



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 5 February 2009

Subject: Draft Report – MAST Inquiry

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At the Scrutiny Board meeting in November, members considered a request for scrutiny from Councillor Selby in relation to the Multi-Agency Support Team (MAST).
- 1.2 The board established a working group to consider the issues raised by the request. The working group met with Councillor Selby; representatives from the MAST team and local schools; and relevant officers in December.
- 1.3 The working group has now completed its work and the Board is now in a position to report on its conclusions and recommendations resulting from the evidence gathered. A draft report is attached.

2.0 Consultation

- 2.1 Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 14.3 states that "where a Scrutiny Board is considering making specific recommendations it shall invite advice from the appropriate Director(s) prior to finalising its recommendations. The Director shall consult with the appropriate Executive Member before providing any such advice. The detail of that advice shall be attached to the report".
- 2.2 The Director of Children's Services has indicated that there is no specific advice that she wishes to provide at this stage, before the Board finalises its report.
- 2.3 Once the Board publishes its final report, the Director will be asked to formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations within three months.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 The Board is requested to:-

- (i) Agree the Board's final report and recommendations.
- (ii) Request that officers formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations in May 2009.

Background papers

None