

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	31 May 2012
Title:	Nursery provision for children with special educational needs in the New Forest
Reference:	3790
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Liz Flaherty, Education Officer (SEN)
Janet Hoff, Children's Centre & Inclusion Manager

Tel: 01962 846418 **Email:** Liz.Flaherty@hants.gov.uk
01962 847091 janet.hoff@hants.gov.uk

1. The decision:

1.1. That the variation to the implementation of the Early Years SEN Provision, agreed by the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services on 12 March 2009 to accommodate the particular geographic context of the provision for early years children living the New Forest area of Hampshire, be approved.

2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1. The original principle of focusing the SEN nursery provision in Children's Centres was agreed as a county wide strategy. However, the specific issues of the New Forest, for example the geography, the road network, the volume of traffic at certain times of year and the nature of the existing provision determines that a different model is needed.

2.2. The model proposed would complement existing services, including those available through Children's Centres, for example access to health support and advice for parents.

2.3. The services provided through the Children's Centres will in turn complement the development of the role of the SEN professional working with children with SEN and their parents, including:

- early identification of children with special needs and disabilities and services and support for their families;
- systems for referring/signposting families to further services;
- providing information for parents/carers about the range of family support services and activities available in the area;

- support and advice on parenting including support at significant transition points for the family;
- access to specialist, targeted services for those families which need them, e.g. support for parents/carers of disabled children;
- activities which increase parents/carers' understanding of their child's development;
- promoting positive mental health and well being, including identification, support and care for those suffering from maternal depression, antenatal and post-natal;
- provision of therapy services, for example speech and language, including liaising with the national health service providers;
- support for healthy lifestyles.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1 As the aim of the strategy is to accommodate the particular geographic context of the provision for early years children living the New Forest area of Hampshire, there is no other option.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: none

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: none

5. Dispensation granted by the Standards Committee: none

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:	Date:
-----	31 May 2012
Executive Lead Member for Children's Services Councillor Roy Perry	