

# North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Date: 28 May 2019

## ITEM 5(f)

Title: Cabinet Response to Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Report on *The Effectiveness of Collaborative Working in North Tyneside*

Portfolio(s): Children, Young People and Learning

Cabinet Member: Councillor Peter Earley

Report from Service Area: Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding

Responsible Officer: Jacqui Old, Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding Tel 0191 643 7317

Wards affected: All

### PART 1

#### 1.1 Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval to the proposed response to the recommendations included in the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Report into the effectiveness of collaborative working in North Tyneside.

In accordance with Section 21B of the Local Government Act 2000, Cabinet is required to provide a response to the recommendations of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Report within two months.

In providing this response, Cabinet is asked to state whether or not it accepts each of the recommendations and the reasons for this decision. Cabinet must also indicate what action, if any, it proposes to take.

#### 1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet agree the proposed responses to the recommendations from the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Sub Group in relation to its study into the effectiveness of collaborative working in North Tyneside, as shown in Appendix 1 of this report.

#### 1.3 Forward Plan:

This report first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 26 April 2019.

#### 1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework:

The 2018-2020 Our North Tyneside Plan states that 'Our people will':

- Be listened to so that their experience helps the Council work better for residents.
- Be ready for school – giving our children and their families the best start in life.

- Be ready for work and life – with the right skills and abilities to achieve their full potential, economic independence and meet business needs.
- Be healthy and well – with the information, skills and opportunities to maintain and improve their health, well-being and independence, especially if they are carers.
- Be cared for, protected and supported if they become vulnerable including if they become homeless.
- Be encouraged and enabled to, whenever possible, be more independent, to volunteer and to do more for themselves and their local communities.

Effective collaborative working by the Authority with partner agencies contributes to these priorities, in particular ensuring that residents are cared for, protected and supported.

## **1.5 Information:**

On 9 July 2018 the Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee of Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee agreed to establish a sub-group to review the collaborative working practices of the Authority to ensure they were improving outcomes for children and their families with a focus on the most vulnerable and in need.

The sub-group considered it appropriate to examine the collaborative working practices of the Authority, including the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub, the Tyneside Alliance and the North of Tyne Collaboration and to consider proposals relating to the future of the North Tyneside Safeguarding Children Board.

The sub-group met on a number of occasions to receive information from Officers and also met with representatives of partner agencies as well as Social Workers and front line staff in Children's Services.

Cabinet has a statutory duty to respond to the recommendations of the Overview & Scrutiny Report into the effectiveness of collaborative working practices within two months. Cabinet is asked to state whether or not it accepts each of the recommendations and the reasons for this decision. Cabinet must also indicate what action, if any, it proposes to take.

## **1.6 Decision options:**

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

### Option 1

Cabinet accepts the recommendations set out in paragraph 1.2.

### Option 2

Cabinet does not accept the recommendations set out in paragraph 1.2, and provides an alternative response to the report at the meeting.

## **1.7 Reasons for recommended option:**

Option 1 is recommended in order to improve and further develop the effectiveness of collaborative working by the Authority.

## **1.8 Appendices:**

Appendix 1: Cabinet Response to Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee Recommendations, Completed Action Plan

Appendix 2: Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Report on *The Effectiveness of Collaborative Working in North Tyneside* (March 2019)

## **1.9 Contact officers:**

Jacqui Old, Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding Tel. 0191 643 7317  
Julie Firth, Assistant Director, Safeguarding and Children's Services Tel. 0191 643 5943  
Nik Flavell, Senior Manager for Quality Assurance Tel. 0191 643 7219  
David G Dunford, Acting Senior Business Partner Tel 0191 643 7027

## **1.10 Background Information**

No additional background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report

## **PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING**

### **2.1 Finance and other resources**

It is anticipated that recommendations within the completed action plan can be implemented within existing financial resources.

### **2.2 Legal**

In accordance with Section 21B of the Local Government Act 2000, Cabinet is required to provide a response to the recommendations of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Report within two months. In providing this response, Cabinet is asked to state whether or not it accepts each of the recommendations and the reasons for this decision. Cabinet must also indicate what action, if any, it proposes to take.

### **2.3 Consultation/community engagement**

The sub-group consulted with Officers of the Authority and also met with representatives of partner agencies as well as Social Workers and front line staff in Children's Services.

### **2.4 Human rights**

There are no direct human rights implications arising from this report.

### **2.5 Equalities and diversity**

There are no direct implications of equality and diversity arising from this report.

### **2.6 Risk management**

There are no specific risk management implications arising from this report.

## 2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no specific crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

## 2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no specific environment and sustainability implications arising from this report.

### PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Chief Executive
- Head(s) of Service
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)
- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer
- Head of Corporate Strategy and Customer Service