CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet Member for Children and Family Services** held on Tuesday, 4th May, 2010 at Fred Flint Room, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor P Findlow, Cabinet Member for Children and Family Services

In attendance

Councillor Rhoda Bailey, Cabinet Support Member

Officers

Fintan Bradley, Services Manager, Improvement and Achievement Maureen Hills, Solicitor Paul Mountford, Legal and Democratic Services Mark Thornton, Children and Family Services

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

4 WRENBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL - CHANGE OF AGE RANGE

The Cabinet Member for Children and Family Services considered a report proposing a change of age range from 4-11 to 3-11 years old at Wrenbury Primary School.

Wrenbury Primary School was part of the South Cheshire Rural Nursery Consortium which was established to enable 3 and 4 year olds to access part of their free education entitlement which the Council had a statutory duty to provide for all 3 and 4 year olds under s.7 of the Childcare Act 2006.

With the introduction of the Single Funding Formula from April 2010 and the enhanced flexible free entitlement from September 2010, it was now necessary for the Consortium to be disbanded and for schools to be funded individually from April 2010. Consequently each school in the consortium would need to be able to admit children from age 3. Wrenbury currently admitted children from age 4. Failure to extend the age range at Wrenbury could mean the local authority was not able to meet its statutory duty to secure sufficient childcare in the area. There were no other providers able to provide free entitlement for the children in the area and so the only option open to the Council was to extend the age range at Wrenbury.

RESOLVED

That Officers be authorised to consult on and publish a statutory notice in respect of proposals to change the age range from 4-11 to 3-11 years old at Wrenbury Primary School, Nantwich Road, Wrenbury, Cheshire.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 10.15 am

Councillor J P Findlow (Cabinet Member)