

6. PAEDIATRIC SERVICES AT ST JOHN'S HOSPITAL

The Council Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Chief Executive providing an update in relation to the Council Executive's decision on 19 January 2016 regarding the review by NHS Lothian of paediatric services and to consider whether any further action should be taken.

The report advised that NHS Lothian had invited the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH), an independent organisation, to conduct a review of paediatric services at St John's Hospital and the Royal Hospital for Sick Children. The review was now underway. As part of the review, the Review Team would gather documentation and information by conducting surveys, interviews and focus groups with staff, patients/families and stakeholders from outside organisations.

West Lothian Council had an established policy position in relation to the Paediatrics Unit at St John's Hospital, namely that there should be no downgrade in services at the unit. It was also the council's position that the Review of Paediatrics Services at St John's Hospital should be completed with relevant findings published in advance of May 2016.

On 19 January 2016 Council Executive agreed to ask NHS Lothian to include general public meetings as part of the public consultation process and to call again for the consultant's report to be published ahead of the Scottish Parliamentary elections in May 2016. In the event that the request for public meetings was not accepted committee agreed that the council should organise public meetings.

NHS Lothian had responded to say that public meetings would be held, but no detailed information had been provided about what they would involve. The council had received no indication of any change of position in relation to the publication of the review report.

It was recommended that Council Executive :-

1. Note the response by NHS Lothian to the council's decision on 19 January 2016 in relation to the review of paediatric services; and
2. Consider the council's position and any further action which should be taken.

Motion

"Council Executive notes the response from NHS Lothian.

Council Executive restates the position of the Council that there should be no reduction in services at the Children's Ward at St John's Hospital.

Council Executive agrees to request an additional meeting of the St John's Stakeholder Group to consider the information, as it relates to the establishment of the Paediatric Review process, obtained through a FoI request by Neil Findlay MSP.

Council Executive further agrees that the Head of Service for Social Policy be requested to complete a submission for the review from West Lothian Council in conjunction with the Executive Councillor for Health and Care and that this be submitted to the Review Team before the closing date for submission on 14 February 2016.

- Moved by Councillor McMillan and seconded by Councillor Conn

Amendment

“Council Executive notes the response from NHS Lothian.

Council Executive restates the position of the Council that there should be no reduction in services at the Children’s Ward at St John’s Hospital.

Council Executive agrees to request an additional meeting of the St John’s Stakeholder Group to consider the information, as it relates to the establishment of the Paediatric Review process, obtained through a Fol request by Neil Findlay MSP.

Council Executive further agrees that the submission be sent to the appropriate PDSP for consideration before being finalised for onward submission to the Review Team by the deadline of 14 February 2016”

- Moved by Councillor Johnston and seconded by Councillor Anderson

It was agreed that a Roll Call Vote be taken which resulted as follows :-

Motion

Amendment

Tom Conn

Frank Anderson

Jim Dixon

Peter Johnston

Lawrence Fitzpatrick

Dave King

Danny Logue

John McGinty

Anne McMillan

Angela Moohan

Cathy Muldoon

George Paul

Decision

Following a vote the motion was successful by 10 votes to 2 and it was

agreed accordingly.