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WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

RECORD OF MEMBER DELEGATED DECISION

Date Of Decision	22 August 2016
Decision Maker	Mr Marc Bayliss, Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families
Brief Description Of Decision	<p>The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families exercised the delegated authority given to him by the Leader and:</p> <p>(a) noted the contents of the report and the Equality Impact Assessment;</p> <p>(b) approved the proposals to cease delivery of the dedicated Portage Service in Worcestershire on 1 October 2018 with the transitional arrangements from 1 October 2016 as set out in the report; and</p> <p>(c) authorised the Director of Children, Families and Communities to take all necessary steps to put the above into effect.</p>
Reason(s) For Decision	<p>As set out in the report. The lack of quantifiable evidence supporting its impact on children with additional needs it is appropriate to implement the proposal to cease delivery of a Dedicated Portage service in Worcestershire as any needs can be met in a more appropriate manner with better value. The proposals were modified in the light of consultation feedback to provide for a substantial transitional period for existing users. For 'new' service users the wider reform of services for children with disabilities, including a review of what is available through prevention services will prioritise the needs of vulnerable groups such as those children with developmental delay that have previously been eligible for a Portage service. Families will also be able to access an improved information, advice and guidance offer via the Council's websites and if and when the family has complex</p>

	needs they can contact the Family Front Door for further advice and access to services.
Alternative Options Considered And Rejected	As set out in the report, particularly paragraphs 15 and 16. As indicated, the initial proposal to terminate the service from October 2016 has been modified to allow a 2 year transition period for existing users.
Any Conflict of Interest declared by decision-maker/ a consulted Cabinet Member/ any dispensation granted	None
Signature of Decision-Maker	Marc Bayliss

March 2013
SPM d2