

TO: EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & LEARNING
DATE: 10 NOVEMBER 2017

**AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT:
APRIL 2016 - MARCH 2017
Director of Children Young People and Learning**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the annual report of the Quality Assurance Service to the Executive Member of Children and Young People.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **For the Executive Member, Children and Young People to receive the annual report of from the Quality Assurance Service and to note the key messages and recommendations made.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To ensure ongoing accountability of the department towards the development of continually improved outcomes overall for children and young people in care and those leaving care in accordance with statutory expectations.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None considered as production of such a report is in line with organisational aims regarding learning and improvement from quality assurance activity.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 Bracknell Forest Council is a learning organisation that is committed to providing quality services to children, young people and their families and to the continual improvement of these services.
- 5.2 In Bracknell we view quality assurance as an integral part of what we do. As such it is a continual and dynamic process by which standards are set and our achievements are monitored. As a learning organisation we use the information we have to improve services and by undertaking ongoing review. This report provides an overview of activity and learning over the year April 2016 March 2017
- 5.3 The primary challenge of quality assurance is to improve the quality of practice and outcomes for children. Therefore quality assurance must be strongly linked into effective mechanisms for achieving change and be able to demonstrate measurable improvements for children and families. Emphasis should be given to the quality of practice, involvement of practitioners in the audit process, the effectiveness of multi-agency working, and the child's journey.
- 5.4 The recommendations in the Annual Report can be met within existing resources.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

6.1 The relevant legal issues are addressed within the covering report and the annexe.

Borough Treasurer

6.2 The Borough Treasurer is satisfied that no significant financial implications arise from this report.

Equalities Impact Assessment

6.3 No change of policy proposed – further EIA is not required at this stage

Strategic Risk Management Issues

6.4 None

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

7.1 Children's Social Care Management Team have considered and endorsed this Annual report.

Method of Consultation

7.2 Written report.

Representations Received

7.3 Included in this report.

Background Papers

Quality Counts: A Quality Assurance Strategy for Children's Services in Bracknell
Quarterly Quality Assurance Reports 2016/17

Contact for further information

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

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

Signature.....

Signature.....

Date: 10 November 2017

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