

11 EDUCATION DEPARTMENT - REDESIGNATION AND REGRADING OF POST (AN4-2003)

Reference is made to Article I of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 16th August, 1999, wherein the Committee approved the temporary establishment of a new Early Years and Childcare Team, to deliver the expansion of pre-school education and childcare. Following continuation of funding to support these areas, at its meeting of 11th March, 2002 the Committee approved the extension of these posts until the end of March 2004.

Since the establishment of the Team, the childcare agenda has continued to expand rapidly. In particular, Out of School Care Clubs have increased significantly. Additional funding from the newly announced New Opportunities Fund will further increase childcare services across the City, thus increasing the workload of the Out of School Care Co-ordinator.

The current post of Family Support Co-ordinator, grade PO7-10, currently £28,187 - £30,323, is currently vacant as a result of the seconded postholder returning to his substantive post in Social Work. The duties and responsibilities of this post have been reviewed and redistributed within the team and, in particular, the family support aspects are being undertaken within the Parents' Services Initiative.

Therefore, it is proposed to redesignate the Family Support Co-ordinator post to Childcare Services Development Officer and regrade it to AP4, currently £18,878 - £20,897.

This proposal will result in a saving of £2,425 in the current financial year, and £11,975 in a full financial year.