

## NEW Supplementary Appendix

### Item: Future Options for Maintained Nursery Schools

Considered by Scrutiny & Overview Committee on 8 July 2024

REC No.	SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT AND CABINET MEMBER RESPONDING	ACCEPTED / PARTIALLY ACCEPTED / ALREADY IN PROGRESS / REJECTED (inc. reasons for rejection)	IDENTIFIED OFFICER	ANY FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS IF ACCEPTED (i.e. Action Plan)	DATE OF SCRUTINY MEETING TO REPORT BACK
SOC.35.23/24	Considering that the Crosfield and Selhurst nurseries have submitted a model that, if implemented, would restore them to a budget surplus in 2024/25, and they have expressed their preference not to join a soft federation, the Committee recommends granting them a 12-month period to execute their plan, before deciding on moving to the soft federation model. Progress on implementation should be reviewed at regular intervals to check sufficient progress was being made. *	Councillor Maria Gatland  Children & Young People	<p style="text-align: center;">REJECTED</p> <p>The concerns over the funding of Maintained Nursery Schools have been evidenced over a number of years and it is important that we take a robust approach to ensure the sustainability of this valued early years provision.</p> <p>The outcome of the review and the recommendations are positive, we have listened to families, through the informal consultation, engaged with the MNS and the recommendations will ensure that we retain all 5 MNS. The outcome of the review also reflects the work done by the MNS to improve the deficit position. Continuing the nurseries' work alongside the recommended model will bring the pace needed to reduce the financial instability in some of the settings as quickly as possible.</p>	Shelley Davies, Director of Education	N/A	N/A	TBC

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			We cannot and should not wait another 12 months to take robust action. This could lead to a position where closure has to be reinstated as an option to tackle the financial deficit.				
SOC.36.23/24	Although it was acknowledged that council officers had offered the opportunity to have individual meetings with the maintained nursery schools, further steps needed to be taken to make this clearer in future engagement, as feedback from the maintained nursery schools indicated they would have appreciated more opportunities to discuss their unique circumstances individually.	Councillor Maria Gatland Children & Young People	REJECTED Officers met with each of the MNS individually at the start of the review process and during the informal consultation. The MNS were also offered additional meetings.	Shelley Davies, Director of Education	N/A	N/A	TBC

*\* This recommendation was passed following a vote of the Committee. 3 voted in favour and 3 against, with the Chair using her casting vote in favour.*

