

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

A record of decisions made by the Executive Member with responsibility for Children's Services on:-

TUESDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY, 2007

following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

Councillor Mrs. Thomas	Executive Member for Children's Services
Councillor Kay	Executive Member for Schools
Councillor Rushton	Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Cox	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Ms. M. Asquith	Director of Children's Services
Ms. L. Jones	Assistant Director, Children and Families
Ms. C. Davies	Head of Finance, Children's Services
Miss K. Treadwell	Democratic Services Officer

56. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report which contained information related to decisions taken at previous Executive Member meetings.

The Executive Member NOTED progress on the decisions previously taken as detailed in the Appendix to these minutes.

57. STAFFING ISSUES FOR INFORMATION SHARING AND ASSESSMENT – ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROJECT SUPPORT OFFICER

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which proposed the establishment of a Project Support Officer to facilitate and enable the Integrated Working Project.

By way of background information, the Executive Member was informed that the Integrated Working Project was delivering the tools and processes which enabled practitioners to deliver the Every Child Matters : Change for Children Agenda .This involved encouraging integrated working by professionals to deliver frontline services built around the needs of children and young people.

The report advised that the current project team comprised three full time members. The existing workload of the team had been analysed against the activity required for implementation and a need had been identified for additional support in order to meet daily requirements.

The cost of providing this post would be £18,300 and was evaluated at Scale 3. However, the cost of this post would be met by the Department for Education and Skills grant provided for the Implementation of the National Child Index.

Copies of the relevant job descriptions and person specifications were appended to the report.

The Executive Member for Children's Services APPROVED the establishment of a Project Support Officer, subject to the approval of the Executive Member for Human Resources and Diversity.

58. PARENTING STRATEGY: ESTABLISHMENT A MULTI AGENCY TRAINER

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which proposed the establishment of a Parenting Strategy Multi Agency Trainer to support the development and implementation of Bolton's Parenting Strategy.

By way of background information, the report stated that Bolton's Parenting Strategy was part of the Every Child Matters Agenda and aimed to provide a variety of easily accessible, non stigmatising supportive provision available to parents of children from pre-birth through to eighteen years of age (up to twenty-four years old for parents with a child who had learning difficulties). For some parents their own difficulties or those of their children meant they required additional support.

The report advised that in order that the demands of the multi agency parenting support were met, it was important that the development needs of the workforce were also met. A Parenting Strategy Multi Agency Trainer, if approved, would be responsible for co-ordinating a varied programme when working with parents. This would include working with parents, basic child development and behavioural training and courses designed to enhance engaging parents such as hard to reach fathers, young parents and those from black and ethnic minority communities. The Trainer would also ensure that Adult Services Staff were supported when working with adults who were parents.

The post was based on an existing Multi Agency Trainer Post and would be graded at PO 2/3. This was a fixed term post until March, 2008. The cost of the post would be provided by the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund. A future evaluation would be carried out, if necessary, determining whether the post would be needed in the long term and alternative funding possibilities if this need arose.

The Executive Member for Children's Services APPROVED the establishment of a fixed term, Parenting Strategy Multi Agency Trainer Post, subject to the approval of the Executive Member for Human Resources and Diversity.

