

**Recommendations agreed and minuted at the Early Years, Children & Youth Policy, Development & Scrutiny Panel meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

The following recommendations were made:

1. The design and commissioning principles set out in Appendix 4 are adopted and applied to any future model of service delivery
2. That the approach to Play; Specialist Family Support and the Early Years Foundations Stage services are dealt with separately from Children's Centres
3. That any funding reductions for these services are considered separately in line with service models
4. To recommend a hub and spoke model as the basis for delivery of Children's Centre Services, whilst recognising that the number of hubs, and the level of service at the non-hub Children's Centres, will be dependent upon the scale of budget reductions, ultimately agreed by Council in February 2014
5. To retain all existing Children's Centre buildings
6. To further explore the potential of a commissioned model and / or integrated model with health services, acknowledging the need for further market testing of potential providers
7. To undertake a full cost/benefit analysis of any service changes
8. To propose that Cabinet reconsiders the overall Council budget to determine if alternative areas of saving can be identified. The reasons being:
  - a) Information gained by the Task & Finish Group shows that early support to vulnerable people can lead to savings overall. There is concern that such significant cuts could lead to more costly interventions by statutory services of the council at a later stage
  - b) A commitment by the Panel to recommend some changes to services to meet part of the potential savings if the Cabinet are prepared to do likewise