

CABINET

CABINET LIAISON GROUPS

2nd September 2008

Report of Corporate Director (Finance and Performance)

PURPOSE OF REPORT			
To consider the re-establishment of the Children and Young People Cabinet Liaison Group and its revised terms of reference.			
Key Decision		Non-Key Decision	Referral from Cabinet Member
			X
Date Included in Forward Plan	n/a		
This report is public			

RECOMMENDATIONS OF COUNCILLOR FLETCHER

- (1) That Cabinet approve the re-establishment of the former Children and Young People's Task group and its revised terms of reference.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report has been prepared following a wish by the Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility for Children and Young People, Councillor Jane Fletcher, to re-establish this Liaison Group with slightly revised terms of reference.
- 1.2 The former and proposed Terms of Reference of this Group are set out at Appendix A to this report and members are being asked to approve the re-establishment of the Liaison Group and the revised Terms of Reference.

2.0 Proposal Details

- 2.1 The approval of the revised Terms of Reference would enable the re-establishment of this Liaison Group, as requested by the Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility, and would be consistent and in accordance with Cabinet's previous decision to establish such a group (20th March 2007, Minute 137 refers) based on the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Children and Young People's Task Group.

3.0 Details of Consultation

3.1 No consultation has been necessary. Consultation may be required as a result of any future recommendations of the Liaison Group.

4.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

4.1 Children and Young People Cabinet Liaison Group:

Option No.	OPTION	IMPLICATIONS AND RISK ANALYSIS
1	To not re-establish the Children and Young People's Task Group.	This may put at risk the full consideration of issues that Cabinet may feel appropriate to pursue.
2	To establish the Task Group with the proposed terms of reference.	This option will allow for full consideration of issues that are felt appropriate by Cabinet in order to progress matters in this area.
3	To establish the Task Group with revised terms of reference.	This option could allow for full consideration of issues that are felt appropriate by Cabinet if the revised terms of reference allowed for such consideration.

5.0 Officer Preferred Option (and comments)

5.1 Option 2 is the preferred Option in that this option will allow for full consideration of issues that are felt appropriate by Cabinet in order to progress matters in this area.

6.0 Conclusion

6.1 Children and young people issues continue to be a priority for the Council and establishment of the liaison group would allow for a wider range of advice and fuller consideration of the issues.

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

The proposal contributes *"To support sustainable communities."*

It also promotes the Council's commitment in its Corporate Plan 2008/09 "to work to maintain a cohesive community where respect for all is valued and celebrated

The new LSP structure includes a 'Children and Young People' thematic group comprising the Lancaster District Children's Trust where the Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility for Children and Young People sits.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

None directly arising from this report. However, there are likely to be positive impacts arising from future recommendations from the Cabinet Liaison Group.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to the authority as a result of this report, however, there may be financial implications arising from any resulting recommendations from the Cabinet Liaison Group and these would need to be fed into future years' budget processes.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Recommendations to Cabinet regarding the Terms of Reference of Cabinet Liaison Groups are in accordance with the City Council's Constitution.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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Children and Young People Cabinet Liaison Group

Former Terms of Reference:

To advise the Cabinet member for Children and Young People in all matters relating to the District Council's roles and responsibilities in Every Child Matters – Agenda for Change and in particular the development of Children's Trust arrangements in the district by 2008.

To develop as appropriate policies and strategies relating to children and young people for referral through to Cabinet.

To promote the Council's commitment in its Corporate Plan “ *To improve the quality of life for children and young people by adopting the five outcomes from Every Child Matters as guiding principles in the design and delivery of our services to young people in the district.*”

To ensure the engagement and participation of children and young people in respect of the planning and delivery of the City Council's services.

To ensure that the City Council's responsibilities in the Safeguarding and Well-being of children and young people are widely disseminated, understood and acted upon.

To receive reports and develop effective action plans where appropriate.

To monitor the delivery of the council's children and young people strategy.

Revised Terms of Reference

- To advise the Cabinet member for Children and Young People in all matters relating to the district Council's roles and responsibilities in Every Child Matters-Agenda for Change, and the role of council in the Lancaster District Children's Trust .
- To develop appropriate policies and strategies relating to children and young people for referral through to Cabinet.
- To promote the Council's commitment in its Corporate Plan priority outcome, '**Work to maintain a cohesive community where respect for all is valued and celebrated.**' by 'Implementing the Children and Young People Strategic Plan'
- To ensure the engagement and participation of children and young people in respect of the planning and delivery of the City Council's services.
- To ensure that the City Council's responsibilities in safeguarding and ensuring the well being of children and young people are widely disseminated, understood and acted upon
- To receive reports and develop effective action plans where appropriate
- To monitor the delivery of the council's children and young people strategy.