EDUCATION, SPORT AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

18 JUNE 2024

UPDATE ON CONSULTATION WITH USERS OF THE GROUND FLOOR OF ST LENNANS CENTRE

Report by Chief Officer for Education & Children's Services

PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of the Report is to update members on the consultation with users of Pointers Youth Centre linked to the Bairns Hoose initiative.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 In February 2024, following a report to Education, Sport and Children's Services Committee regarding identifying premises to host a Bairns Hoose provision, it was agreed to consult with users of the Pointers Youth Centre to gain an insight into how users would feel about a potential move from the current base in the St Lennan's building.
- 2.2 Having identified alternatives, a consultation paper was drawn up and circulated to users of the building. Although a short timeline was agreed upon in order to report back to June Committee, a total of 109 responses were received with a summary attached as an appendix to this report.
- 2.3 The findings of the consultation demonstrated that young people who currently access support via Pointers were predominantly against the proposal to relocate.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Comhairle note the report.

Contact Officer: Fiona MacInnes-Begg

Appendix: Pointers Consultation Summary

Background Papers:

IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The following implications are applicable in terms of the Report.

Resource Implications	Implications/None
Financial	n/a
Legal	n/a
Staffing	n/a
Assets and Property	n/a
Strategic Implications	Implications/None
Risk	
Equalities	
Corporate Strategy	
Environmental Impact	
Consultation	

BACKGROUND

- 5.1 In February 2024, following a report to Education Committee regarding identifying premises to host a Bairns Hoose provision, it was agreed to consult with users of the Pointers Youth Centre to gain an insight into how users would feel about a potential move from the current base.
- 5.2 All current users of the building were encouraged to respond to the consultation.

DETAIL

- 6.1 A consultation of users of Pointers was undertaken during April and May 2024 and 109 responses were received. The full summary of the findings of consultation are provided in appendix to this report.
- 6.2 Conclusions from the consultation are attached but worth noting are the following:
 - The numbers using the facility were spread over a range of ages with 17-21 years of age and 12-16 being the most popular.
 - Although based in the town centre, young people travel in from a number of outlying areas to attend.
 - Currently, twelve groups are supported in Pointers.
 - Just over half of the respondents felt that moving the location would have a negative effect on them.

CONCLUSION

7.1 The Committee should note the content of the report and consider the views and information provided in the consultation response when determining future decisions about the St Lennan's building and the Pointers facility within it.