

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....14th February 2019

1. Title of Item/Report

Children In Need Reporting In Review

2. Record of the Decision

This report seeks Cabinet approval for the recommendations agreed by the Children and Young people Select Committee in respect of a reporting-in review on children in need. This review focused on the way the Council is seeking to ensure effective support for children classed as children in need, whilst managing demands on social care teams.

RESOLVED that:-

1. An ongoing proactive approach continues to be prioritised to ensuring that social workers are only involved where there needs to be statutory social care involvement.
2. Further reviews of early help services prioritise the ability to be able to intervene early and prevent families from requiring social work intervention. This will include work on the development of a clear offer of help and support.
3. Proactive work continues in auditing of cases to ensure cases are not 'stuck' or are remaining open to social care when they do not need to be.
4. The ongoing use of signs of safety meetings continues early in the assessment process to provide a means of co-designing a response with families.
5. Family group conferencing be extended into early help work, as this is providing to be an effective means of working with families restoratively and therefore avoiding the need for statutory social care involvement.
6. The development of work across early help and social care around the role of family workers in the management of cases which do not require social work involvement be supported.

7. Work with partner agencies around the management of risk, information sharing and alternatives to social care involvement be continued.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To ensure that the Council continues to prioritise the needs of children in need, whilst making the most effective and efficient use of resources.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None.

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

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

Midnight, 23 February 2019

Proper Officer  
19 February 2019