

Name of meeting: Cabinet

Date: 26th July 2022

Title of report: Capital Scheme for specialist accommodation at the former Children's Place Nursery Netherfield Road, Ravensthorpe - Young Peoples Activity Team Reprovision

Purpose of report: To seek approval to proceed with above capital scheme from the Children's Service Best Start Capital Programme.

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?	Yes Capital spend over £250k
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	Key Decision – Yes 06.06.2022 Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Mel Meggs – 09.06.2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston – 13.07.2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft – 11.07.2022
Cabinet member <u>portfolio</u>	Cllr V Kendrick - Children & Cllr C Pattison - Learning, Aspiration & Communities

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: Cllr Mumtaz Hussain, Cllr Darren O'Donovan and Cllr Mussarat Pervaiz and the newly elected Cllr Ammar Anwar

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes - there are no GDPR implications relating to this report. The Key Decision Notice was published on 06.06.2022;

[Issue details - Young Peoples Activity Team - New Premises Proposal | Kirklees Council](#)

1. Summary

1.1 It is a council priority to provide the best possible support for Kirklees families affected by Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. These proposals for the Young People's Activity Team form one element of our wider transformation of SEND services and aims to ensure some of our most vulnerable children and young people are able to enjoy high-quality facilities which make a lasting difference in their lives. Kirklees SEND provision is undergoing large scale transformation. This includes securing major new investment and creating two new state-of-the-art special school facilities at a cost of over £30million.

1.2 The Young Peoples Activity Team short breaks service supports disabled children and young people aged 5 to 18 with profound and complex needs. The service comprises of;

- After school clubs - which operate term time evenings between 3pm and 6.30pm.
- Weekend clubs - which run year round (except bank holidays) between 10am and 2pm.
- Play schemes - which run in school holidays Monday to Friday 10am to 2pm.

1.3 The Young Peoples Activity Team short break service is currently run from a large council owned building on Havelock Street, Ravensthorpe, on the edge of an industrial estate. The building has been shared with Adult Services, learning disability day service provision for over 15 years. The building requires significant investment, Adult Service and Children's Service are both proposing to leave the Havelock Street building.

1.4 The initial outline capital business case was approved by Cabinet 29th January 2019 for inclusion in 'Best Start Strategic Priorities, Children with a Disability provision' - Capital Budget 2019/20 to 2024/25. The Council Budget Report 2022/23 'Specialist Accommodation/Youth Services' programme budget, was approved on the 16th Feb 2022 (page 83) funding will be drawn down against this programme budget.

1.5 Children's Service, Best Start capital funding has an allocation of £5 million for the development of children with a disability services; Young Peoples Activity Team (short breaks), Elm Grove (long term) and Orchard View (short breaks) children's homes.

1.6 The new premises, the council owned former Children's Place nursery, Netherfield Road, Ravensthorpe, is located within 300 metre from the current location, behind the Greenwood Centre and will set a new quality standard for short breaks provision in Kirklees. Once the project is complete, the Young Peoples Activity Team will move to the new premises and vacate the Havelock Street building, leaving Adult Services as the sole tenant and provide an opportunity for them to utilise the whole building. In the short term Adult Service will utilise the whole building to meet an increase in demand post pandemic, enabling them to meet the needs of more complex adults with

learning disabilities. Long term Adult Services are exploring future options, which include potentially leaving the Havelock Street building.

1.7 By investing in vulnerable children and young people, we support them to achieve the best possible outcomes. These proposals are designed to help children and young people thrive and enjoy the best start in life.

2. Information required to take a decision

2.1 The need for new premises was identified several years ago. Four potential council owned sites were identified. Each site was evaluated against the needs of the service, the families and the disabled children and young people who access the service.

