

**Devon Strategic Partnership Delivery Board**  
**1<sup>st</sup> June 2007**

**Agenda item:**

**Effective District Council representation on Devon Children's Trust**

**Recommendation**

That the Delivery Board discuss this topic and make a decision about appropriate representation on the Children's Trust.

The purpose of this paper is to cause a discussion between District Council Chief Executives as to appropriate engagement by them with the Devon Children's Trust. They will not have capacity to represent themselves on each of the DSP blocks.

District Councils will need to make arrangements for appropriate representation within governance structures in each of the blocks; and ensure there is collective influence upon priorities and decisions made, for spend and allocation/ commissioning of resource. Please find attached, Version 10 of the Devon Children's Trust Governance and Constitution document. Relevant sections are 3.1.17(Page 6), 5.1.10(Page 8) and 11.4 (Page 12).

This was agreed and approved by the Children's Trust Board held last week as the working document for ongoing development of Children's Trust activity including the emerging Joint Commissioning framework, delivery of the AxS Pathfinder Programme, and completion of the Children and Young People's Plan Review.

The latter takes us towards a complete refresh of the CYPP. This has to be a new evidence base/new data set and subject to comprehensive consultation.

Within the governance arrangements, decisions will be made by duty to co-operate partners about the shape of future services to Children and Young People across the county according to priorities consulted and decided within the Trust, and with the definitive participation of Children and Young People.

The Children and Young People's Plan will become a much more focussed document. It will be the action plan for the re-negotiated Local Area Agreement, to be in place for April 2008. This represents a substantial piece of work which partners have a duty to co-operate to deliver. The Local Authority retains the statutory requirement as lead agency.

The timeframe is however much tighter by virtue of the 'Duty to Co-operate Partners' budget setting, which essentially means the draft 'Refreshed Plan' will need to inform the budget setting round in the Autumn of 2007.

By reference to the attached governance arrangements which have been fully consulted ... ***How do District Councils intend to engage and are there any Districts willing to take the lead in Children and Young People's issues?***

***The Governance document will subsequently be amended to take account of your decisions.***

***Liam McGrath***  
***Programme Director, Devon Children's Trust***

***23 May 2007***