

## Appendix A: Children's Centre Proposal

### **PROJECT TITLE: Peacehaven Sure Start Children's Centre**

#### **1. Summary of Programme request**

Request for £480,000 as earmarked in the Children's Centre Implementation Plan for the construction of a single-storey extension to the existing Peacehaven Clinic building which is owned by Sussex Downs and Weald Primary Care Trust and leased to East Sussex County Council on a 25 year lease for the provision of Children's Centre services.

The sum of £480,000 is from the original £1,000,000 allocation of capital for the Sure Start Local Programme for the Havens, £500,000 having already been allocated to Newhaven for the Denton Island Children's Centre and £20,000 towards the refurbishment of the Annex Room at Meridian Primary School.

#### **2. About your capital programme**

**The total amount of capital money available for the Peacehaven Sure Start Children's Centre programme is outlined below in Table 1.**

Table 1

a)	<b>Total Sure Start Capital available</b>	£480,000
b)	<b>Additional funding</b>	0
c)	<b>Total Project Funding</b>	£480,000

#### **3. Details of what you need the money for**

##### **Sure Start Children's Centre Development Description**

This will be the main centre for the Peacehaven Sure Start Children's Centre and will enable the fulfilment of the Core Offer through a range of services and the co-location of a multi-agency integrated team. The Peacehaven Sure Start Children's Centre will be made up of this main centre and two satellites at Peacehaven Infant School and The Ashington Room, Ashington Gardens.

The planned changes for the co-location of teams in the existing building are already under way and there is severe pressure on the available space for service provision. The extension to the building will consist of two bookable rooms for which the Sure Start Children's Centre activities will have priority. One will provide registered crèche provision to support a range of groups, training,

family support and employment outreach activities, etc. The second room will be used for the aforementioned activities for parents/carers, meetings and events. The crèche room will also be available for specific work with children and parents together. In addition it is planned that there will be a separate kitchen/area, comfortable seating area/resource library and additional office accommodation.

Sussex Downs and Weald PCT are about to commence a refurbishment of the existing building and it is planned that the extension will complement this and that the two projects will maximise space for service provision. The delivery of activities will be planned across all 5 bases to best meet the needs of the local community as the geography of the area and poor transport links can lead to families with young children being particularly isolated.

### **Development Design and Project Management**

The Capital Plans for the Havens Sure Start Local Programme included extensive local consultation for a site in Peacehaven. The original location selected (The Joff) was found to be unsuitable following a structural engineer's report. A subsequent consultation exercise identified the Peacehaven Clinic site as meeting the requirements of local families for a centre that was central, near to shops and other services and on a main bus route.

The Government's preferred option of a school site is not a possibility in the Peacehaven area as one of the two schools does not have space for development and the other is not centrally located. Both schools are enthusiastic about their satellite status and fully engaged as partners to deliver the core offer for Children's Centres.

A design brief is currently being developed in consultation with a user group and will shortly be in a position to select architects for the project. A steering group has been established and includes members of PCT management, estates management, ESCC staff and the Sure Start Programme Manager.

An experienced member of South Downs Health Trust staff, who are contracted to provide Estates Management for Sussex Downs and Weald PCT, will carry out the project management.

### **Management and Ownership**

The extension will be owned by Sussex Downs and Weald PCT and it is proposed that it will be leased to East Sussex County Council on a 25 year lease for the provision of Children's Centre services.