

SERVICES FOR FAMILIES OF DISABLED CHILDREN AGED 0-3 YEARS

Review meeting held at McNay Street Childrens Centre

Monday 12 December 2016

Present: Councillors CTaylor (Chair); L Hughes, Tostevin, Mills and Helen Crumbie. Also Present: four parents

Purpose of the meeting - To ascertain the views of users of the Council's service for families who have children with disabilities in the specific 0 -3 years age group.

Points Discussed and Considered -

Members listened to the parents and asked questions relating to their experiences of the service. The families were very supportive of the service and the following points were highlighted:-

- The small team operating the service were informed by the maternity team at the hospital so that the parents did not need to seek out the service.
- Because the team is small families are able to have a relationship with one person. There is no need to repeatedly explain their circumstances to new people.
- Communications between members of the team are excellent so that, in the event of the regular contact being unavailable, another member of the team is able to stand in without needing to be briefed.
- The team member is able to liaise with services for children from 3+ and make transition much smoother than it might otherwise be.

Above all, parents and members agreed that such positive intervention at this early stage would be more likely to lessen the need for much more complicated and possibly costly action later.

After the meeting members agreed that they would seek to speak to members of the team and also a health visitor and paediatrician before making recommendations during the consultation period of the Medium Term Financial Plan 2017/2018.