

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 31st March, 2011

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WARDS: All

PART I **FOR CONSIDERATION**

MEMBER CALL-IN – INTEGRATED YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICES

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of the receipt of a Member Call-In and to seek the Committee's views on how it wishes to deal with it.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Committee is requested to consider the call-in, consider how it wishes to deal with it and, if appropriate, pass comments/recommendations to the Cabinet.

3. Key Priorities and other Implications

- 3.1 There are no such implications arising from this administrative report.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 A Member Call-In has been received from Councillors Haines and Shine, details of which are given below. It should be noted that the Call-In is seeking review and clarity rather than formally calling in the decision made at Cabinet.
- 4.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee/Panel will consider and determine any call-in request having regard to:
- (i) the adequacy and completeness of information available at the meeting
 - (ii) the appropriateness and relevance of the subject matter of any request
 - (iii) the possible implications on other services and available budgets
 - (iv) any other reviews which currently may be undertaken or proposed to be undertaken to avoid any duplication of responsive action
 - (v) the respective priority within the Committee's/Panels overall work programme to be afforded to any approved request for review.

4.3 The Committee may take the following action on the call-in:-

- Agree to take no further action on the call-in (the reason for that decision to be recorded in the minutes and the Member calling-in advised).
- Consider the call-in at this meeting and pass comments or recommendations to the Cabinet or other appropriate body.
- Decide to consider the call-in at a future meeting and seek additional information, where necessary.

4.4 Councillors Haines and Shine have submitted the following call-in:-

“We are not calling in the decision made by Cabinet (on 14th March 2011) but rather the provision of Integrated Youth Support Services for greater review and to seek greater clarity.

We believe that the administration costs associated with youth service provision has increased markedly in the time since responsibility for the funding and organisation of these services has passed from Berks County Council to Slough Borough Council.

We are also concerned by SBC’s decision to close many centres down and centralise services in Manor Park.

SBC say that it wants to employ more “street based teams” in order to meet the needs of people in Slough. But we wish to query whether the council has employed enough people with relevant qualification and experience (or has provision to do so) to fulfil these roles adequately. We also wish to inquire into what the budgeted hours will be for these workers in comparison with the hours put in by youth workers at present”.

Comments of the Director of Education and Children’s Services

4.5 The Director has commented as follows:-

The response to the call-in will require significant officer time to research the background to the statements and questions. There is insufficient time to carry this out between the receipt of the call-in on 22nd March and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 31st March due to the complexity of the question and the prioritisation of the two week Ofsted inspection which starts on 4th April 2011.

If members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agree to the call-in, this could be taken to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7th June or the Education and Children’s Services Scrutiny Panel on 9th June.

Changes in service agreed at the Cabinet meeting on 14th March will continue as agreed.

5. Background Papers

Copy of call-in form (available on request from Democratic Services).