



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 19 May 2011

Subject: Draft Terms of Reference

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 In December 2010, both the Children's Services and Health Scrutiny Boards agreed that reducing teenage conception should be a priority area of future work for scrutiny. This was triggered by members' concern that, despite all of the hard work and resource that has been directed at this area in recent years, the long-term performance trend shows little movement.
- 1.2 In light of the existing work programmes of both Scrutiny Boards it was acknowledged that this work would not take place until next year. A joint working group met with officers and young people in April 2011 to scope terms of reference for an inquiry, in order that work can start early in the new municipal year.
- 1.3 Draft terms of reference for the inquiry will be circulated before the meeting.

2.0 Views of the director and executive member

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules Guidance Notes also require that, before embarking on an inquiry, the board seeks and considers the views of the relevant director and executive member. These views will need to be taken into account in finalising the terms of reference.
- 2.2 Any comments received on the draft terms of reference will be reported to the board at the meeting.

3.0 Recommendation

- 3.1 The board is requested to agree the terms of reference for the inquiry.

Background papers

None