

REPORT TO:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee 14 July 2015
AGENDA ITEM:	7
SUBJECT:	Responses to Scrutiny recommendations on children's safeguarding
CABINET MEMBER:	Cllr Alisa Flemming Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Learning
PERSON LEADING AT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING:	Paul Greenhalgh Executive Director (People)

ORIGIN OF ITEM:	This item is contained in the sub-committee's agreed work programme.
RECOMMENDATION	To comment on the responses and to note the report.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 At the 3 February 2015 meeting, the Children and Young People made a number of recommendations relating to children's safeguarding. These were presented to Cabinet at its 16 March 2015 meeting and responses to the recommendations were presented at the 22 June Cabinet meeting.'
- 1.2 The Cabinet responses to the Scrutiny recommendations of this review are attached at Appendix 1.
- 1.3 Members are invited to comment on the responses and to note the report.


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APPENDIX 1

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT AND CABINET MEMBER RESPONDING	ACCEPT/REJECT RECOMMENDATIONS (with reasons if rejected)	IDENTIFIED OFFICER	ANY FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATIONS IF ACCEPTED (ie Action Plan)	DATE OF SCRUTINY MEETING
<p>The Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee, at its meeting on 3rd February 2015, resolved (Minute number A09/15 – Children’s Safeguarding) to:</p>						
<p>1. Run a greater range of learning and development events to help Members improve their understanding of the specific issues involved in child protection, including child sexual exploitation and missing children, and ensure that opportunities are provided to non-executive Members to carry out visits to gain a deeper understanding of child protection and safeguarding work</p>	<p>People Councillor Alisa Flemming</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Paul Greenhalgh, Executive Director People</p>	<p>The scrutiny recommendations may have financial implications which will be explored when the detailed proposals are developed</p>	<p>A separate Cabinet report in June 2015 seeks to agree the principle of the establishment of mandatory training for all members on safeguarding children and corporate parenting. Subject to agreement, this will then be provided as part of the members training programme.</p>	<p>Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee 14 July 2015</p>
<p>2. Provide Members with written guidance to clarify their role in safeguarding, covering the safeguarding of children and adults, and procedures to follow to raise and track concerns</p>	<p>People Councillors Alisa Flemming & Louisa Woodley</p>	<p>Accept the provision of guidance on Members role in relation to safeguarding</p>	<p>Paul Greenhalgh, Executive Director People</p>	<p>The scrutiny recommendations may have financial implications which will be explored when the detailed proposals are developed</p>	<p>Guidance will be incorporated into the safeguarding training referred to above.</p>	<p>Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee 14 July 2015</p>
<p>3. Consider the appointment of a safeguarding champion to work alongside the portfolio holder and deputy to work across children’s and adults’</p>	<p>People Councillors Alisa Flemming & Louisa Woodley</p>	<p>Reject: such a champion already exists in the role of the Independent Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children</p>	<p>Paul Greenhalgh, Executive Director People</p>			<p>Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee</p>

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safeguarding issues and to champion the needs of children, young people and adults who are in need of protection		Board				14 July 2015
4. Provide Members, and in particular the Cabinet Member and deputy, with more opportunities to directly hear the voice of the child or young person on child protection issues while recognising the sensitivity of engaging with children and young people at risk	People Councillor Alisa Flemming	Accept	Paul Greenhalgh, Executive Director People	The scrutiny recommendations may have financial implications which will be explored when the detailed proposals are developed	Arrangements are being put in place to hear more directly the voice of the child on the Corporate Parenting Committee . Appropriate safeguards will be put in place in relation to any data protection issues.	Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee 14 July 2015
5. Strengthen the link between Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee and the Corporate Parenting Panel by sharing Part A papers to the constituents of both groups	People Councillor Alisa Flemming	Reject as these are boards with separate functions; and the protocols around these boards align appropriately with other similar boards.	Paul Greenhalgh, Executive Director People			Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee 14 July 2015

APPENDIX 1

<p>6. Ask senior officers to provide assurances to Scrutiny that front-line workers are able to appropriately escalate concerns where this may be necessary</p>	<p>People Councillors Alisa Flemming & Louisa Woodley</p>	<p>Accept Although there is evidence that staff feel able to escalate concerns where necessary, it is helpful to reinforce this message</p>	<p>Paul Greenhalgh, Executive Director People</p>	<p>Within existing resources</p>	<p>With immediate effect</p>	<p>Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee 14 July 2015</p>
<p>7. Provide Scrutiny with up-to-date research findings regarding children's safeguarding issues</p>	<p>People Councillor Alisa Flemming</p>	<p>Accept.</p>	<p>Paul Greenhalgh, Executive Director People</p>	<p>Within existing resources</p>	<p>Where officers become aware of relevant research on children's safeguarding, this will be shared with scrutiny Members; appropriate synopses will be built in to training for Members.</p>	<p>Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee 14 July 2015</p>

