

**Name of meeting: Council**

**Date: 18 January 2017**

**Title of report: Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel - Children's Services  
Findings Report**

Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Not applicable
Is it in the <a href="#">Council's Forward Plan</a> ?	Not applicable
Is it eligible for "call in" by <a href="#">Scrutiny</a> ?	Not applicable
Date signed off by <u>Director</u> & name	
Is it signed off by the Director of Resources?	n/a
Is it signed off by the Assistant Director - Legal & Governance?	Julie Muscroft
Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a>	n/a

Electoral [wards](#) affected: N/A

Ward councillors consulted: N/A

Public / Private report: Public

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## 1. Purpose of report

1.1 To present the findings report of the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel – Children's Services.

## 2. Key points

2.1 Following a request from the Chief Executive it was considered important that the work of the Children's Services Development Board was subject to the independent challenge of Overview and Scrutiny. Consequently in May 2016 the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee established the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel - Children's Services with the terms of reference set out below.

## **Terms of Reference of the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel**

1. To consider the work programme of the Children's Development Board within the Term of Reference set for it.
2. To challenge the prioritisation of the work of the Board and contribute ideas on the achievement of the programme.
3. To comment on the performance framework developed to provide oversight for the work of the Board.
4. To assist the portfolio holders for Children's Services in providing Councillor input to the development programme.
5. To consider the fit of identified development work with the developing Early Intervention and Prevention (EI&P) approach within New Council Programme.

The Panel met between May and October 2016 to carry out its work and is now taking its findings through the decision making process.

2.2 Appended to this report is the findings report of the Scrutiny Panel. A summary of the recommendations arising from the investigation is set out on pages 36 – 38. A copy of the Cabinet response and supporting narrative will circulated prior to the Council.

### **3. Implications for the Council**

The recommendations made by the Scrutiny Panel reflect and complement areas that have already been identified as a priority by the Council.

### **4. Consultees and their opinions - N/A**

### **5. Next steps**

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee will consider monitoring requirements to ensure agreed recommendations are implemented. The Committee will also determine the scrutiny arrangements for areas of follow up work identified in the findings report.

### **6. Officer recommendations and reasons**

That Council consider the findings of the AD Hoc Scrutiny Panel – Children's Services.

### **7. Cabinet portfolio holder recommendation**

Not applicable

### **8. Contact officer and relevant papers**

Penny Bunker, Governance and Democratic Engagement Manager

### **9. Assistant Director responsible**

Julie Muscroft, Assistant Director Legal, Governance and Monitoring