COUNCIL MEETING, 2 November 2017

REPORT OF THE

Cabinet/Leader

PART II

1. ADULT SAFEGUARDING

- 1.1 On 15 September 2017 Cabinet received and noted a report on Adult Safeguarding which highlighted the work being undertaken with particular reference to the Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board, PREVENT and activity within the Adult Services Department.
- 1.2 Cabinet were made aware of the lead role Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) had in leading the Inter Authority Working Group across the wider Hampshire and Isle of Wight area. It noted the development of responses to the increasing awareness to adult safeguarding and the new systems and processes implemented to help mitigate this. The report also advised on the continuing pressures brought about in supporting people with limited or no capacity to manage key decisions relating to key areas of their lives such as finance and accommodation.
- 1.3 Members were made aware of the success in reducing the volume of inquiries and the high cost of managing and mitigating the risk associated with deprivation of liberty referrals.
- 1.4 Cabinet welcomed the report and discussed a number of points including the impact of a potential reduction in labour supply caused by BREXIT on safeguarding issues such as modern slavery. It was confirmed that the County Council worked with the police and the UK Border Agency to combat modern slavery and would continue to do so.

2. ANNUAL SAFEGUARDING REPORT - CHILDREN'S SERVICES

- 2.1 On 15 September 2017, Cabinet received and noted a report providing an annual update on Children's safeguarding, the activities undertaken to keep vulnerable children across Hampshire safe and to identify priorities over the coming year.
- 2.2 The report highlighted the positive progress and continued consistently high performance with regards to safeguarding children in Hampshire. Cabinet also noted the increase in the volume of safeguarding activity that social workers were undertaking. Members particularly welcomed the completion of a programme of investment in six Children's Homes at a cost of £7 million to provide a modern and safe environment for Hampshire Children in care.
- 2.3 Cabinet were informed that all of Hampshire's children's homes were rated as good or outstanding and that the capacity of provision for children with complex needs had increased through the completion of a substantial investment in new homes.

2.4 The report also informed on "Putting Children First" which is the government's strategy to transform children's social care. The ambition of this is that by 2020 all vulnerable children, no matter where they live, receive the same high quality of care and support, and the best outcome for every child is at the heart of every decision made. Government had put forward a Children and Social Work Bill as part of this strategy which would introduce a number of changes ranging from a new assessment and accreditation system for the social work profession, changes to local safeguarding children boards and a new power to innovate to test where legislation, regulations and guidance might be getting in the way of excellent practice. As one of the government's 'partners in practice' Hampshire's Children's Services will be at the forefront of such changes as they develop.

3. SUPPORTING (TROUBLED) FAMILIES PROGRAMME (STFP) ANNUAL UPDATE

- 3.1 On 15 September 2017, Cabinet received an annual update on the Supporting (Troubled) Families Programme (STFP).
- 3.2 The report highlighted the positive impact of the STFP on the lives of individuals and on the community. The Programme so far had exceeded targets and the analysis revealed not only a financial saving through a reduction in other services, but also a wider quality of life improvement to those involved.
- 3.3 Cabinet noted that the original transformational ambition of the programme to better co-ordinate the way agencies work together with families (rather than just with individuals within families) remained steadfast and had been reinforced by Hampshire's use of DCLG's Maturity Model which required such evidence. DCLG were currently consulting on the adoption of an 'Earned Automony' model of funding for the last two years of Phase 2 (2018-20) based on evidence of transformation against DCLG's Maturity Model of Early Help Services.
- 3.4 Cabinet welcomed the report, noting that the benefits of the STFP were felt by a much larger number of people in the community than the 271 families which had been directly supported.

Further details on these items can be found at the following links:

- Adult Safeguarding
- Annual Safeguarding Report Children's Services
- Supporting (troubled) Families Programme (STFP) Annual Update