

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report

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| Committee/Panel: | Children and Families Advisory Panel |
| Date: | 7 October 2010 |
| Title: | Panel Members Visits to Hampshire's Children's Homes |
| Reference: | 2123 |
| Report From: | Director of Children's Services |

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1. Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to provide the background to the proposed schedule of visits to residential children's homes in Hampshire.

2. Contextual information

2.1. As part of it's Corporate Parenting remit it was proposed during a meeting of the Advisory Panel in February 2010 that each member of the panel was allocated one of Hampshire's residential children's home to visit. These were matched as close to each members constituency as possible. (see appendix 1)

2.2. There are 11 children's homes in Hampshire, one is secure, seven are open units and three are respite units for children with disabilities.

2.3. It is an expectation as part of the corporate parenting role that Elected Members make regular visits children's homes and Ofsted often make mention of this during their inspections. It is proposed that members of the Advisory Panel help to fulfil this function.

2.4. As of September 2010, four visits have taken place;

- Milesdown in Winchester;
- Merrydale in Kingsworthy;
- Cypress Lodge in Basingstoke;
- Godbey House on Hayling Island.

2.5A proforma was developed to assist members with the sorts of issues to be examined during the course of the visits and verbal feedback will be provided by individual members during the course of the meeting. (see appendix 2)

3. Recommendation

That the Panel agrees the establishment of a regular visiting schedule for Members to each of Hampshire County Council's Children's Homes and that feedback from these visits is reported annually to the Panel.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

| | |
|--|--------|
| Hampshire safer and more secure for all: | yes/no |
| Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate): | |
| Maximising well-being: | yes/no |
| Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate): | |
| Enhancing our quality of place: | yes/no |
| Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate): | |

NB: If the 'Other significant links' section below is not applicable, please delete it.

Other Significant Links

| | | |
|--|------------------|-------------|
| Links to previous Member decisions: | | |
| <u>Title</u> | <u>Reference</u> | <u>Date</u> |
| | | |
| Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives | | |
| <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u> | |
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Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| <u>Document</u> | <u>Location</u> |
| None | |

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

1.1.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1.

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?
- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?