

Children's Social Care Governance Transformation Project

Report of the Director of Children's and Young People's Futures

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Cabinet

1) Recommendation

1.1 That the Committee:

- (a) Note the contents of the project
- (b) Note the Councils commitment to wholesale reform of the children's social care

2) Background / Introduction

2.1 The report sets out a clear child centred approach across government to improve the lives of children and their families by giving them the support they need and removing barriers to opportunity,

2.2 This report provides an overview of the project.

3) Main Body / Proposal

3.1 Summary of slides.

3.2 Overview

- **Context – good progress, collective learning, and improving practice across Children's Social Care**
- **Four reform principles**
- **Wider programmes** – supporting families, keeping children safe and breaking down barriers to opportunity, empowering family networks and expanding kinship.
- **Local government finance policy statement 2025/2026**

4) Strategic Plan

4.1 One of the key focuses of Devon County Council's Strategic Plan 2021-2025 is to create a 'Child Friendly Devon', where all children and young people are safe, healthy, ambitious and can fulfil their potential.

5) Financial Considerations

5.1 There are no specific financial considerations related to this update.

6) Legal Considerations

6.1 There are no specific legal considerations related to this update. The Council must adhere to the relevant legislation such as the Children and Families Act 2014.

7) Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change, Sustainability and Socio-economic)

7.1 There are no specific environmental impact considerations related to this update.

8) Equality Considerations

8.1 Children and young people with Disabilities have the protected characteristic of disability under the Equality Act 2010 and duties to make reasonable adjustments and meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (eliminate disability discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity for disabled people, and foster good relations between people who share the protected characteristic of disability and people who do not) apply to this area of work and run alongside our duties under the Children and Families Act 2014

9) Risk Management Considerations

9.1 A risk register is maintained for the Transformation Project which is regularly updated and monitored and feeds into the Corporate Risk Register.

10) Summary / Conclusions /

10.1 This report provides an update on the Children's Social Care Governance Transformation Project.

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