

By: Paul Carter, Leader of the Council
Alex King, Deputy Leader
Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership

To: Selection and Member Services Committee – Wednesday, 27
January 2010

Subject: KENT CHILDREN'S TRUST

Classification Unrestricted

FOR DECISION

Children's Trusts

1. Children's Trusts are organisations that bring together social care, health, police, education authorities and other services to ensure integrated, child-centred approaches to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families. Their establishment arose out of Government policy developed in "Every Child Matters", the "Children Act 2004" and "The Children's Plan." Every Local Authority was expected to introduce a Trust by 2008.

2. The Kent Children's Trust was established in 2006. It is currently chaired by Rosalind Turner, Managing Director of Children, Families and Education. Its membership on 10 November 2009 is enclosed at Appendix 1. The County Council's elected representation is given as:-

Mrs S V Hohler
Mr L B Ridings
Mr M J Vye
Mrs E Green

3. Cabinet met on 26 November 2007 and "agreed to extend the membership of the Kent Children's Trust County Board to include one representative from each main opposition party in addition to the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education Achievement (CFE) and the Cabinet Member for operations, Resources and Skills (CFE). The elected Member representation has, however, never been ratified by this Committee.

Regularising the position

4. Assuming that this Committee wishes to ratify the current arrangement, it needs only to agree that the County Council's elected representation should consist of the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education; the Deputy Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education; and one Member to be nominated by each of the Liberal Democrat and Labour Groups.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

5. The Committee is recommended to regularise the appointments to the Kent Children's Trust County Board as set out in paragraph 4 above.

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