

**Ann Harding**

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**From:** Stuart Moules  
**Sent:** 02 October 2014 16:37  
**To:** 'Sam Weston'  
**Cc:** Aimee Mitford  
**Subject:** RE: Leicestershire County Council: Scale of Budget Cuts for the Educational Psychology Service

Dear Sam

Thank you for this. I am afraid it is not satisfactory insofar as it concedes that there is, as we thought, no elected Member decision to support the process described.

I will now write directly to the members of the Committee .

Thank you though for your efforts .

Kind regards

Stuart Moules  
Regional Officer (North)

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**From:** Sam Weston [mailto:Sam.Weston@leics.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 02 October 2014 16:17  
**To:** Stuart Moules  
**Cc:** Aimee Mitford  
**Subject:** RE: Leicestershire County Council: Scale of Budget Cuts for the Educational Psychology Service

Dear Stuart,

Please find attached below a response to the issues you raise which I have sent on behalf of the Assistant Director of Children and Families here at the County Council.

Please note that there will be an opportunity to raise issues through a consultation process that will take place when the action plan is launched in January.

**Sam Weston**

Democratic Services  
Chief Executive's Department  
Leicestershire County Council  
0116 305 6226  
sam.weston@leics.gov.uk  
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The County Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2014/15 – 2017/18 was agreed on 19 February 2014 and included a financial saving for the educational psychology service of £240,000 for the 2015/16 financial year. The Council faces challenging savings targets: Children and Family Services has been required to deliver savings of £30.2m between 2010/11 and 2014/15 and is required to deliver further savings of £12.69m over the four year period of the medium term financial strategy.

The service considered the options to achieve the full saving in the 2015/16 financial year and provided proposals that honoured the services commitments to schools for the 2014/15 academic year. However, to do that it was deemed necessary to implement a restructure commencing in September, part way through the financial year. As a result the savings need to be delivered over 7 months and therefore need to make a greater reduction in the service, this reduction delivers a full financial year saving of £391,000.

The governance arrangements within the Children and Families Department surrounding the delivery of departmental savings are through the department's Transformation Board, the proposed restructure delivering savings of £391,000 was agreed at this Board on August 20<sup>th</sup> following extensive discussions within the department and with the service manager.

The Council is currently in the process of defining the saving requirement for 2015/16 to 2018/19, through this process all growth and savings are in the process of being reviewed and amended where appropriate. This process will confirm savings for the educational psychology service of £391,000 and will be subject to the Council's budget setting process.

Gillian Weston  
Assistant Director, Education, Learning and Skills  
Children and Family Services  
Leicestershire County Council  
0116 305 6432

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**From:** Aimee Mitford [<mailto:Aimee.Mitford@aep.org.uk>]  
**Sent:** 02 October 2014 14:14  
**To:** Sam Weston  
**Cc:** Stuart Moules  
**Subject:** Leicestershire County Council: Scale of Budget Cuts for the Educational Psychology Service

Dear Sam

Further to our telephone call yesterday, please find attached a copy of the letter I discussed with you and the relevant appendix. I have not attached a copy of the Transformation Board minutes referred to in the letter as I only have a paper copy of it and I am not in the office to pdf it for you. If you want a copy then please say so and I will send it to you next time I am in my office, which is Tuesday next week.

I am happy for you to undertake some investigations of your own but I do need to be clear that what I am looking for specifically is a minute of a meeting, at which Councillors approved the uplift in the savings from the published £240,000 to the £391,000 figure now being formally touted within Children and Families. As I say we have looked and cannot find one.

If you cannot direct us to such a minute, then please let me know as I will then ask you to send my letter to each member of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards

Stuart Moules  
Regional Officer (North)

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'the voice of the profession'

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