

SOCIAL AFFAIRS SELECT COMMITTEE
26 March 2013 at 7.00 pm

Further to the recent despatch of agenda and papers for the above meeting, please find the following item(s) which were marked as 'to follow':

9. **Feedback from Members' Visits** (Pages 1 - 2)

- Edenbridge Sure Start Centre 25 March 2013

To assist in the speedy and efficient despatch of business, Members wishing to obtain factual information on items included on the Agenda are asked to enquire of the appropriate Director or Contact Officer named on a report prior to the day of the meeting.

Should you require a copy of this agenda or any of the reports listed on it in another format please do not hesitate to contact the Democratic Services Team as set out below.

For any other queries concerning this agenda or the meeting please contact:

The Democratic Services Team (01732 227241)

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VISIT REPORT**SOCIAL AFFAIRS SELECT COMMITTEE - 25 MARCH 2013 AT 1PM**

Name of Organisation: Edenbridge Sure Start Children's Centre
Name of contact at the Organisation: Ailsa Winstanley, Centre Manager
Address of the Organisation: High Street, Edenbridge, TN8 5AB. Tel: 01732 864045 Email: edenbridgevhildrenscentre@kent.gov.uk
Please summarise the work of the organisation: An Early Years Intervention Sure Start Scheme to make sure children from deprived/difficult backgrounds get a similar start in life to people born in more prosperous settings. They work hand in hand with Social Services and run parenting groups and courses as well as activities (music, craft etc) for children. They cater for anything to do with the Early Years Foundation Stage (0-5 years) looking at playing, healthy eating, home safety, standards of living, social problems (alcohol/drug abuse) and anti social behaviour. Anyone with a child aged 0-5 can use the service but they particularly target travellers (they are not very happy about coming to the centre but the centre goes to them if they have a specific problem), ethnic minorities (Polish courses), people with social problems. Aim to stop people falling through the net. To give parents confidence to build their lives and signpost other places where they can get help where necessary – example further education. Be a place for isolated parents to meet others and support each other. Subtle courses on subjects such as domestic abuse and work with the Basement at the Eden Centre to reach out to young parents. They work with all the childrens centres in the District but are the sister centre to Dunton Green.
What are the main challenges faced by the organisation? Getting as many people through the door as possible
Do their clients come from the Sevenoaks District or a wider area? Mainly Edenbridge Town Centre by walking. They technically cover the following villages but they don't tend to come in large numbers due to difficulty in getting there: Cowden, Hever, Leigh, Chiddingstone, Penshurst and Fordcombe.
Who mainly refers clients to them? How to people know about their services? They bring themselves in, the centre finds them, Midwives, Health visitors, Schools, pre-schools, Neighbours, SDC
Who are their primary funders? KCC

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Do they benefit from any contact with the District Council?

Yes. They work closely with Kelly Webb and her team as well attending Gypsy Liaison Meetings and Steering Groups.

If so, can this be improved (within existing resources)?