

Committee: Children and Young People O&S Panel

Date: 15th June 2011

Agenda item: **5**

Wards: All

Subject: Children and Young People - key challenges for 2011/12

Lead officer: Hilary Gullen, Scrutiny Officer

Lead member: Cllr Jeff Hanna, Chair, Children and Young People Panel

Forward Plan reference number: n/a

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Recommendations:

- A. That Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel:
- i) Consider the presentations made at the meeting that set out the key challenges for the year ahead for services within the remit of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel;
 - ii) Take these into account when agreeing its work programme for 2011/12;
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of these reports is to provide contextual information that will help the Panel to determine its work programme for the 2011/12 municipal year.
- 1.2 The Panel will receive presentations from Cllr Maxi Martin, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Cllr Peter Walker, Cabinet Member for Education and CSF lead officer - *this item provides the opportunity for the Cabinet Members each to outline the administration's priorities and key challenges in the year ahead and for officers in CSF department to inform panel about key service issues facing the department including changes in public policy and legislation; financial issues; the department's 'transformation' programme and the position relating to partnership arrangements with other providers of children's services in the borough*

1.3 Performance Management - *this item will enable panel to examine the current effectiveness of the department and its partners in improving outcomes for children in Merton. The report will provide an overview of current performance of key services; the trajectory of improvement and information on external inspection of children's services. The item will also enable panel to review and refresh the 'index' of key performance indicators to be reported routinely to panel at its meetings during the year and to appoint a performance 'champion' for the panel.*

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

2.1 Overview and Scrutiny Panels are free to determine their work programme as they see fit and can therefore choose which issues to take into account when drawing up scrutiny work programmes.

3. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

3.1 None specific to this report.

4. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are none specific to this report.

5. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Overview and scrutiny bodies operate within the provisions set out in the Local Government Act 2000, the Health and Social Care Act 2001 and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None specific to this report.

7. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None specific to this report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 None specific to this report.

9. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

9.1 None

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None