

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting20th December 2007

1. Title of Item/Report

2007 Annual Performance Assessment of Services for Children and Young People

2. Record of the Decision

Cabinet noted that the Annual Performance Assessment (APA) of children's services had been carried out by Ofsted. It was based on a range of evidence, including the review of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP), performance indicators, other related service inspections, and briefings from other inspectorates and relevant bodies.

Members were provided with a letter that confirmed the outcome of the assessment for the 2006-07 period.

The graded judgements, detailed as follows, were made on a 4 point scale with Grade 3 being Good and Grade 4 being Outstanding.

Overall effectiveness of children's services: Grade 4
Being Healthy: Grade 3
Staying Safe: Grade 4
Enjoying & Achieving: Grade 3
Making A Positive Contribution: Grade 4
Achieving Economic Wellbeing: Grade 4
Capacity to improve: Grade 4

The top graded scores of 4 for overall effectiveness and for capacity to improve had sustained the same grades achieved in these areas in the 2006 APA. Due to some changes in the performance assessment framework, the 2007 APA included for the first time separate scores for each of the Every Child Matters Outcomes. Members noted that three of the scores had been graded 4, and the other two graded 3. The APA scores contributed to the Comprehensive Performance Assessment of the Council.

The APA report identified many key strengths as well as a small number of areas for development. The report was helpful in supporting the Council's own assessment of its performance and in contributing to the

review of strategic plans and service improvement plans, to ensure the necessary actions were in place to build on strengths and respond to the areas for development. The CYPP provided the strategic framework for improvement in services, and included a range of actions already in place to address the areas for development.

The Council's progress in delivery and improvement of services would continue to be monitored through a range of meetings over the year with regional and national agencies. Progress in addressing performance would be reported also through Improvement Clinics.

Members of Cabinet were delighted with the result and formally congratulated the Corporate Director of Children, Education and Social Care and her staff for what was an outstanding result.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The report and letter be received and the excellent outcome of the 2007 annual performance assessment be noted.

2. Cabinet formally congratulate the Corporate Director of Children, Education and Social Care and her staff for what was an outstanding result.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The report on the annual performance assessment of Children's Services must be reported to Cabinet and be in the public arena.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not Applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not later than Midnight on Thursday 3rd January 2008

Proper Officer
21 December 2007