



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 6 December 2007

Subject: Services for 8-13 year olds

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At the board's first meeting in June, members agreed to carry out an inquiry into services for 8-13 year olds as one of their major pieces of work this year. A copy of the agreed terms of reference is attached as appendix 1.
- 1.3 The first and second formal sessions of the inquiry were held in October. The attached documents outline the information requested for session three and part of session four of the inquiry:

Additional information requested in October

- Further information on summer holiday provision (appendix 2)
- PFI briefing – prepared for Youth Services inquiry in December 2006 (appendix 3)

Examples of targeted services

- Provision for children with disabilities (appendix 4)
- 'All Relative' Project (appendix 5)

Universal services

- Participation strategy (appendix 6)
- Play strategy (appendix 7)

- 1.4 Relevant officers will be at the meeting to present the information and respond to members' questions and comments. Representatives from the voluntary, community and faith sector will also be in attendance to provide their perspective on the issues contained within the scope of the inquiry.
- 1.5 An important feature of most of the Board's major inquiries is a programme of visits, which enable Members to gain first hand experience of the services being scrutinised. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to complete the programme of visits before the Board's meeting. Therefore the Board will need to postpone until January the sharing of findings from the visits, and discussion of the emerging conclusions and recommendations from the inquiry.
- 1.6 The following visits are being organised as part of the inquiry:
- Ireland Wood Primary School – ESNW extended schools cluster
 - Weekenders Club – play scheme for disabled children
 - Leeds City Athletics Club Junior Disability Group
 - Information – including the Hub and Breeze websites
 - Play provision
 - Primary School Council
 - Homework Club
 - After School Club

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 The board is requested to consider the issues raised by this session of the inquiry into services for 8-13 year olds.