

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	17 September 2021
Title:	Savings Programme to 2023 – Revenue Savings Proposals
Report From:	Director of Children's Services and Director of Corporate Operations

Contact name: Steve Crocker, Director of Children's Services
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1. The decision:

- 1.1. That the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services approves the submission of the proposed savings options contained in the report and Appendix 1 to the Cabinet.
- 1.2. That the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services receives an update in due course on the provision proposed for those families directly affected by any proposed closure of Firvale respite home for disabled children, in addition to the proposed formal consultation process that may be undertaken.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. The County Council has been responding to reductions in public spending, designed to close the structural deficit within the economy, since the first reductions to government grants were applied in 2010/11 and then as part of subsequent Comprehensive Spending Reviews.
- 2.2. The County Council undertook an open public consultation called *Serving Hampshire – Balancing the Budget* which ran for six weeks from 7 June to the 18 July 2021.
- 2.3. The consultation was widely promoted to stakeholders and residents and asked for their views on ways the County Council could balance its budget in response to continuing pressures on local government funding, and still deliver core public services.
- 2.4. Following successive programmes, which have delivered over £113m cost reductions since June 2010, the Children's Services department started work in October 2020 to identify potential opportunities for further savings to meet the £21.3m departmental savings target for 1 April 2023.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. A range of savings options for meeting the estimated budget gap were evaluated for viability in preparing this report. The proposals presented in the report were considered to be the best set of options that take into account: relative impact, the views of stakeholders, and the ability to meet the target that was set.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: None

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable

7. Statement from the decision maker:

In reaching this decision, I thank the Children and Young People Select Committee for their thorough pre-scrutiny at their meeting on the 17 September 2021, and note their support for the recommendation.

In reaching this decision, I have also taken into consideration the Savings Programme to 2023 – Revenue Savings Proposals presentation which was presented to the Children and Young People Select Committee at their meeting on the 17 September 2021, which highlighted previous years Children’s Services budget figures by way of pie charts. This presentation has been added to my Decision Day agenda as an additional appendix.

Approved by:

Date:

Councillor Roz Chadd

17 September 2021

Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services