

Overview of Responses and Recommendations

Appendix N6b

Budget Proposals 2017/18: Restructure of the Youth Support, Family Resource, Help for Families and Young Carers Services		Head of Service: Mac Heath Author: Mac Heath	2 March 2017 Version 3 (Council)
Proposal:	To integrate the four service areas into one service called the Targeted Intervention Service. This new service will form part of the wider Children and Family Services and focus its support in a more targeted way.		
Total budget 2016/17:	£1,114,010	Recommended officer saving 2017/18:	£108,000 (9.7%)
Initial proposed saving 2017/18:	£108,000 (9.7%)	Final recommendation to Council 2017/18:	To proceed with this proposal
No. of responses:	<p>In total, 20 responses were received. Of those that responded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 identified themselves as a user of the service • 13 as residents of West Berkshire • 4 as council employees • 4 as Parish/Town Councils • 1 as a partner organisation • 2 as other 		
Key issues raised:	<p>55% of responses agreed with the proposal.</p> <p>The main points raised by those that disagreed with the proposal were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern for any reduction in provision to a vulnerable cohort of young people • Concern about the long term affect on statutory services (increased demand and escalation of need) through a reduction of preventative support • Concern that bringing together family work and work with young people may dilute the focus of work particularly on young people • Concern regarding the longevity of support to young people requiring help. The proposal is that the work will be time limited and focussed interventions. • Ensure stronger staff utilisation efficiently and reduce beaurocracy 		
Equality issues:	No issues were raised during the consultation, that weren't already included in the EqIA stage 1.		

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Suggestions for reducing the impact on service users:	Suggestion	Council response	
	Cuts should be made from senior and middle managers	Front line delivery is prioritised in this proposed restructure with significant savings taken through reduction in management costs	
	Working with other Local Authorities to combine services	Cross border working is being explored throughout the service redesign, but at present available options would reduce further service provision	
	Reduce beaurocracy and empower staff to make more decisions	New systems, processes and ways of working are being planned to be introduced to increase efficiency in delivery	
Alternative options for applying the saving in this area:	Suggestion	Council response	
	Increase building utilisation or charge for group work or services	The utilisation of accommodation will be considered to ensure appropriate access to services and appropriateness of provision	
	Combine other Local Authority services	As further integration is progressed, consideration will be given to whether other L.A. would also be able to be included.	
Suggestions for income generation:	Suggestion	Council response	
	Offer workshops to schools and others and charge for services	Through the progression of this integration it is considered that there may be increased opportunities for charging for services which will be considered alongside core service delivery	
Suggestions for how others may help contribute:	There were no additional suggestions as to how others may be able to contribute to this proposal		
Officer conclusion and recommendation as a result of the responses:	Overall, it is positive that there was a majority of responses that supported the proposal with comments received that this approach may be strengthened through the combined shared resource.		
	It is therefore recommended that the council progress with this proposal.		

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