

Amendment to Opposition motion: Supporting our nurseries (agenda item 14.9) in the name of Cllr Anne Clarke

**Amendment by: Cllr David Longstaff
Supporting our nurseries**

Delete all and replace with:

“Council notes that the council subsidised nurseries have recently raised the issue of budget challenges and further notes the nurseries in question are not in any position to close themselves. Any closure would be a decision of the Council, after consultation, and require the agreement of the Chairman of the Children, Education & Safeguarding (CES) Committee. The council has no plans to close any of the four nurseries.

Council notes that representatives from the nurseries have already met, in September 2019, with the Leader of the Council, Cllr. Dan Thomas, Executive Director of Children's services, Chris Munday and Service Director of Education and Skills, Ian Harrison, to discuss financial issues. As with any school facing a deficit, the council will work with the school to balance the budget.

Council notes that at the last CES committee meeting, through a Members Item brought by Cllr. Anne Clarke, it was agreed to incorporate nurseries' financing into the Annual School Funding report. The next report will be received at the January 2020 CES meeting.”

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

Amendment by: Cllr Pauline Coakley Webb
Supporting our nurseries

Delete all and replace with (addition in bold):

Council notes that without further funding in the medium to long-term, the four outstanding nurseries that are currently subsidised by Barnet Council will close.

Council notes that, for example, the Barnet Early Years Alliance nursery schools are currently forecasting a deficit of £92,922 in 2020/21 and a deficit of £468,926 in 2021/22.

Council supports the maintained nursery schools' need for a long-term viable funding formula to be put in place from 2020 onwards to provide for the additional costs which maintained nursery schools face in relation to their statutory obligations including to employ a headteacher, qualified teachers and other staff on local authority pay scales.

Council believes the formula must take into account that maintained nursery schools are schools and in addition to the hourly rate under the EYNFF they should be entitled to school-based funding including a lump sum and premises components for reimbursement of business rates.

Council instructs officers to meet with the four nurseries to discuss their funding situation and come up with a plan to ensure they do not close and can plan for a sustainable future.

Council requests the CES Committee receives an update on this plan at its next meeting.

[Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.]