
REVIEWING HUB

Purpose of the Report

1. This report provides Members with a brief overview of this issue. Members will receive a presentation at this meeting regarding the Reviewing Hub.

Background

2. The Safeguarding and Reviewing Service undertakes independent statutory review functions for children looked after and on the Child Protection Register (CPR). Reviews for children who are subject to Care and Support Plans and care leavers are currently managed by other teams. The proposal is to bring together all the reviewing functions into a "Reviewing Hub" that will add capacity to manage the increase in number of children looked after and on the CPR, and provide increased oversight, expertise and outcome focused planning for a broader range of children.

Issues

3. The presentation will take Members through the details of the proposal.

Scope of Scrutiny

4. This briefing enables the Committee to be made aware of the of the proposal and provide Members with the opportunity to input their views into its development.

Way Forward

5. At the meeting Councillor Graham Hinchey (Cabinet Member for Children and Families); Sarah McGill (Corporate Director, People and Communities); Deborah Driffield (Director of Children's Services); and Matt Osbourne (Team Manager,

Looked After Children Teams) will be in attendance to make a presentation and answer any questions Members may wish to ask.

6. Members may wish to review the information presented at the meeting and determine whether there are any comments, concerns or recommendations which they would like to pass on to the Cabinet Member, Corporate Director and Director of Children's Services.

Legal Implications

7. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

8. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to review the information provided at the meeting and provide any comments, concerns or recommendations to the Cabinet Member, Corporate Director and Director of Children's Services.

DAVINA FIORE
Director of Governance and Legal Services

02 November 2021