Education, Children and Families Committee

10am, Tuesday, 11 December 2012

Children's Hearing (Scotland) Act – Administrative Agreement

Item number 8.2

Report number

Wards None

Links

Coalition pledges P01 – Increase support for vulnerable children,

including help for families so that fewer go into care

Council outcomes Ensuring every child in Edinburgh has the best start in

life

Single Outcome Agreement Edinburgh's children and young people enjoy their

childhood and fulfil their potential

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Executive summary

Children's Hearing (Scotland) Act – Support Arrangements

Summary

The Committee previously agreed the establishment of a single Area Support Team to oversee the administration of the Children's Panel in Edinburgh. This approach had the support of all key stakeholders.

To formalise the new arrangements, the Scottish Government asked all Scottish local authorities to confirm the level of staffing and other support to be provided to the new system. Detailed discussion on the support to be provided to the new arrangements by the Council has taken place with the Scottish Government, the CPAC Co-chairs, and the Panel chair.

The administrative Agreement has now been concluded, and has been welcomed by both CPAC and Panel. The Agreement, which is for a 3-year period commencing 24 June 2013, is in accord with the over-arching principles agreed by the Committee. The level of staff support to be committed can be met from existing budgetary provision.

Recommendations

The Education, Children and Families Committee is invited to note that Agreement has now been reached with the Scottish Government on the support arrangements for the Children's Panel in Edinburgh.

Measures of success

Not applicable.

Financial impact

Not applicable.

Equalities impact

Not applicable.

Sustainability impact

Not applicable.

Consultation and engagement

Not applicable.

Background reading / external references

Minutes of Education, Children and Families Committee of 15 November 2011 and 21 June 2011

<u>Item 16 - Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 - Update (Reports, PDF, 115.53 KB)</u>
<u>Item 10 - Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 (Reports, PDF, 31.9 KB)</u>