Finance Analyst
0115 8763726
steve.lynk@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

19th December 2014
Advice provided by Stephen Lynk (Finance Analyst) on 19/12/2014.

HR Advice:

After seeking clarity, I have been informed that there are no staffing implications created by this proposal other than the fact that some administrative and managerial staff will be moving location. As staff are already required to work across the locality, this should not create any issues. Existing staff will still be employed by NCC, but the Academy will take on the running costs of the building. Advice provided by Lucy Juby (Service Redesign Consultant) on 01/10/2014.

Other Advice:

Property advises that the 125 year lease with Whitemoor Academy, for the school building now makes provision for a sub lease back to the Council for the area to remain in use by Nottingham City Council as the Children's Centre.

Whitemoor Academy will be responsible for all day-to-day running, repair and maintenance costs in relation to the whole building, but recharge to Nottingham City Council on a proportion basis for the small space relating to the area used by the Children's Centre.

Suitable terms will be agreed with the academy subject to a further Delegated Decision to be agreed by the Director of Strategic Asset and Property Management under delegated powers. Legal Services will be used to draft an appropriate agreement.

To grant delegated authority to the Director of Strategic Asset and Property Management to agree changes, additions or amendments to the terms of the agreement with the Academy as considered appropriate.

Advice provided by Christine Read (Property Business Partner) on 19/01/2015.

Signatures

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| David Mellen (Portfolio Holder for Children's Services) |
| SIGNED and Dated: 23/02/2015 |
| Alison Michalska (Corporate Director for Children and Adults) |
| SIGNED and Dated: 13/02/2015 |

Getting the best from our buildings

Basford Children's Centre Consultation



Nottingham
City Council

Providing activities and support for children and families in Basford is one of the top priorities of Nottingham City Council. But we believe we can use our buildings more effectively. This is especially important because more classroom space is urgently needed to teach local children in Basford.

We want to know what you think. This consultation asks for your views about which services you think are important and which buildings in your community they should be run from.

We're proposing to:

- a) Continue to use the Basford Children's Centre building to provide health and family support services to all Basford families.
- b) Create dedicated classroom space in Basford Children's Centre for Whitemoor Academy to provide additional school places for local children in Basford.
- c) Provide more of our services, such as Adult Learning, Incredible Years programme, Stay & Play sessions , from other buildings in the Basford Area such as the local libraries and community centres.

If the proposal goes ahead we are required by law to technically 'de-register' Basford Children's Centre. We know that this sounds like Basford Children's Centre is closing.

But Children's Centre customers have our guarantee that:

- a) The Children's Centre building will still be used for family health and support services.
- b) Children's Centre activities will still be provided locally in Basford from other community venues.
- c) Only our office and managerial functions will move to Southglade Access Centre and Top Valley Children's Centre.

We want to meet all the needs of Basford children and families through maximising our use of the buildings available locally. Your views are very important in helping us to get this right.

Please take 5 minutes to complete this questionnaire - you could win a Victoria Centre gift voucher to the value of £20 for having your say!

Please note this consultation will close at noon on Monday 1st September.

Q1 How much do you agree / disagree with the proposals?
TICK ONE BOX FOR EACH PROPOSAL

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree or disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
|--|----------------|-------|---------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| To continue to use the Basford Children's Centre building to provide health and family support services to all Basford families. | 58.1% | 29.1% | 6.8% | 3.4% | 2.6% |
| To create dedicated classroom space in Basford Children's Centre for Whitemoor Academy to provide additional school places for local children in Basford. | 44.4% | 31.6% | 7.7% | 4.3% | 12.0% |
| To provide more of our services, such as Adult Learning, Incredible Years programme, Stay & Play sessions, from other buildings in the Basford Area such as the local libraries and community centres. | 51.3% | 29.6% | 7.8% | 7.0% | 4.3% |

Q2 Please explain why you agree / disagree with the proposals.

