

## Delegated Decision Notice

This form is the written record of a key, significant operational or administrative decision taken by an officer.

<b>Decision type</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/> Significant Operational Decision	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Decision
<b>Approximate value</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Below £500,000 <input type="checkbox"/> £500,000 to £1,000,000 <input type="checkbox"/> over £1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/> below £25,000 <input type="checkbox"/> £25,000 to £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> £100,000 to £500,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Over £500,000	<input type="checkbox"/> below £25,000 <input type="checkbox"/> £25,000 to £100,000
<b>Director<sup>1</sup></b>	Children & Families		
<b>Contact person:</b>	Amanda Ashe		Telephone number: 07891 275941
<b>Subject<sup>2</sup>:</b>	The reduction of early learning and childcare places at Little Owls Firthfields nursery (LCC) and expansion of family services for Garforth.		
<b>Decision details<sup>3</sup>:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To re-locate family services from Garforth Academy where space is needed to expand school places and expand Children's Centre family services into the Firthfields building with room for Early Start offer and 0-19 co-located services.</li> <li>2. To remove childcare provision at this nursery which is surplus to demand for childcare in the area which is over provided by private sector nurseries.</li> </ol> <p>There is extremely limited space currently available at Little Owls Firthfields for activities other than childcare. Family services for Garforth are therefore delivered from Garforth Academy within the main building which incurs a cost. This causes barriers for the families needing to access the services and there is no outdoor provision there for stay and play. The space at the academy is limited and there is also no prospect for effective co-location of 0-19 services such as midwives or health visitors. The Academy also wish to expand school spaces into the area currently used by the Children's Centre.</p> <p>Figures from the sufficiency report, shows a sustained increase in private provider places in Garforth whilst Firthfields Little Owls Nursery has showed a sustained decline in take up of places. There are 5 full day care nurseries within 2 miles of Little Owls nursery and 3 primary schools which means that 0-5 places in Garforth are over provided for the number of children in the area.</p>		

<sup>1</sup> Give title of Director with delegated responsibility for function to which decision relates.

<sup>2</sup> If the decision is key and has appeared on the list of forthcoming key decisions, the title of the decision should be the same as that used in the list


<sup>3</sup> Simply refer to supporting report where used as these matters have been set out in detail.

	A number of reviews took place to ascertain if the centre could be kept open as a nursery. Different configurations were considered including term time only provision and a change to hours of operation. The result of the review confirmed that the childcare was surplus to requirement in the area and that changing the business model could not bring about an improvement because there were insufficient children to fill the places available in the area already provided by the market.
<b>Affected wards:</b>	Garforth and Swillington
<b>Details of consultation undertaken<sup>4</sup>:</b>	Executive Member Cllr Venner
	Ward Councillors Cllr Dobson, Cllr Mc Cormack, Cllr Field
	Others Parents, staff at the firthfields centre and Sufficiency Team.
<b>Implementation</b>	The Children's Centre & Early Start Lead will be the officer accountable for the implementation. The implementation will take place following confirmation of the decision after call in. We aim to implement by the end of March if all decisions are ratified in good time.
<b>List of Forthcoming Key Decisions<sup>5</sup></b>	Date Added to List:-
	<b>If Special Urgency or General Exception</b> a brief statement of the reason why it is impracticable to delay the decision
	<b>If Special Urgency</b> Relevant Scrutiny Chair(s) approval Signature _____ Date _____
<b>Publication of report<sup>6</sup></b>	If not published for 5 clear working days prior to decision being taken the reason why not possible:

<sup>4</sup> Include details of any interest disclosed by an elected Member on consultation and the date of any relevant dispensation given.

<sup>5</sup> See Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 2.4 - 2.6. Complete this section for key decisions only

<sup>6</sup> See Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 3.1. Complete this section for key decisions only

	If published late relevant Executive member's approval	
	Signature	Date
<b>Call In</b>	Is the decision available <sup>7</sup> for call-in?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<b>If exempt from call-in</b> , the reason why call-in would prejudice the interests of the council or the public:	
<b>Approval of Decision</b>	Authorised decision maker <sup>8</sup> Sal Tariq – Director of Children & Families	
	Signature 	Date: 15/3/21

<sup>7</sup> See Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 5.1. Significant operational decisions taken by officers are never available for call in. Key decisions are always available for call in unless they have been exempted from call in under rule 5.1.3.

<sup>8</sup> Give the post title and name of the officer with appropriate delegated authority to take the decision.