OVERVIEW OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. Since the last meeting of the Council, the following are the main areas of work the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee has undertaken :-

Work Programme

2. We continue to give consideration to the Work Programme for this Committee and taking into account the ambitious programme of change across the Council and the key role of Scrutiny in ensuring that the programme is able to deliver the service improvements and the budget savings necessary.

Performance Management

3. We received a presentation on the Council's Performance Management Framework which was adopted in 2012 and discussed the role of Members, particularly Scrutiny Members, in challenging performance across service areas within our remit and how we could use the information to inform and assist with any future work programme topics.

Budget Saving Proposals

- 4. Cabinet, at its meeting held on 9 April, 2013, agreed a number of budget savings proposals, some of which related to areas within the remit of our Scrutiny Committee. We were requested to consider whether we should undertake any further work to identify and scrutinise any potential risks arising from those proposals at an early stage of implementation.
- 5. We agreed that it would be more appropriate to allow time for the proposals to be embedded and then examine the impact at a later date if necessary.

Early Intervention and Troubled Family – Update

- 6. We received a presentation on the impact of Early Intervention and Prevention Services which aims to increase early identification of children and families with additional needs that require a Common Assessment Framework; reduce the number of families who require support from specialist services; use Area based teams; increase Children's Centre registrations; and develop and implement an area model that includes social workers working with children on the edge of care.
- 7. Members were encouraged to learn that there has been a 54 per cent increase of Common Assessment Frameworks and a reduction in contacts to Children's Duty

Teams and child-in-need referrals which is a clear indication that the early intervention work is being successful.

8. There are currently 195 children in our care, based on figures taken on 17 June, 2013 which represents 26 less children in care than 15 months ago.

Co-opted Members – Community Representative

- 9. Following the receipt of five applications to become a Community Representative on this Scrutiny Committee, we agreed to establish a Panel to consider the applications and agree an appointment.
- 10. Councillor C. Taylor and Councillor Kelley were appointed onto the Panel at the meeting, with Councillor Taylor as Chair and a third member to be requested from the Members who were unable to attend the Scrutiny Meeting.
- 11. Since the last meeting of Council I have attended various meeting with Officers.

Councillor Eleanor Lister Chair of Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee