

# **EXTENDED SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE**

## **Hearing 1**

**Friday 23 April 2010**

**Marisa White, Head of Extended Services, Children, Families and Education Directorate, Kent County Council.**

### **Biography**

Marisa's current role is Head of Extended Services. Marisa has the strategic lead on the promotion, development and sustainability of Extended Schools/Extended Services across Kent (with Sean Carter as Operational Manager).

Marisa's role includes a wide variety of tasks and responsibilities. She ensures that Kent meets the Government's target of 100% of schools providing access to the core offer of services by September 2010. She makes sure that linkages are made with all other relevant strategies and programmes, such as the Poverty Strategy, Children and Young Persons Plan, Parenting Support, Think Family, Preventative Strategy, School Improvement, Healthy Weight' PSHE Strategy, Workforce Development, Early Years and Childcare, Children's Centres, Eco Schools, Building Schools for the Future and Community Safety. She lobbies Government and other bodies in several spheres, for example rural access, access for children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds, resourcing and problem solving through the management of the central Extended Services Team and professional leadership of the Extended Schools Development Managers within local Partnerships.

Marisa also has responsibility for the Healthy Schools programme, the promotion of Study Support and Out of Hours Learning (including Kent Children's University and four grant-funded Playing for Success centres), the development of the Kent Play Strategy, the establishment of the Kent Play partnership and the implementation of the Playbuilder programme. This involves ensuring: the development and implementation of the Children, Families and Education Directorate's (CFE) and Kent Children's Trust's Supporting Parents Strategy; the development of "Parent's Voice" and parent participation; the identification of evidenced gaps in services for families, parents and carers; the promotion of the involvement of fathers; the commissioning of services (where appropriate) to meet identified gaps to address need; the promotion of best practice across a range of parenting practitioners; the implementation and evaluation of evidenced based parenting programmes (including ensuring appropriate training for practitioners and quality of delivery and outcomes); and strategic lead for "Think Family" and related grant-funded programmes such as the Youth Crime Family Intervention Project. Finally, Marisa has overall strategic responsibility for overseeing the Family Liaison Officer/Parent Support Adviser Service.

Marisa also carries a number of specific projects and additional responsibilities for the Children, Families and Education Directorate. She is currently project managing the implementation of CFE re-organisation. Prior to managing the Extended Services Team, Marisa's roles included: District Schools Officer for Thanet Schools, Head of Personnel of the KCC Directorate previously known as "Education and Libraries", Staff Officer to the Leader of the Council, and a range of policy and personnel roles since joining KCC Social Services in 1988 and Education in 1991.