

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member Children's Services
Date:	14 May 2024
Title:	Proposal for the Dissolution of Children and Families Advisory Panel
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Kavitha Maxy, Area Director

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1. The decision:

1.1. That approval be given to dissolve the Children and Families Advisory Panel.

2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1. Officers have identified that since the introduction of the Corporate Parenting Board the Panel has seen its remit considerably reduced. This has resulted in agendas regularly featuring items duplicated from other Council meetings. Recent changes to the Corporate Parenting Board have also resulted in an increase in officer time required by the Board. It is therefore thought that this proposal could utilise both member and officer time more effectively.

2.2. The future direction set by the Executive Lead Member in discussion with cabinet colleagues, members and senior officers of the Council is to streamline the scrutiny, oversight and decision making of Children's Services through the Corporate Parenting Board and the Children and Young People's Select Committee.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. Do nothing – to carry on with Children and Families Advisory Panel would mean member and officer time being utilised ineffectively, with limited added value or impact due to the discussions already being had in other council meetings.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: None

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: Not Applicable

7. Statement from the decision maker:

7.1. In taking this decision I have fully considered the views of the members of the panel and any risks or issues that may arise from dissolving this panel.

7.2. The dissolution of the panel will facilitate increased and focused officer and member time in the Corporate Parenting Board and the Children and Young People's Select Committee and reflects the desire to be streamlined and joined up in demonstrating accountability and decision making about children.

Approved by:

Date:

Councillor Edward Heron
Executive Lead Member for Children's Services

14 May 2024