

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 26 JANUARY 2012

MINUTE 49. CORPORATE PLAN 2012/13

In accordance with Council minutes 77 and 78 (12 December, 2011), the Committee considered those parts of the Corporate Plan within its remit. The Committee had also had sight of a motion which had been referred to all Overview and Scrutiny Committees by the Council at its meeting on 12 December, 2011 (minute 76 refers) and which was considered in connection with the Corporate Plan.

The Draft Corporate Plan and report of the Chief Executive which had been considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 8 December were considered by the Committee and the Chair invited comments from the Committee.

Responding to comments from Members the Acting Director stated that a full draft of the Children and Young People's Departmental Plan and the Children and Young People's Plan for the Children's Trust Board was also being developed and the Corporate Plan was to a template which had been issued across the Council from the Corporate Policy team. Referring to the section, 'Provide early intervention and support for vulnerable children and families', he said he had requested that the sentence, 'Ensuring every child is school ready', should read, 'Working towards ensuring....'

The Chair suggested that there needed to be a section after 'goals' showing measurable targets. One of the strengths of the Corporate Plan was that Child Poverty had its own section to highlight the importance of addressing this issue.

Members made the following comments on the Corporate Plan:

- There needed to be references to foster care and adoption.
- There was no reference to deprivation.
- There was a need to know how things would be measured.
- No reference to further education or higher education.
- There was a vague reference to Sure Start but no mention of enhancement as there had been in the previous year.

It was then moved by Councillor Hayes, seconded by Councillor Povall that –

"This Committee believes that the draft Corporate Plan contains many well meaning sentiments but few tangible targets by which the people of Wirral can scrutinise the progress of their council."

It was then moved as an amendment by Councillor Dodd, seconded by Councillor W Smith that –

"Cabinet be asked to provide and identify some measurable targets within the Corporate Plan."

Councillor Hayes agreed to accept this as a friendly amendment and it was –

Resolved (unanimously) – This Committee believes that the draft Corporate Plan contains many well meaning sentiments but few tangible targets by which the people of Wirral can scrutinise the progress of their council. Cabinet be asked to provide and identify some measurable targets within the Corporate Plan.