

Report to: **Scrutiny Committee for Children's Services**
Date: **23 March 2006**
Title of report: **Call-in - Parental contributions towards the costs of local authority care for their children**
By: **Director of Law and Performance Management**
Purpose of report: **To allow the Committee to consider the decision made by the Lead Member for Children and Families on 23 February regarding parental contributions towards the costs of local authority care for their children**

RECOMMENDATION – that the Committee reviews the decision taken and decides whether to:

- **Proceed with the original decision**
 - **Refer the decision back to Lead Member for Children and Families**
 - **Refer the matter to full Council**
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1. Background

1.1 A report regarding parental contributions towards the costs of local authority care for their children was presented to the Lead Member for Children and Families on 23 February (see Annex A).

1.2 The Lead Member for Children and Families made the decision to re-institute the policy of charging parents and those with parental responsibility a contribution towards the costs of local authority care for their children (see Annex B).

1.3 This decision was called in by Councillor Rosalyn St. Pierre on 28 February 2006 (see Annex C).

1.4 The Director of Children's Services has provided a written response to the concerns outlined in the call in request (see Annex D - F).

2. Conclusion

2.1 In accordance with the East Sussex County Council Constitution (part 4, section 5, point 20) the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee can review the original decision and decide whether to:

- Proceed with the original decision
- Refer the decision back to Lead Member for Children and Families
- Refer the matter to full Council

ANDREW OGDEN
Director of Law and Performance Management

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Local Members: All

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None