

**Name of meeting:** Cabinet  
**Date:** 29 January 2019  
**Title of report:** Consolidation of Kirklees Council delivered Early Support Services

**Purpose of report** To request a decision from Cabinet to end the current commissioned contracts delivering early support services and bring the services in-house

<b>Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?</b>	Yes
<b>Key Decision - Is it in the <a href="#">Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)</a></b>	Yes
<b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b>	Yes
<b>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> &amp; name</b>  <b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director (Finance)?</b>  <b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?</b>	Mel Meggs – 18.01.2019  Eamonn Croston - 18.01.2019  Julie Muscroft - 21.01.2019
<b>Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a></b>	Cllr Masood Ahmed (Learning & Aspiration) Cllr Viv Kendrick (Children's Services)

**Electoral wards affected:** All

**Ward councillors consulted:** None

**Public or private:** The report is Public with a private appendix

## 1. **Summary**

In Kirklees we recognise the importance of providing support early and have worked closely with our partners to develop a strategy that outlines the way that we will work together to provide 'right person, right service, right time' support that will improve outcomes for children, young people & families across the authority.

The Early Support Strategy refers to a way of working that means providing interventions early to support and build resilience amongst children, young people and their families – particularly those that may be vulnerable.

The approach outlined in the strategy is based on building communities, developing resilience and establishing networks. As well as developing a place based offer around four geographical and diverse areas, it is recognised that some services work best across the authority as a whole. We are developing a unifying, but not uniform, offer that will reflect the needs and strengths of children, young people, families and communities.

Cabinet approved the Early Support Offer in January 2017 in a report entitled 'Proposal for Early Help for Children, Young People and Families'.

Both of the current commissioned contracts have been extended to the maximum length legally possible. Further negotiated extensions with these providers are not permissible.

We recognise the importance of continuity of services for families whilst working towards consolidating these contracts to ensure they are in line with the agreed early support model.

## 2. **Information required to take a decision**

This is an update report highlighting the ending of the current contract arrangements and implications for TUPE arrangements for existing, eligible staff.

Details are included in the accompanying private report.

## 3. **Implications for the Council**

Implications for the council are considered in the accompanying private report.

## 4. **Consultees and their opinions**

A range of service areas, partners and staff have been consulted. Further information is included in the accompanying private report.

## 5. **Next steps and timelines**

The current arrangements are due to cease on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. Once agreed, any TUPE arrangements will have to be arranged for affected staff.

6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**

Officers recommend that Cabinet approve the proposal to consolidate services and align the Early Support Strategy, giving consistency & value for money

7. **Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations**

The Cabinet Portfolio Holders, Cllr Masood Ahmed and Cllr Viv Kendrick, support the officer recommendation.

8. **Contact officer**

Michelle Wheatcroft – Head of Early Support  
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9. **Background Papers and History of Decisions**

September 2016 Cabinet report – item 7

January 2017 Cabinet report – item 12

Kirklees Early Support Partnership Strategy

Draft Transition Plan – within the private report

10. **Service Director responsible**

Jo-Anne Sanders – Service Director – Learning & Early Support  
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