

## SCRUTINY REVIEW OF PARTNERSHIP WORKING IN EARLY HELP

### Summary

The fourth evidence-gathering session for the Committee's review of Partnership Working in Early Help will consider a range of information including the voluntary sector's views on the topic, the Family First Partnership Programme reforms, and learning from other Local Authorities.

### Detail

1. As part of the scoping process for this review the Committee identified Catalyst as a key contributor to the review. Catalyst have therefore been invited to present an outline of the work their organisation does, their experience of partnership working in Early Help and how it works for the voluntary sector, as well as how they can be supported moving forward. The presentation is attached.
2. Learning from other Local Authorities on how they deliver Early Help with their partners was also identified in the scoping process. A report is attached outlining the findings from Lincolnshire, who took part in the Families First for Children (FFC) pathfinder programme to co-design local models to deliver children's social care, and Sunderland Local Authorities who are an outstanding authority. The Service Lead for Family Support will be in attendance to present the report.
3. At the September meeting, members requested an update on the Family First Partnership (FFP) Programme reforms. The Programme aims to provide earlier, joined-up, support to families by strengthening multi-agency working within children's social care. The Senior Project Manager for Early Intervention and Prevention will present the update, and a presentation is attached.
4. The Committee also identified Stockton Parent Carer Forum as key contributors to the review to gain their experience of accessing Early Help services and views on the partnerships. They are unable to attend however forwarded a written submission for members consideration, attached, which includes:
  - What they think of the early help offer across Stockton-on-Tees (and in particular in relation to SEND) and are there any gaps in the offer
  - How they think partnerships are working in Early Help
  - Whether they feel they are involved in the planning of Early Help and that the services are co-produced
5. A copy of the agreed scope and project plan for the review is attached for information.

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