

Agenda Item

Executive Board

15 February 2006

PJ/smep



Draft Children and Young People's Plan

Summary

This paper seeks endorsement of this county-wide document.

Recommendation

That the Draft Children and Young People's Plan for Devon be formally endorsed.

a) Reasons for Recommendation

This Plan seeks to rationalise and integrate work for children and young people, in accordance with national requirements. There are no direct financial implications for the Council in the current Plan.

b) Alternative Options

To refuse to adopt the Plan or suggest modifications.

c) Risk Considerations

An unreasonable failure to endorse the Plan and its content could be seen as a failure in our "duty to co-operate".

d) Policy and Budgetary Considerations

There are no budgetary implications at this stage in the plan. The broad aspirations of the plan are consistent with this Council's own aspirations and policy.

e) Date for Review of Decision

Upon the review of the Plan.

1 Main Body of the Report

This Plan is the responsibility of the County Council. However EDDC is a "Duty to co-operate" partner under the Children Act 2004. Hence there will be external audit and inspection of our contribution to improving outcomes. A Joint Area Review will take place in Devon in 2006.

As such we are asked to consider and formally endorse the plan.

The Plan has been constructed following an earlier draft (upon which this Council commented – See Appendix A) and following a series of consultation events (at which EDDC was represented) and also after a consultation of children and young people.

The Plan itself is over 40 pages long and so a summary is at Appendix B. The full document has been placed in the Members' Area, after notification in "The Knowledge".

Whilst the full detail of funding and governance arrangements for the Plan are not finalised this is potentially the area of most impact and influence on future EDDC involvement. Hence this section is reproduced in full at Appendix C.

The portfolios of EDDC which are likely to be most directly affected by the Plan are:

Environment (play provisions, and management)
Culture (play, sport, arts)
Communities (community involvement, housing, community safety)

However there will be some relationship with every front line service who does, or might, come into contact with children or young people in the course of their work.

Within the County Council major restructuring between Education and Social Services indicate their commitment to a new way of working and the Plan suggests other radical changes towards children's centres and other focus at a 'learning community' (secondary school) level.

Legal Implications

No comments.

Financial Implications

No financial implications at this stage.

Consultation on Reports to the Executive

Reports to the Executive re the budget/policy framework must detail the nature, extent and outcome of consultation with stakeholders and relevant Overview Committees. Reports about other matters must give details and outcome of consultation as appropriate

Background Papers

- Draft Children and Young People's Plan

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