2.2 The former Children's Place nursery, Netherfield Road, Ravensthorpe has been selected as the best option because of its location, it is very close to the current building which will minimise disruption to the disabled children and young people who attend and parents. The building size is ideal, the accessibility offered by a single storey building located on a level site with a secure enclosed outdoor play area made the former Children's Place nursery the ideal preferred choice. The Westtown family Centre, Dewsbury was considered and deemed less favourable due to the challenging topography of the site. The Mansion, Cow Nest Park was considered and deemed less favourable due to its, size, location and being a listed building which would limit the adaptations needed to meet the needs of the disabled children.

2.3 The Young People Activity Team - building design proposal is attached as **Appendix 1**. The building design has been developed in partnership with the Young Peoples Activity Team, management and staff. This proposal has been developed in partnership with a wide range of partners, including disabled children and young people, parents, Children's Service and the Capital Delivery Team.

2.4 Detailed designs have identified an estimated outturn cost of up to £1,358,353 Cabinet approval is now requested to agree and release the sum in order that appropriate tenders can be sought and the works progress.

2.5 The proposed investment required in the empty council owned building represents best value for money, creating a much needed specialist care and support facilities for our most vulnerable disabled children and young people.

2.6 The new premises will provide significantly improved facilities, offering a high quality short breaks service, capable of meeting the current and future needs of the growing range of our most disabled children and young people for many years to come. The new premises also provides an opportunity for the facilities to be used for new, additional and alternative uses, for example; parental support meetings, training sessions, and the further development of the short breaks offer. Our ambition is to identify and establish a second Young Peoples Activity Team building in south Kirklees, providing an easy to

access specialist short breaks service for our most disabled children and young people covering all Kirklees.

2.7 The Young Peoples Activity Team budget (£571K) was cut completely in 2017/18. The budget was partly reinstated (£417k) the following year 2018/19 on a speculative basis pending a review. The Young Peoples Activity Team budget received an additional (£82k) in 2019/20 to address the overspend in the previous year. However, there has been no changes since. The two site Young Peoples Activity Team proposal will be delivered within the current revenue funding. The service has sufficient staffing/revenue funding to run both buildings, the need is for bespoke facilities that are best able to meet the needs of our most disabled children.

2.8 Children's Service are progressing with the implementation of the modernisation programme which includes the redesign of the Young People Activity Team within the expanded short breaks offer. It is clear the Young Peoples Activity Team will have a vital role within the short breaks market, meeting the needs of our most complex and disabled children and young people. A separate report will be brought before cabinet in the near future. The urgent need for a new building for the Young Peoples Activity Team means we cannot wait for the report to be completed. We aim to complete the redesign of the Young People Activity Team before the new building opens in Summer 2023.

3. Implications for the Council

The Council's capital budget plans support the overall delivery of the following Council objectives and priorities within available resources:

- i) Best Start
- ii) Well
- iii) Independent
- iv) Aspire and achieve
- v) Sustainable economy
- vi) Safe and cohesive
- vii) Clean and Green
- viii) Efficient and Effective

3.1 Working with People

There will be a positive impact on the parents, carers and families' members and also for staff.

3.2 Working with Partners

There will be a positive impact for relevant health partners by working in partnership. We will be better placed to meet the needs of our most complex disabled children and young people.

3.3 Place Based Working

There will be a positive impact for families as care provision is delivered closer to home.

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

There will be a reduction in emissions from delivering the service from a more energy efficient building. There will be a neutral impact on transport.

3.5 Improving outcomes for children

There will be a positive impact on disabled children and young people and parents

3.6 Financial Implications for the people living or working in Kirklees

There will be no financial impact on families and staff as the new building facility is located within 500 metre of the old facility.

3.7 Other (e.g. Legal/Financial or Human Resources) Consultees and their opinions

The capital investment of up to £1,358,353 is budgeted for within the overall Best Start Capital Programme. The scheme is primarily funded from Council borrowing. The revenue cost of delivering the Young Peoples Activity Team short breaks service has been built into the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

External funding opportunities from the Department of Education have been explored, none have been identified. The impact of this proposal on current revenue funding is neutral.

