

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL  
16 DECEMBER 2009**

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**EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN ITEMS RELATING TO CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND  
LEARNING**

**Assistant Chief Executive**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

This report presents current Executive Forward Plan items relating to Children's Services and Learning for the Panel's consideration.

**2 SUGGESTED ACTION**

- 2.1 That the Children's Services and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel considers the current Executive Forward Plan items relating to Children's Services and Learning appended to this report.**

**3 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Consideration of items on the Executive Forward Plan alerts the Panel to forthcoming Executive decisions and facilitates pre-decision scrutiny.
- 3.2 To achieve accountability and transparency of the decision making process, effective Overview and Scrutiny is essential. Overview and Scrutiny bodies are a key element of Executive arrangements and their roles include both developing and reviewing policy; and holding the Executive to account.
- 3.3 The power to hold the Executive to account is granted under Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 which states that Executive arrangements of a local authority must ensure that its Overview and Scrutiny bodies have power to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the Executive. This includes the 'call in' power to review or scrutinise a decision made but not implemented and to recommend that the decision be reconsidered by the body / person that made it. This power does not relate solely to scrutiny of decisions and should therefore also be utilised to undertake pre-decision scrutiny.

Background Papers

Local Government Act 2000

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