

Arts, Leisure and Culture Select Committee

Update 22 November 2011

EIT Programme

Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)

Officer-led EIT Reviews

The Committee met on 26 October to consider the scope of the Children's Social Care EIT Review and receive an introductory presentation which included case studies to help Members understand how cases are dealt with.

The review will deal with the children's social care service, excluding child placements (subject to previous EIT review):

- First Contact
- Referral and Assessment Team
- Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)
- Specialist Social Work Teams
- Targeted Social Work Teams
- CAF Team
- Looked After Children and Leaving Care Teams
- Child Placement Team
- Resources Team (including oversight of Hartburn Lodge)
- Complex Needs Social Work Team
- Review Unit
- Contact Service
- Home Visiting Service

The children's social care service is heavily regulated through legislation, guidance and local procedures so there is relatively limited scope for genuine innovation or transformation. Notwithstanding this it is important that current structures and ways of working are subject to challenge and review in order to determine the most appropriate ways of working going forward. The review will be seeking to:

- Ascertain the optimum structure and line management arrangements to ensure efficient and effective service delivery, based on:
 - feedback from service users, staff and key stakeholders
 - regional and national best practice.
- Ensure that the available resources are maximised in order to effectively respond to the current workload pressures.
- Consider how the service can best respond to the recommendations arising from the Munro review of child protection.

The review is scheduled to report to Cabinet in March 2012.

Forward Plan

On 1 December, the Committee will receive baseline information for the EIT review of Children's Social Care and initial options in respect of the EIT review of Registration and Bereavement Services.