



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board: Children's Services

Date: 28 January 2010

Subject: Draft Interim Scrutiny Inquiry Report – Safeguarding

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) has been carrying out a major inquiry into safeguarding. This inquiry is still ongoing and a final report will be produced following the conclusion of this work.
- 1.2 However, the Board has produced a draft interim report, specifically addressing the issue of children's assessment and care management social worker resources, prior to the finalisation of budget proposals for 2010/11. The draft report will be circulated prior to the Board meeting.

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 details of the advice received will be circulated with the draft report.
- 2.3 It is intended that this report will be presented to the Executive Board at their next meeting in February, in order that the recommendation can be considered alongside the budget proposals for 2010/11.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 The Board is requested to:-

- (i) Agree the Board's interim report and recommendation.
- (ii) Request that a formal response to the recommendation is produced in line with normal procedures for scrutiny inquiry reports.

Background papers

None