

<b>1</b>	<b>What is the proposal?</b>										
<p>The proposal is for the Council to stop providing play activities at Edgewick Play Centre and Eagle Street Play Centre – both located in Foleshill. There is a need for additional early learning places in the Foleshill area for 2, 3 and 4 year olds and so the preferred alternative use of the building is for a nursery provider to deliver provision from these buildings.</p>											
<b>2</b>	<b>What is the rationale for this particular proposal and what are the key messages?</b>										
<p>Conversations with voluntary sector providers would enable an improved understanding about the potential for the buildings to be used to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of nursery places in the Foleshill area for two, three and four year olds;</li> <li>• Improve the chances of children to be ready for school; and</li> <li>• Provide a potential rental income for the Council.</li> </ul>											
<b>3</b>	<b>Service Description</b>										
<b>3.1</b>	<b>What does the service do?</b>										
<p>The two play centres provide play activities for children from 5 to 12 year olds after school and in the school holidays and are open-access and non-regulated. Activities enable children to explore, develop and enjoy their play in a safe, friendly environment and include: arts and crafts, organised trips, sports and games, drama and music, cookery, cultural celebrations, special events, sewing, local and family trips and outdoor play (in adjoining outdoor play space). In addition the Positive Youth Foundation use Edgewick Play Centre on Saturdays.</p>											
<b>3.2</b>	<b>How many people use the service?</b>										
<p>A total of 173 children aged 5-12 years old are registered at the two play centres as at 31 August 2015. A total of 80 children attend five or more sessions per week.</p>											
<b>3.3</b>	<b>When is the service open?</b>										
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Play Centre</th> <th>Term time</th> <th>School Holiday</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Eagle Street</td> <td>Monday to Friday : 3pm – 6.30pm, Saturday: 10.30am – 3.30pm</td> <td>Monday to Thursday : 10.30am – 3.30pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Edgewick</td> <td>Monday to Friday: 2.45 pm – 5.45pm, Saturday: 10am – 3pm</td> <td>Monday to Thursday: 9.45am – 2.45pm</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>In addition, the Positive Youth Foundation use Edgewick play centre on Saturdays.</p>			Play Centre	Term time	School Holiday	Eagle Street	Monday to Friday : 3pm – 6.30pm, Saturday: 10.30am – 3.30pm	Monday to Thursday : 10.30am – 3.30pm	Edgewick	Monday to Friday: 2.45 pm – 5.45pm, Saturday: 10am – 3pm	Monday to Thursday: 9.45am – 2.45pm
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<b>3.4</b>	<b>Are service users currently charged for using the service?</b>										
<p>There is no charge – the activities are free. The Council fully funds the play centres through core resources.</p>											
<b>3.5</b>	<b>What is the history and background to the service?</b>										
<p>It is understood that the play centres were opened in 1984 and were funded by the Urban Aid programme for 3 years. When the 3 years ended, a public meeting was held and parents expressed their concerns about what would happen to the children when we closed. The centres were kept open and Leisure Services taking over the running costs. For several years Children’s Services have paid for the costs of the play centres and their activities. It is understood that there was a large hut on the Eagle Street play centre land that belonged to the church that was open several evenings each week so the children in the area had somewhere safe to play.</p>											
<b>3.6</b>	<b>Is there any additional relevant service information? (e.g. value of</b>										

	<b>service/interdependencies etc.)</b>									
	No – all key points covered above.									
<b>4</b>	<b>What are the proposed financial savings?</b>									
	The Council can save a total of £165,000 annual revenue costs of £125,000 (direct costs of which £115,000 are staff costs) plus £40,000 property costs by stopping play centre activities.									
<b>5</b>	<b>What is the potential impact on service users (see Equality and Consultation Analysis) and what is the potential mitigation?</b>									
	Impact on service users will depend on whether they could access alternatives. These options will be comprehensively pursued and the outcome of this will feed into final decisions about the play centres. It is recognised that there may or may not be a charge for these activities.									
<b>6</b>	<b>What is the impact on staff?</b>									
	9 staff would be impacted by the changes. These comprise 1 manager who covers the two centres (Grade 6) and 8 staff (combination of grade 2 and grade 3). The play centres have a full time equivalent of 4.42 posts. All staff are female.									
	<b>Grade</b>	G6	G3	G3	G2	G2	G2	G2	G2	G2
	<b>Hours</b>	37	22	22	16	15.5	13	13	13	12
<b>7</b>	<b>What are the potential options are there for the use of the buildings?</b>									
	There are a range of options and additional options could be identified through the public consultation period. Options could include:									
	1) Buildings used by Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) nurseries to increase number of 2, 3, 4 year old Early Learning places (buildings could be sold or rented as part of an agreement) – option preferred by the service.									
	2) Selling the land and building and it being used for a different purpose.									
	3) Community groups running activities from the building (building asset transferred, sold or rented).									
	4) Local schools could utilise the space.									
	5) The space could be used for social care contact.									
<b>8</b>	<b>What other service alternatives have been considered?</b>									
	An alternative could be to charge parents to use the centre. This hasn't been explored in detail but it is likely that although this would cover some costs it could still leave a deficit.									

