

**REQUEST FOR INCLUSION OF AN ITEM**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To consider the inclusion of an additional item in the Scrutiny Committee work programme.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 Protocol 1 of the Scrutiny Handbook provides a procedure for Members to follow when requesting items to be considered by the Scrutiny Committee (see also the Council's Constitution Part 4 Section 5 Rules of Procedures Paragraph 9).

**3. Item Requested**

- 3.1 The Lead Member for Health, Housing and Adult Services has requested consideration of the following item:

10 Sea View Road West Respite Centre

- 3.2 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the proposals to reduce the operating times of 10 Sea View Road West Respite Centre, brought to the attention of the Lead Member for Health, Housing and Adult Services by colleagues from Washington East ward.

- 3.3 10 Sea View Road West provides short breaks, away from their families, for up to seven disabled children and young people at a time. Short breaks give parents and carers a chance to recharge their batteries or spend more time with other children in their family.

- 3.4 At the same time children and young people who stay there are encouraged to enjoy themselves by making new friends and trying new experiences, ultimately helping them develop toward independence as much as they are able to. There are a number of communal areas including a lounge, dining room, cinema room and games room as well as a large rear garden with play area which includes play equipment for wheelchair users.

**4. Framework for Consideration of Submissions**

- 4.1 In accordance with the council's Constitution and with Protocol 1, the Committee may choose to respond within the following framework:

- (1) The Scrutiny Committee may determine that the item is not relevant to the functions of the Committee. In these circumstances the Committee can resolve to take no action.
- (2) If the issue is linked to an existing work programme item (within the next two cycles) then it should be discussed as part of that item and included in any officer report.
- (3) If the issue is a new item of business, the Scrutiny Committee may:
  - (a) Request a response in writing (with copies to all Members of the Committee) or
  - (b) Request a presentation or report to a future Scrutiny Committee meeting, or
  - (c) Request a presentation or report to a future Panel meeting, or
  - (d) Decide that the issue raised does not merit any response beyond noting the matter, or
  - (e) Decide to express a view or make a recommendation if the Committee considers it has sufficient information to make a fully informed decision.

## **5. Recommendation**

The Committee is asked to consider the request and determine from the framework set out in Section 4 of this report which option to pursue.

## **6. Background Papers**

Sunderland City Council Constitution and Scrutiny Handbook

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