

COUNCIL MEETING – 26 MARCH 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP3	17/03/14	18/03/14

Submitted by:	Cllr J Blake
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member for Children's Services
Relevant Director	Director of Children's Services

Council reiterates its commitment to ensure every child in Leeds enjoys the best start in life and welcomes the Administration's decision to keep all 57 children's centres open despite massive Government funding cuts.


Council further recognises the overwhelming evidence that development in the first years of life is crucial to improving social, economic, educational and health outcomes for children and young people.

Given that evidence, members commit to continue to work towards our Best city and Child Friendly ambitions, focusing in particular on ensuring that every child in Leeds is ready to learn before they start school.

In support of this approach and the clear evidence of the importance in investing wisely in Early Years, Council calls on Government to immediately:

1. Re-instate the Early Intervention Grant in full
2. Secure the financial future of Children's Centres and their multi-agency workforce
3. Provide an additional Early Years investment fund for local partnerships to access, based on the needs of local communities
4. Support the extension of the successful Families First approach to target the most vulnerable families
5. Ensure additional health capacity is identified and ring-fenced so as to provide targeted support

Council asks that the Chief Executive write to the Secretaries of State for Health and Education.



* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

White Papers	- *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
Questions	- 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
Amendments	- 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting

(including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution

made)

*Usually the Monday of the week prior to a Wednesday meeting.
