

PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES – QUARTERLY REPORT

REPORT OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES: CI02

1. Why has this report come to the Committee?

- 1.1 To provide members with an introduction to a performance report from the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services.
- 1.2 Councillor Pat Smith, the Executive Member holding the portfolio for Children's Services, will discuss current issues with the Review Committee.

2. Background

- 2.1 Scrutiny is a critical friend to the Council that will challenge poor performance and identify ways of improving services. It will support the Council in identifying innovative responses to the evolving policy framework and it will hold the organisation to account for its performance against stated priorities.
- 2.2 The Children's Services Review Committee is aligned to the Children's Services portfolio, although some investigations by the Committee will inevitably crossover into other areas of responsibility, for example, anti-social behaviour issues and delivery of health services.

3. Current position

- 3.1 The Portfolio Holder has been invited to present a quarterly monitoring report on targets within the portfolio. This will give the Review Committee a chance to take an overview of progress towards achieving the aims of the Corporate Improvement Objectives for the year and helps to show the clear relationship with the Portfolio Holder's responsibility for the service area.
- 3.2 The Lead Member for Children's Services has a wide ranging portfolio in relation to children and young people covering the following areas:

Improving the life chances of children and young people (including corporate parenting), protecting them from harm, facilitating their health development, securing their well-being and developing their potential through education including preparation for working life in fit for purpose facilities.

4. Conclusion

The Committee is recommended to :

- Discuss with Councillor Smith progress within the portfolio, objectives to date, and plans, priorities and challenges for the future;
- Identify any issues to be discussed further at future meetings.

5. Background Papers

Corporate Improvement Plan

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