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## Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

### Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 17 September 2009

### Subject: Recommendation Tracking

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**Electoral Wards Affected:**

**Specific Implications For:**

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

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## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Each Scrutiny Board receives a quarterly report on any recommendations from previous inquiries which have not yet been completed.
- 1.2 This will allow the board to monitor progress and identify completed recommendations; those progressing to plan; and those where there is either an obstacle or progress is not adequate. The board will then be able to take further action as appropriate.
- 1.3 A standard set of criteria has been produced, to enable the board to assess progress. These are presented in the form of a flow chart at Appendix 1. The questions should help to decide whether a recommendation has been completed, and if not whether further action is required.
- 1.4 For each outstanding recommendation, a progress update is provided. In some cases there will be several updates, as the board has monitored progress over a period of time.
- 1.5 To assist members, the Principal Scrutiny Adviser has given a draft status for each recommendation. The board is asked to confirm whether these assessments are appropriate, and to change them where they are not.

- 1.6 In particular, members should note that some recommendations may have a draft status of 4 or 5. For these recommendations, the Principal Scrutiny Adviser suggests that progress has been made. However, the decision as to whether this progress is acceptable is a judgement for board members to make.
- 1.7 In deciding whether to undertake any further work, members will need to consider the balance of the board's work programme.

## **2.0 Next Steps**

- 2.1 The next cycle of quarterly recommendation tracking reports will be presented to Scrutiny Boards in December 2009, enabling the Board to judge progress against outstanding recommendations.

## **3.0 Recommendations**

- 3.1 Members are asked to:

- Agree those recommendations which no longer require monitoring;
- Identify any recommendations where progress is unsatisfactory and determine the action the board wishes to take as a result.

## **Background Papers**

Recommendation Tracking - Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 4 December 2006