

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

23rd November, 2009

PRESENT – Councillor Hughes (in the Chair); Councillors Armstrong, Burton, Davies, Francis and Richmond. (7)

APOLOGIES – Councillors Chapman, Galletley, Lister and J. Lyonette; Mr. D. Moyes.

ALSO – Ms. D. Leigh, Interim Principal, Darlington College of Technology.

STATUTORY CO-OPTEES – Mr. M. Frank. (1)

NON-STATUTORY CO-OPTEES – Mr. N. Rees, Mr. T. Fisher and Mr. C. J. Taylor (3)

ABSENT – Canon S. Bamber, Mrs. V. Mitchell, Ms. S. Robinson (3)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – George McQueen, Assistant Director (Planning and Resources) and John Steel, Lead Improvement Officer, Learning Technologies Team within the Department of Children’s Services.

CYP47. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

CYP48. INTERNET SAFETY TASK AND FINISH REVIEW GROUP – FINAL REPORT

– With the prior approval of the Chair in light of the recent tragic event and to enable recommendations to be made to Cabinet at the earliest possible date, the Director of Corporate Services submitted a report (previously circulated) to report the findings and recommendations of the Task and Finish Review Group established by this Scrutiny Committee (Minute CYP36/Nov/09 refers) to examine internet safety.

It was reported that the Members of this Scrutiny Committee agreed to commence additional work in the form of a Task and Finish Review Group in order to make appropriate recommendations to Cabinet regarding the provision of internet safety advice to all children, young people, parents and carers.

The submitted report of the Review Group outlined the security measures in place currently in schools and colleges within the Borough including stringent filtering systems; future plans for the safety of young people; resources currently available to advise children and young people on internet safety and outlined the recommendations of the Members of the Task and Finish Review Group following their investigations.

RESOLVED – (a) That the final report and recommendations of the Task and Finish Review Group be approved with the amendments proposed at the meeting.

(b) That the findings and recommendations of the Task and Finish Review Group be forwarded for Cabinet approval at their meeting scheduled for 1st December, 2009.