

**Meeting of the Executive
Monday 13 December 2004 at 7.00 pm**

EXTRACT FROM THE LIST OF DECISIONS

PRESENT: Councillor John (Chair), Councillor Coughlin (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Beswick, Fox, Jones, Kagan, D Long, Lyon and Thomas.

Apologies for absence were given on behalf of Councillor R S Patel.

Councillors Fiegel, Gladbaum, HB Patel and Van Colle also attended the meeting.

ITEM 5 Establishing a New Children and Families Department

Summary:	This report gives an update on progress made to date, and outlines the options considered for implementing the Children Act in Brent. More specifically it proposes the establishment of a new Children and Families Department, headed by a statutory Director of Children and Families, to achieve better service delivery, and to meet the requirements of the Children Act. It also briefly identifies those non children's services which will be affected by the new arrangements. These other services will be subject to further review in a separate paper to be produced by the Chief Executive for the Executive February 2005.
Ward(s):	All
Decision Taken:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) that the options laid out in the report from the Chief Executive be noted;(ii) that approval in principle be given to proceed with the proposals to establish a Children and Families Department in Brent, (Option 4) within the timescales laid out in this report, but subject to consultation with staff and unions as appropriate.(iii) that the Chief Executive submit a further report in February 2005, on the outcomes of the consultation exercise, and with the final recommendations on the new Children and Families Department.(iv) that the Chief Executive present a report outlining the structural implications concerning non children's services which will lie outside this new department.

	<p>(v) that, subject to consultation, to bring forward the appointment of a Director of Children and Families by May 2005, and to note that the appointment will be made by an Appointments Sub-Committee.</p> <p>(vi) that the decision to appoint a Lead Member for Children and Families be confirmed at the Council's Annual Meeting in May 2005.</p> <p>(vii) that at this stage the Council will not opt to set up a Children's Trust but continue instead to develop comprehensive inter-agency partnership arrangements as laid out in the report.</p>
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