CHILDREN'S SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE 17 NOVEMBER 2014

Budget savings discussion record sheet for reporting to Cabinet

Proposal	Support	Support with recommendations for adjustments (see comments)	Do not support (see comments for reasons)	Comments
CHS/SAV/27 Youth Service – close Council run Youth Provision and reconfigure to voluntary sector provision only				The Committee did not support the proposal and expressed concern that the reduction in the Service to a bear minimum would lead to the Council potentially falling foul of its statutory duties to: • secure access to sufficient youth services and activities, as well as • take steps to ascertain the views of young people and take them into account in making decisions about services for them. This would be exacerbated by the lack of expertise within the Voluntary Sector to provide alternative services that would be adequate to meet the needs of young people.
CHS/SAV/28b Significant reduction in Educational psychology provision	\boxtimes			Budget saving supported

CHS/SAV/35 - Review children's social care costs to identify areas for spend reduction			The Committee was not able to support this proposal due to a lack of detail as to how the savings would be achieved and the particular impact of the proposals on the different service users groups.
CHS/SAV/26 Closure of Children's Centres – all satellites and possibly main centres			The Committee were not in support of this proposal as it included the closure of nine children's centres, albeit the closures would not take place in 2015/16. This will make it likely that the centres would lose their 'outstanding' Ofsted status, the proposal did not clearly specify what alternative sources of funding could be utilised to support or continue services currently offered at the centres.
CHS/SAV/25a Reduction in support to quality Childcare and early year's provision			The Committee agreed to support the proposal on the basis that the loss of four currently vacant apprentice level posts in the service will be compensated through additional child care apprenticeship places
CHS/SAV/34 Reduction in Children in Need worked with in Social Care	\boxtimes		Budget saving supported

CHS/SAV/30 CAMHS - reduce to statutory minimum for year 1 and then delete service			Whilst the Committee supported the saving proposal relating to 2015/16, insofar as reducing the service by 50% and notwithstanding that officers will seek to secure other funding, it could not support the proposal in its entirety namely that the service be stopped completely by 2016/17
CHS/SAV/32 Reductions in Short breaks for Disabled Children and their Families			The Committee expressed concern that the risk of family breakdown, and in turn, additional pressure on Social Care services, would be high should this proposal be implemented.
CHS/SAV/23 Significant reduction in improvement support for education	\boxtimes		Budget saving supported
CEX/SAV/51 Removal of general fund funding for school uniform grants			The Committee recommended that this proposal be deferred for one year so that discussions could be had with schools around whether this provision can be legally funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.
CHS/SAV/29 Access and Connect - reduction in rewards available to young people to incentivise healthy behaviours			The Committee recommended that the saving proposal be reduced by £10K to fund a level of incentivised rewards for young people.

CHS/SAV/31 Limited support to LSCB. Reduce CDOP to 0.5		Budget saving supported
CHS/SAV/24 Adult College - explore closure, social enterprise and other delivery options		The Committee expressed concern that the proposed saving of £600K planned for 2017/18 would only be realised if by closing the College central support costs actually reduced by the same amount. In noting it was not planned to make the budget saving next year the Committee asked that a further report be presented on the breakdown of the £600K contribution from the Council in central support charges for back office functions before the proposal is implemented in 2017/18.