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Our ref	SR/FIN/CA1202
Your ref	
Date	24 <sup>th</sup> August 2016

Dear Stuart

### **Etwall John Port Leisure Centre – Joint Use Agreement**

Thank you for your letter of 22 July 2016 regarding Derbyshire's contribution to the above joint use agreement. It is helpful that the Joint Management Committee recognises the challenging financial position that the County Council faces and understands our need to make difficult financial decisions.

Your letter asked the Council to consider a staged reduction in the withdrawal of the funding to allow South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC) and Etwall John Port School (EJPS) time to manage the impact.

The County Council has reflected on your request and is agreeable in principle, to a phased reduction. The County Council would be prepared to phase the reduction over two years with 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the reduction, around £11,341 (based on 2015-16) to be made in April 2017 with the balance being withdrawn from April 2018.

This profile, which maintains the majority of the funding in 2017-18, gives SDDC and EJP over 18 months to manage the full reduction, a timeline which exceeds the 12 months which would apply if the joint use agreement were to be terminated.

The Council believes that the revised offer is fair to all parties and provides the JMC with a reasonable timeframe within which to respond to the loss of funding.

As an aside, I am exploring whether or not Etwall John Port School has a case for additional funding from the Education Funding Agency for an exceptional site factor. If successful this should offset the impact on the

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school's budget of the removal of the Council's funding. The school may also gain as a result of the National Formula Funding changes which are due to be implemented from 2018/19.

On the matter of the Children's Centre although Cabinet agreed we were no longer able fund a full service from Etwall Children's Centre it was recognised that, due to the rurality of the area, we needed to provide a base for services for children and families to exist at a local level. We are therefore currently negotiating with partners in health and other services to contribute to sustaining a service delivery point which will support local families.

I should be grateful if you would consider the contents of this letter and seek the agreement of the Joint Management Committee to the revised reduction in joint use funding proposals at your earliest convenience.

Regards

Yours sincerely



**Chris Allcock**  
**Head of Finance, Children's Services**

cc Chair of Governors, John Port School

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