The Council must comply with its duty of Best Value ;and the procurement of works and award of contract(s) to implement the proposed capital investment will be carried out under the officer scheme of delegation/delegations to the Strategic Director for Children Services in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules 2022 and Contract Procedure rules 2022

3.8 Do you need an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)?

Members should have due regard to the Integrated Impact assessment screening tool at **Appendix 2** which shows no adverse effect on the protected groups.

4. Consultees and their opinions

4.1 A key part of our approach in transforming SEND provision is to seek the views of children, young people and families so that their voice is influential in our planning - Kirklees families have helped to shape the designs for a new, market-leading YPAT facility.

4.2 The proposed design proposal has been shared with Parents of Children with Additional needs (PCAN) who fully support the proposal. A series of consultation events have taken place with parents. Parents consultation comments;

“A much needed provision. Plans look amazing and would be a huge asset. Outdoor space looks fantastic”

“looks amazing - definitely think the sensory room is a great idea for relaxing. Plenty of outdoor space is great too”

4.3 Consultation with young people who access the service is ongoing. Young person quote;

“I like the gym equipment, the music boxes, the trampoline, the waterwall, climbing equipment and the wooden tepee. It will be good to have our own building and lots of outdoor space”

4.4 The building design proposal has been shared with Dewsbury West ward members May 2022. Cllr O'Donovan suggested The Mansion at Crow Nest Park, a discussion took place setting out the reasons when The Children's place was preferred over the Mansion at Crow nest Park.

4.5 The building design proposal was approved at Children's Service Senior Management Team and Children's Service Capital Board. Portfolio Leads were consulted and briefed by Service Directors, Strategic Director on the 9th June.

4.6 In addition to the above, officers have throughout this capital scheme worked in partnership with disabled children and young people, families, carers, staff and will continue to do so.

5. Next steps and timelines

5.1 The outline timeline is set out below:

Main milestones and dates:	Proposed start:	Proposed end:
Outline concept design plans completed	Sept 2021	April 2022
Consult with disabled children, young people and parents	Jan 2022	May 2022

Complete design/project delivery costings	Dec 2021	May 2022
Key Decision Notice	30 June 2022	
Design proposal agreed by Children's Capital Board	27 June 2022	
Cabinet Approval	26 July 2022	
Planning Application	August 2022	October 2022
Tender	Nov 2022	Jan 2023
Tender Validation and Letter of Acceptance	Feb 2023	Feb 2023
Complete Works	March 2023	May 2023
Prepare for opening	June 2023	

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

6.1 Cabinet are asked to; approve release of up to £1,358,353 from the agreed Best Start Capital Programme to enable procurement of works to proceed.

6.2 Approval will enable a bespoke building to be developed based on the needs of our most disabled children and young people and enable the Young Peoples Activity Team to provide a new quality standard of short breaks provision.

6.3 The proposed design will create an exciting, stimulating, fun place disabled children and young people will want to visit and enjoy spending time, taking part in the wide range of activities available to them.

7. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

7.1 The portfolio holder supports the recommendation in this report. "We are really pleased to support the recommendation in this report. As it says in the report this proposal is a key part of our approach to transforming SEND provision across Kirklees. It provides not only much needed specialist care and support facilities for our most vulnerable disabled children and young people, but it also provides ideal modern facilities in a good location, and it offers good value for money all round. We look forward to this provision being available next Summer 2023."

8. Contact officer

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9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Cabinet Budget Report 29th January 2019 [Cabinet Budget Report.pdf \(kirklees.gov.uk\)](#)

Council budget 16th February 2022 [Budget Motion - Feb 22.pdf \(kirklees.gov.uk\)](#)

10. Service Director responsible

Tom Brailsford, Service Director, Resources, Improvement and Partnerships, Children & Families tom.braisford@kirklees.gov.uk

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Building Design Proposal

Appendix 2 – Integrated Impact Assessment Screening Tool.