

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AS CHAMPION OR VICE-CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive – Legal and Democratic

Wards Affected

None

Purpose

1. To consider appointing Councillors on the Committee as Champion or Vice-Champion for Children' Services Scrutiny Committee based on the five areas of Every Child Matters.

Financial Implications

2. None directly as a result of this report, however, Members attendance at meetings may incur additional expenditure from the Members Allowance budget.

Background

3. At its meeting on 7th July 2008, the Chairman proposed that, in the interests of furthering the Committee Members knowledge and appreciation of the varied issues within the Directorate, the Committee consider appointing each of the Councillors on the Committee as either a Champion or Vice-Champion for one of each of the five outcome areas for the Every Child Matters agenda (Be Healthy; Stay Safe; Enjoy and Achieve; Make a Positive Contribution and Achieve Economic Well-being).
4. Champions and Vice-Champions would be encouraged to take a more proactive role in the Committee's work by shadowing and observing appropriate meetings to enable them to hear first hand some of the issues that had to be addressed. The Chairman also proposed that the involvement of the Champions would be governed by terms of reference.
5. The Committee agreed with the proposal and the Chairman subsequently raised the subject at Strategic Monitoring Committee on 10 September 2008 when the proposal was accepted.
6. Following discussion between the Chairman and the Director of Children's Services the attached draft Terms of Reference, set out at Appendix 1, have been compiled for consideration and approval.
7. Councillors are requested to identify their preferred ECM area of interest so that roles can be considered by the Chairman.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from Paul James,
Democratic Services Officer on 01432 260460.

RECOMMENDATION

- THAT a) the Committee agree the Terms of Reference, set out at Appendix 1, for the appointment of Children's Services Scrutiny Champions and Vice-Champions
- b) Members express their preferred areas of interest to the Chairman in order that roles can be allocated

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None identified.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from Paul James,
Democratic Services Officer on 01432 260460.