

## **Statutory Duties of the Director of Children's Services**

In summary the DCS:

- Under Section 18 of the Children Act 2004 the DCS has professional responsibility for the leadership, strategy and effectiveness of local authority children's services.
- Is responsible for securing the provision of services which address the needs of all children and young people, including the most disadvantaged and vulnerable, and their families and carers. In discharging these responsibilities, the DCS will work closely with other local partners to improve the outcomes and well-being of children and young people.
- Is responsible for the performance of local authority functions relating to the education and social care of children and young people.
- Is responsible for ensuring that effective systems are in place for discharging these functions, including where a local authority has commissioned any services from another provider rather than delivering them itself.
- Should have regard to the General Principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and ensure that children and young people are involved in the development and delivery of local services.

The statutory guidance for local authorities with responsibility for education and children's social services functions is set out in the document at Appendix 2 (a) attached electronically.