100.0%

Q3 Part of these proposals would include moving some of the current Basford Children's Centre services into the local community. Which of the following would be your preferred buildings for these services?

TICK ALL THAT APPLY

56.6% Old Basford Community Centre, Bramble Close

71.7% Basford Library, Vernon Road

24.8% Aspley Library, Nuthall Road

29.2% Heathfield Community Centre, Ventnor Rise

Other please tell us

100.0%

Q4 Do you currently use Basford Children's Centre?

51.3% Yes

48.7% No

Q5 Do you use any of the following services at Basford Children's Centre?

TICK ALL THAT APPLY

46.7% Stay and Play

20.0% Family Support

1.7% Childminders' Group

11.7% Adult Learning/ Training

5.0% 1,2,3 Magic Support Group

8.3% None of these

41.7% Midwife

Other, please tell us

100.0%

Q6 Do you currently use any of the following services in Basford community venues?
TICK ALL THAT APPLY

6.1% Baby Birds (Heathfield Community Centre)

27.3% Messy Play (Basford Library)

6.1% Adult Learning/Webster Stratton/123 Magic (Old Basford Community Centre)

66.7% None of these

Other, please tell us

100.0%

Q7 Are there any additional services for children and families you would like to see in Basford?

100.0%

Q8 Do you go to any other Nottingham City Council Children's Centres?

33.6% Yes

66.4% No

Q9 If you do not currently go to any Nottingham City Council Children's Centres (including Basford Children's Centre), why is this?

25.6% I don't know where the Children's Centres are

18.6% There isn't a Children's Centre near where I live

18.6% The Children's Centres aren't open at a convenient time

39.5% I don't know what the Children's Centres offer

9.3% The Children's Centres don't offer what I am looking for

7.0% I don't feel able to discuss my needs with the Children's Centres

Other please tell us

100.0%

Q10 Do you have any other comments or suggestions about the proposals for Basford Children's Centre?

100.0%

ABOUT YOU: Equalities monitoring enables the Council to check that everyone in the city is accessing the services to which they are entitled and that no-one is being unlawfully discriminated against. Information provided will be treated confidentially and in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and only used to ensure that everyone is treated fairly. All questions are voluntary and whether you choose to respond to some, none or all will not make any difference to the service you receive. However, answering as many questions as possible will help us to ensure that our services are fair and accessible to all.

Q11 What is your full home postcode? (e.g. NG2 3NG)

100.0%

Q12 How old is/are your child or children?

(If you have more than one child, please write in all their ages i.e. Child 1 = 6, Child 2 = 11...)

100.0%

Q13 Are you...?

9.3% Male

89.0% Female

1.7% Prefer not to say

Q14 How old are you?

15.4% under 25

8.5% 45-54

1.7% Prefer not to say

51.3% 25-34

4.3% 55-64

18.8% 35-44

0.0% 65 or over

Q15 Do you consider yourself to be disabled, or to have a long-term limiting health condition?

10.3% Yes

86.2% No

3.4% Prefer not to say

Q16 Would you like us to send you further information on any of the following?

PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

31.3% The outcomes of this consultation

10.4% Introduction to Childcare

50.0% Timetable of activities at Basford Children's Centre

7.3% Sleep Tight (Sleep support programme for children)

43.8% Stay and Play Sessions

7.3% Introduction to Beauty

25.0% Paediatric First Aid

10.4% Volunteering

24.0% Support with managing your child's behaviour

10.4% Employment

5.2% Breastfeeding Support

7.3% Money Matters/Budgeting

25.0% None of these

Q17 Please fill in your name and contact details below to receive further information as highlighted in Q16 and to be entered into the FREE prize draw.

Your contact details will only be used for the stated purposes and will not be passed on to anyone else.

Name 100.0%

Telephone number 100.0%

Email / Postal address 100.0%

Thank you for taking the time to have your say on the proposals for Basford Children's centre. For further information about the proposals please contact Simone Ellis on 0115 8761886 or simone.ellis@nottinghamcity.co.uk