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TO: EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING
Date: 20 JUNE 2017

**APPROVAL OF THE STATEMENT OF PURPOSE FOR THE LARCHWOOD SHORT
BREAK UNIT 2017 AND FOR NOTING LARCHWOOD SHORT BREAK UNIT ANNUAL
REPORT 2016 - 2017**

Director of Children, Young People and Learning

1 PURPOSE OF DECISION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the revised Statement of Purpose for the Larchwood Short Break Unit for 2016 – 2017 and to provide updating information of the Larchwood Short Break Unit by way of Annual Report 2016 – 2017.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **That the revised Statement of Purpose 2017 for the Larchwood Short Break Unit [annex 1] is APPROVED and the Larchwood Short Break Unit Annual Report 2016 – 2017 [annex 2] is noted.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Statement of Purpose is compliant with the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015. These regulations place a requirement on Registered Children's Homes to produce a Statement of Purpose under schedule 1, regulation 16. The statement of purpose should be child-focused, indicating how the home provides individualised care to meet the Quality Standards for the children in their care.
- 3.2 The compilation of the Statement of Purpose for Registered Children's Homes is a requirement in the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations including the quality standards April 2015 (Department for Education).
- 3.3 This version is set out in and includes 'Matters to be included in the Statement of Purpose' schedule 1, regulation 16 of the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015.
- 3.4 There is also a Childrens Guide that includes a summary of the Statement of Purpose for Children and Young people.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 The completion of a Statement of Purpose is a legal requirement within the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015, which includes a requirement for the Statement of Purpose to be approved at least annually. As this is a legal requirement alternative options have not been considered.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The Statement of Purpose is essentially a live operational document, which needs to be updated as and when details within the service change, regulations change or practice moves on.
- 5.2 The current Statement of Purpose also incorporates all the learning from previous Ofsted inspections. The Statement of Purpose is a key document which is considered in all inspections. The service is currently rated as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted, a grading that has been maintained since 2014.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 This report complies with the requirement under the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 to produce at least annually a statement of purpose setting out the operational arrangements at Larchwood.

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The Borough Treasurer is satisfied that there are sufficient resources to meet the requirements of the statement of purpose.

Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.3 As is described in the Statement of Purpose within Larchwood aims to achieve the best possible outcome for any child receiving services, taking into account all factors of ethnicity, religion, language, culture and disability.

Other Officers

- 6.4 The Children's Social Care Management Team (CSCMT) has considered and endorsed this Statement of Purpose in May 2017.

7 CONSULTATION

Method of Consultation

- 7.1 The statement is publicly available at the Unit for perusal and comment and is placed on the Council's public website. Service users and other interested parties are encouraged to make comments regarding both the statement and the service provided at the unit.
Children were consulted for the production of the Children's version (Children's Guide)

Representations Received

- 7.2 There have been no representations received.

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Background Papers

Statement of Purpose for the Larchwood Short Break Unit 2017 **[annex 1]**
Larchwood Short Break Unit Annual Report 2016 – 2017 **[annex 2]**

Contact for further information

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Approved by Cllr Dr Gareth Barnard
Executive Member, Children Young People
& Learning

Signature.....

Date.....

Approved by Nikki Edwards
Director, Children, Young People
& Learning

Signature.....

Date.....