



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 7th December 2010

**Subject: Request for Scrutiny of the Withdrawal of Remaining Creche Provision
at Leisure Centres**

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Scrutiny Board in November considered the attached request for scrutiny from Councillor M Lobley and Councillor J Matthews concerning the officer delegated decision D37367 to withdraw the provision of the remaining six crèches in Leisure Centres across Leeds.

1.2 The Scrutiny Board on 2nd November resolved

- a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- b) That the request for scrutiny from Councillor M Lobley and Councillor J Matthews for a Scrutiny Inquiry into the decision by the Council to close six crèches in Leisure Centres across Leeds be deferred.
- c) That the Acting Director of City Development be asked to undertake a review of this issue to identify ways that would offer alternative models for providing creche facilities at the Council's leisure centres and submit a further report to this Board at its meeting on 7th December 2010.
- d) That in the interim period, the Acting Director of City Development be asked to keep open the six crèche facilities in Leisure Centres across Leeds pending the outcome of this review.

1.3 In the circumstances, the Executive Board Member with portfolio responsibility for Leisure, Councillor A Ogilvie, who attended the meeting in November agreed to work with the Scrutiny Board and maintain the current crèche provision in the leisure centres until at least the next Scrutiny Board (City Development) meeting on 7th December 2010.

2.0 Acting Director of City Development

2.1 In accordance with the Scrutiny Board's request the Acting Director of City Development's has submitted the attached report on the outcome of his review of this issue.

3.0 Options for Investigations and Inquiries

3.1 When considering the request for scrutiny, the Scrutiny Board (City Development) shall determine:

- what further information the Board needs before considering whether an inquiry should be undertaken
- how the proposed inquiry meets criteria approved from time to time by the Scrutiny Advisory Group
- whether the inquiry can be adequately resourced
- whether an inquiry should be undertaken

4.0 Recommendations

4.1 The Scrutiny Board is asked:

- (i) To consider the report of the Acting Director of City Development following his review of this issue.
- (ii) To consider further the request for Scrutiny from Councillors Loble and Matthews in the light of the Acting Director of City Development's report.
- (iii) Determine what further information, if any, the Board requires in order to determine whether it wishes to undertake further scrutiny of this matter.

Background Papers

Delegated decision and report attached