

## **HEREFORDSHIRE CHILDCARE INFORMATION SERVICE – NATIONAL AWARD FOR SERVICE DELIVERY**

**Report By: HEAD OF POLICY AND RESOURCES**

### **Wards Affected**

Countywide.

### **Purpose**

1. To note the role of the Herefordshire Childcare Information Service, and the national commendation of the high quality of its work.

### **Financial Implications**

2. None.

### **Report**

3. The Herefordshire Child Information Service (CIS) was established in 1999 as an externally funded partnership service operating within Herefordshire Council. The service is required to be a specialist service, operating to national standards.
4. Since January 2002, the CIS has been incorporated in the range of services coming under the oversight of the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP), and works within the early years part of the Council's Education Directorate at Blackfriars Street in Hereford.
5. CIS exists to provide a range of services to parents/carers, early years providers and employers within the County. The services it provides are outlined in more detail in the leaflet made available to Members with this agenda. The EYDCP itself exists to help and support childcare and early years education in Herefordshire and works with all significant partners and providers within the County.
6. During the autumn of 2003, Herefordshire CIS was included in the national assessment of such services provided in all 150 English LEAs. Herefordshire's service was judged to be among the 30 LEAs whose service had reached the highest level of quality, for which the national quality award was given. The award was made on the basis of a rigorous independent assessment process.
7. The Manager of the Herefordshire CIS, Mr Bryan Twitty, will also be at the meeting of the Education Scrutiny Committee on 5th April to answer questions about the work that the service carries out.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Committee note the report.**

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For further information on the subject of this report is available from  
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