**Additional information: Play Centre Attendance data – as 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015**

<b>Eagle Street Play Centre</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Number of children registered (who attend at least once a quarter)	94	51	43
Number of children who attend once a month or more (in the last quarter)	26	14	12
Number of children who attend once a week or more (in the last quarter)	66	36	30
Number of children who attend 5 or more sessions per week (in the last quarter)	40	23	17
Average number of children attending a weekday session ( in the last quarter)	30	17	13
Average number of children attending a Saturday session (in the last quarter)	30	17	13
Average number of children attending a school holiday session (in the last quarter)	40	21	19

<b>Edgewick Play Centre</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Number of children registered (who attend at least once a quarter)	79	45	34
Number of children who attend once a month or more (in the last quarter)	20	10	10
Number of children who attend once a week or more (in the last quarter)	49	24	25
Number of children who attend 5 or more sessions per week (in the last quarter)	40	17	23
Average number of children attending a weekday session (in the last quarter)	30	12	18
Average number of children attending a Saturday session (in the last quarter)	30	16	14
Average number of children attending a school holiday session (in the last quarter)	40	18	22

\*To be registered a child needs to have attended once or more in a quarter. At the end of each quarter the registers are refreshed and children who have not attended during the quarter are taken off the register. Children can be re-registered if they attend a session.

### **Ethnic profile of children – September 2015**

The ethnic origin of the **173** children registered was recorded as follows:

Pakistani	44	Asian/Other	3
White/British	45	Bangladeshi	3
African	35	Mixed/Other	6
Arabic	11	White/Other	6
Indian	8	African/Caribbean	2
Caribbean	7	Iraqi	3

### **Analysis of Children - Common Assessment Framework/Children In Need and Child Protection Plans**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Edgewick</b>	<b>Eagle St</b>	<b>Total</b>
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Children with open Common Assessment Frameworks (CAFs)	3	0	3
Children In Need (on-going referral with no Looked After Children or Child Protection status)	5	2	7
Children with current Child Protection plans	0	2	2
Looked After Children:	2	0	2

### **Supplement: Play Centres and Nursery Provision for children aged 0-5 years**

#### **Context**

- All parents are entitled to 15 hours a week for 38 weeks per year fund nursery provision (known as “Early Education”) at no cost to them (funded) for their 3 and 4 year old children.
- Approximately 40% of all 2 years are entitled to 15 hours a week for 38 weeks per year fund nursery provision (known as “Early Education”) at no cost to them (funded) for their 2 year old children (in the term following their birthday). The eligibility criteria is similar to that for free school meals for school-age children.
- Parents need to pay for any nursery provision for their 0-2 year old children and for any hours over and above the 15 hours provision.
- It is a children’s services priority to encourage as many parents of 2, 3 and 4 year old children to take up their 15 hours a week entitlement to nursery provision.

#### **Rationale for recommended option**

The data shows that there is scope for expansion of nursery provision in the Foleshill area.

- There are limited vacancies for 2 year old funded places in the nurseries near Edgewick (George Elliot and Wonder Years)
- There are currently 90 eligible 2 year old children in Foleshill (52%) who do not take up their 15 hours per week entitlement – most of these live in the area surrounding Edgewick.
- There are currently 139 children aged 3 and 4 years old (18%) who do not take up their 15 hours per week entitlement. This is one of the highest levels of non-take up in Coventry.
- In terms of “sufficiency” the ideal scenario would be for the space at Edgewick to focus on 2 year olds (with 24 placed delivered morning and afternoon to meet this need) – although a provider could run a mix of 2,3 and 4 year old provision.
- For the Eagle Street site, sufficiency is less of a current issue. However may be a viable business option for someone to offer full day-care all year round for children birth to 5 years due to the continued housing development within the ward. This would offer greater choice for parents within this area.
- The demand for nursery provision will increase with an increase in entitlement to 30 hours for working parents in September 2017.
- There is an awareness that nursery providers are interested in providing more nursery provision in the Foleshill area.

#### **Building adaptations**

- There is capital funding currently available that could be applied for in order to support the development of these projects.

#### **Current provision in the Foleshill ward**

5 full day-care providers (George Eliot (no grading – new owner), Little Angels (good), Wonder Years (good), Little Swanswell (good) and Banana Moon (no grading newly opened)

- operating all day, all year round childcare for children birth to 5 years. One of these providers is looking currently for additional sites to expand.
- 1 sessional care provider (Foleshill Children’s Centre) offering mornings or afternoons only delivering early education (15 hours funded childcare) for 2 year olds and 3 and 4 year olds
- 6 Nursery Classes: 5 of which are offering morning and afternoon provision for 3 and 4 year olds and one offers morning only childcare for the same age group.
- Also there are 5 childminders offering a range of services to children under and over 5 with some school collections and 2 of these childminders offer early education places to children 2, 3 and 4 years old (15 hours funded childcare).