

Topic Review 2012

SUMMARY

- 1.1 At its first meeting of the municipal year (26 June 2012) the Board agreed to carry out a topic review into the Early Intervention Services.
- 1.2 The Strategic Director for Children and Young People highlighted at the meeting that it would be very difficult to support this review given that the Director, Early Intervention and Integrated Safeguarding was leaving Derby City Council in July.
- 1.3 The chair and vice chair met with the Strategic Director on 2 August to discuss the Board's work programme and topic review.
- 1.4 The Strategic Director suggested that the Board delayed their review of the Early Intervention Teams until the new year for the reasons set out below and instead conducted a detailed review of the City's Children's Homes.
- 1.5 The chair and vice chair agreed with this proposal and resolved to bring this suggestion to the Board for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To defer the Topic Review of Early Intervention Services until January 2013.
- 2.2 To agree to conduct a topic review into Derby City Council's Children's Homes with immediate effect.

Supporting Information

- 3.1 It was acknowledged at the Children and Young People Board meeting on 26 June 2012 that conducting a review into the Early Intervention Services would be difficult given the departure of the Director in July 2012. The new Service Director will be starting with the Authority on 24 September 2012 and delaying the topic review will enable her to have a better understanding of local services.

- 3.2 Additionally an inspection by Ofsted into the services for the protection of Looked after Children is likely between now and Christmas. One of the areas the inspection will focus on is the effectiveness of the early intervention and help offer, including identifying those children and young people that may be at risk. By postponing the review the Board would be able to look at the outcomes of this external inspection and incorporate its findings into their topic review in early 2013.
- 3.3 The Director - Specialist Services is conducting a review over the next few months into the Council's Children's Homes across the City, as the service is in need of review and reconfiguration to ensure that it meets the needs (and future needs) of the childcare population of Derby. The Strategic Director highlighted the benefits of this Board conducting a topic review on children's homes across the city at the same time, so that the Cabinet Member can consider all of the recommendations going forward.
- 3.4 A draft scoping report for a review into the Council's Children's Homes will be circulated at the meeting on 11 September 2012.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	NA
Financial officer	NA
Human Resources officer	NA
Service Director(s)	Andrew Bunyan, Strategic Director for Children and Young People
Other(s)	Mark Barratt, Director Specialist Services Phil O'Brien, Statutory Scrutiny Officer

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

1.1 None arising from this report.

Legal

2.1 None arising from this report.

Personnel

3.1 None arising from this report.

Equalities Impact

4.1 None arising from this report.

Health and Safety

5.1 None arising from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

6.1 None arising from this report.

Asset Management

7.1 None arising from this report.

Risk Management

8.1 None arising from this report.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 9.1 This report contributes to the following Council objectives:
- Feeling safe and being safe
 - A strong community
 - Good health and well-being

