

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

DRAFT SCRUTINY REPORT: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FAMILY FRONT DOOR AND SCHOOLS

Summary

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) is asked to consider and approve the attached draft scrutiny report on the Relationship Between the Family Front Door and Schools.

Background

2. The Family Front Door (FFD) is the central point for members of the community and professionals to refer children and young people living in Worcestershire where there are concerns about their safety and welfare.
3. Launched in July 2016, the FFD brings together functions that were previously provided by the Children's Social Care Access Centre, Early Help Hub and partner services such as Police and Health. The Family Front Door identifies and makes decisions around the levels of need for children and young people to ensure that the right services and intervention are provided to meet their needs at the right time.
4. As part of its work planning process, the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel identified that it wished to look at how the relationship between the Family Front Door and Schools was working.
5. The OSPB agreed at its meeting on 26 September 2018 that a Scrutiny Task Group would be set up to scrutinise this issue. Due to the heavy workload of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel, the OSPB agreed that the Scrutiny Task Group would be led by Councillor Jane Potter, Vice Chairman of the Panel.

Terms of Reference

6. The **terms of reference** for the scrutiny exercise were *'to investigate how the Service is currently working, taking into account the relationship between the County Council and School partners, and the progress made since the Ofsted Inspection and subsequent monitoring visits'*.

OSPB's Role

7. One of OSPB's roles is to monitor the quality of scrutinies that are carried out to ensure that scrutiny reports are robust and evidence based, and that they follow the terms of reference agreed by the OSPB.

8. To help with this, the Task Group's lead has provided the OSPB with regular verbal updates on the progress of the scrutiny via the Chairman of the Children and Families O&S Panel.

Next Steps

9. Once the Board is content, the Scrutiny Report will be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 24 October 2019.

Purpose of the Meeting

10. The OSPB is now invited to consider, comment on and approve the attached Scrutiny Report.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1- Draft Scrutiny Report: The Relationship Between the Family Front Door and Schools

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points
County Council: 01905 763763

Specific Contact Points for this report
Alyson Grice and Samantha Morris, Overview and Scrutiny Officers, 01905 844962/844963, scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and minutes of the OSPB meeting on [26 September 2018](#)

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)