

**POLICY COMMISSION BLUE PAPER**

<p><b>RESPONSIBLE BODY</b></p> <p>Policy Commission for Children and School Results</p>	
<p><b>PROJECT NAME</b></p> <p>Governance of the Children and Young People's Trust</p>	<p><b>REFERENCE NUMBER</b></p> <p>C5/05</p>
<p><b>1 PURPOSE OF ENQUIRY AND PROPOSED OUTCOME</b></p> <p>1.1 To establish the arrangements for the governance of the Isle of Wight Children and Young People's Trust.</p>	
<p><b>2 RECOMMENDATION</b></p> <p>2.1 That the Cabinet Member for Health and Community Wellbeing be recommended to approve the governance arrangements for the Isle of Wight Children and Young People's Trust as set out in the attached <a href="#">appendix</a>.</p> <p>This body of work and the above recommendations were agreed and accepted by the Members of the Policy Commission for Children and School Results.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Cllr Melanie Swan</b> <i>Commissioner</i></p>	
<p><b>3 BACKGROUND TO PROJECT</b></p> <p><b>THE NATIONAL CONTEXT:</b></p> <p>3.1 The Children Act 2004 establishes an expectation that the different agencies involved in providing services to children and young people will come together into a formal partnership by April 2008. This partnership should be sufficiently robust to manage a shared Children and Young People's Plan and to commission services jointly so that services to children and young people are joined up in good multi-agency practice which delivers high quality outcomes.</p> <p><b>THE LOCAL CONTEXT:</b></p> <p>3.2 The development of Children's Trust arrangements needs to take account of parallel developments in the integration of adult care and health services; and in Island governance through the Isle of Wight Partnership and its Public Service Board.</p>	

## **4 CONSULTATION EVIDENCE**

- 4.1 The proposals for the Children and Young People's Trust arrangements have been extensively discussed by the various Boards of the current Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, and by Health partners, through the Transition Steering Group and Transition Steering Board.
- 4.2 In taking evidence of the issues involved the Policy Commission considered that there was a need to have consistency with the governance arrangements for the Trust as for those the Local Strategic Partnership, Public Service Board and Health and Adult Care Trust.
- 4.3 The Commission believe that the Trust Board should comprise of non-paid executive members and a balance was required to ensure that all appropriate bodies and agencies were represented at the right level within the arrangements.
- 4.4 In considering the Council's representation on the Board the Policy Commission believes that its Chairman should be the Cabinet member with responsibility for Children. Additionally the Commission would wish to see the tow other Council members on the Board being selected on the basis of the skills and knowledge that they would bring to the Trust Board rather than being appointed on a party political basis.
- 4.5 The engagement of young people in the Trust was also an important element. To enable such representatives to be fully effective there would be a need to provide appropriate mentoring support.

## **5 ISSUES IDENTIFIED**

### **5.1 FINANCIAL:**

- 5.1.1 The Children and Young People's Trust arrangements need to be sufficiently robust for joint commissioning and the pooling of budgets to be possible.

### **5.2 STRATEGIC:**

- 5.2.1 The Children and Young People's Trust arrangements will govern the strategy of all services for children and young people, notably through its Children and Young People's Plan. Additionally they will be a vital element in achieving the Council's Corporate Objectives of Improving Health and Well-Being of Island Communities. Creating Safer and Stronger Communities and Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People. There is also a strong link with the five headings contained within Every Child Matters – Being healthy; Staying Safe; Enjoying and Achieving; Making a Positive Contribution and Economic Well-Being.

### **5.3 OPERATIONAL:**

- 5.3.1 The Children and Young People's Trust arrangements will coordinate the operational delivery of services for children and young people, and the day-to-day delivery of the Children and Young People's Plan.

### **5.4 LEGAL:**

- 5.4.1 The Children and Young People's Trust arrangements formalise the partnership between those agencies who work with and deliver services to children and young

people, in line with the provisions of the Children Act 2004.

## **6 OPTIONS APPRAISAL**

**DRAFT**

6.1 The alternative options to the terms of reference proposed would be:

a) a tighter legal entity, which at a time when the health trusts are being reconstituted would be more complicated than is necessary; or

b) a looser partnership, which might find it difficult to do business when joint commissioning becomes more commonplace.

It should be noted that all partners have agreed to the framework as contained within the attached appendix. Any amendment to this would require further consultation to be undertaken with all partners thereby delaying the planned launch at the Big Day Out on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2006.

## **7 CUSTOMER IMPACT (VALUE FOR MONEY)**

7.1 The formalisation of the Children and Young People's Trust arrangements is intended to encourage the integration of service planning and delivery to bring better value for money.

## **8 EVIDENCE / BACKGROUND PAPERS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Papers for meetings of the Policy Commission for Children and School Results held on 1 March 2006, 5 April and 7 June 2006

Original scoping document approved by the Policy Commission for Children and School Results on 6 July 2005.

Notes of an informal meeting of the Policy Commission for Children and School Results held on 4 January 2006.

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Date: