

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE – 23 FEBRUARY 2016

SERVICE REVIEW – EDUCATION RESOURCE SERVICE, FURTHER UPDATE

Background

A service review was established in April 2014 to plan how to manage agreed savings of £102,000 in 2015/16 to the Education Resources Service (ERS) (Angus Council Revenue Budget 84/14, reference PSL-S-6 (EDS)). The ERS provides a resource lending service to Angus schools and advises on the establishment of school libraries. This review concluded in September and made a number of recommendations. These were considered in conjunction with Communities colleagues who were then in the process of redesigning library and access services to Angus' communities. Further work was then undertaken to explore how the delivery of library services could be incorporated as part of an alternative delivery model for culture and leisure services (Angus Council report 506/14).

Outcome

The further work undertaken to explore an integrated model coincided with the establishment of Angus Alive. In addition it was ascertained that there would be no benefit to the service user in creating such a service. Given these circumstances, it was agreed to explore alternative solutions. Early years development including early literacy support is a key focus for the People Directorate. It has been agreed that the focus of the ERS will shift to focus on early literacy as part of a wider early years team. This will retain some of the expertise of this service whilst targeting early intervention of literacy development. The required budget saving will be made during the transfer of the service to the early years team. Core provision will now be based around early level Curriculum for Excellence.

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