

## **Children and Young People Select Committee**

### **Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 25 September 2012**

#### **Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)**

##### **Youth Participation**

At their meeting on 5 September the Committee discussed a report regarding arrangements for the election of the Member of the Youth Parliament (MYP) and establishment of a Youth Assembly, and outlining a new approach.

Electoral Services will be developing detailed arrangements, in conjunction with IYSS and key partners, for elections to take place for the Youth Parliament, possibly in February 2013 and these will follow a similar approach to any other elections.

Membership of the Youth Assembly will be drawn from 11 – 19 year olds (up to 25 year olds for young people with special needs), with representation in the first instance from:

- School Councils
- Sixth Forms and Colleges
- Universal Youth Clubs
- BME
- Young Carers
- LDD Representatives plus appropriate Advocacy Support
- LAC/ Care Leavers
- Special Interest Groups
- Member of the UK Youth Parliament

Terms of Office for the Youth Assembly would be two years, in line with the term of office of the UK Youth Parliament member, and it will be for each school and group to agree their own internal mechanisms for nominations. Once established it will be essential that the youth assembly has a wider voice in community matters and the ability to feed into/ support the Council's decision making structures.

##### **Scrutiny Review – Quality of Childcare**

The Committee also received a presentation regarding improving the quality of childcare settings on 5 September, which included:

- The Ofsted frameworks and outcomes, including an explanation of
  - Ofsted outcomes for settings (e.g. nurseries) for 2008 – 2012
  - Ofsted outcomes for childminders for 2008 – 2012
- How SBC works with settings to improve quality, including
  - Officer support provided to settings
  - Welfare and Learning & Development checks
  - Journey to Outstanding & New STEPS
  - Support to childminders who received 'satisfactory' Ofsted
  - Contact with childminders who do not currently engage with SBC service
- Future work to drive improvement

New STEPS, which is the tool used to record and measure progress of each child, was discussed and Members were presented with an example of a partially completed New STEPS form to demonstrate how it works. A local childminder attended the meeting and discussed her experience of providing a childcare service and how she used both Journey to Outstanding and New STEPS.

Sites visits to both independent and school nurseries are to be arranged, and Members have also invited to observe childminder and nursery managers network meetings.

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