

CABINET MEMBER - CHILDREN'S SERVICES

**MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE
ON TUESDAY 24 AUGUST 2010**

PRESENT: Councillor P.Dowd

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Preece

27. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cuthbertson, Doran and Moncur and Mr. A. Bell, Church Diocesan Representative.

28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

29. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

**30. SPRINGBROOK RESIDENTIAL HOME - AIMING HIGH FOR
DISABLED CHILDREN**

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families reporting that as of the 1 April 2011, all Local Authorities would be required to provide short breaks for parents and carers who look after a disabled child. National consultation on draft regulations and statutory guidance is underway. It is considered important that all services within the offer have a single point of management and accountability.

The report indicated that currently Springbrook was managed within Children's Social Care, with other Residential Children's Homes, rather than by the lead for Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC). It would make sense for all short breaks to be managed by one senior officer, Whilst AHDC funding is secure within year it was likely that in future years there would be a need to manage tighter budgets in a responsive manner to meet changing demands and circumstances. Establishing a clear and transparent baseline would support this activity.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the transfer of responsibility for Springbrook Short Break Home from the Assistant Director Children's Social Care to the Assistant Director Inclusion be noted; and
- (2) the funding of all short breaks services be reviewed in the light of the new statutory duty and increasing budgetary challenges going forward with a further report outlining proposals for the future to be provided to the Cabinet Member as soon as possible.

31. ST. WILFRID'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, LITHERLAND - OFSTED INSPECTION

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families informing of the action the Local Authority had taken and decisions and actions needed to take in the future in relation to St. Wilfrid's Catholic High School, Litherland following the Ofsted report following their inspection on 23 July 2010 whereby the school had been placed in Special Measures.

RESOLVED:

That the report and the need for the Local Authority to make the decisions and take the actions outlined within the report be noted.

32. CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2010/11 - STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families advising of the proposed Children's Schools and Families 2010/11 Departmental Plan (Strategic Priorities).

RESOLVED:

That the priorities and objectives within the plan be approved.