



**CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S
SERVICES MEETING
18 March 2008**

DERBY CITY COUNCIL

Report of the Corporate Director for Children and Young People

Children and Young Peoples Commission Report into the development of Children's Centres in Derby

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To note the CYP commissions findings and recommendations.
- 1.2 To note that the Children and Young People's Department has a development plan in place which will also ensure that the recommendations are being considered.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Children's Centre developments in Derby became the first area for focused scrutiny by the Children and Young People Commission. The Children and Young People's Department has considered the outcomes of the focused scrutiny exercise.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Children's Centres are a key component in the city of the delivery of integrated services in localities for children and their families.
- 3.2 The Childcare and Family Learning Service has the responsibility to develop and deliver Children's Centre services in 18 areas of the city to ensure that all families with children under 5 can access services in their immediate locality.
- 3.3 The Commission carried out a series of visits across the city and met with relevant key personnel from the Local Authority and our regional adviser from Together for Children.
- 3.4 The commission also visited another local authority to give a contrast to Derby's developments and plans.
- 3.5 The Commission concluded that Children's Centre services were well co-ordinated and managed and that Derby were an exemplar in respect of Children's Centre development and that the council has fully embraced its responsibilities as the accountable body.
- 3.6 The Commission made a number of recommendations which were a best value approach to be adopted with all Children's Centre partners, continuation of a hands on approach by the accountable body to ensure it maximizes the chance of identifying and engaging hard to reach groups and to successfully consolidate and integrate existing services into phase 3 developments.

- 3.7 The Childcare and Family Learning Service was already dealing with the issues that have been made the subject of recommendations in its Business Plan for 2007/08. These are matters that are the subject of an ongoing programme of development and therefore the Service has transferred all the recommendations into their Business Plan for 2008/09. In line with the Department's practice a clear action plan has been drawn up to ensure implementation.

Recommendation

- 4.1 To note the report by the Children and Young People's Commission on the developments of Children's Centres in the city.
- 4.2 To note that the Children and Young People's Department already has plans in place that will meet with the recommendations of the scrutiny exercise.
- 4.3 To acknowledge the success of the Children's Centre development programme in Derby

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Background papers:

List of appendices:

Appendix 1 - Implications

Appendix 2– List of allocations
