

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

**EARLY HELP DIRECTORATE ANNUAL REVIEW 2022/23**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To consider the Early Help Directorate Annual Report for 2022/23 and the operation of the service.
- 1.2 To also receive an update on the current position with regards to Family Hubs.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 In setting its work programme for the year, the Committee agreed to receive an update on the work of the Early Help Service, together with an update on Family Hubs.
- 2.2 The current Early Help Directorate was established on 1 April 2017, to replace the previous arrangements which were known as 'Strengthening Families'.
- 2.3 The Directorate also has responsibility for the Youth Offending Service, Targeted Youth Services, Prevention and Innovation services which include Participation and Engagement, Family Group Conferencing and Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE). More recently, responsibility for the Government's Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme has been added to the areas of responsibility.

**3. Current Position**

- 3.1 Karen Davison (Director of Early Help) will be in attendance to present the report and answer questions with regard to the Early Help Service. A copy of the Annual Review is attached.
- 3.2 Natalie Effard (Early Help Service Manager – Family Hubs and Family Support) will also be in attendance to provide a presentation on the Family Hubs. A copy of the presentation is attached.

**4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Committee is requested to consider and comment on the report.

**5 Background Papers**