



Executive Board

Supplementary Agenda

Thursday, 16 December 2010 12.00 p.m.  
Marketing Suite, Municipal Building

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David W R'.

Chief Executive

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH  
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**PART 1**

Item	Page No
<b>2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST</b>	
Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached and, with personal and prejudicial interests (subject to certain exceptions in the Code of Conduct for Members), to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.	
<b>3. CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PORTFOLIO</b>	
<b>(B) SHARED SERVICES DEC 2010 DOC REVISED (2)</b>	<b>1 - 4</b>

*In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.*

*Please contact Angela Scott on 0151 471 7529 or  
Angela.scott@halton.gov.uk for further information.  
The next meeting of the Committee is on Thursday, 13 January 2011*

**REPORT TO:** Executive Board

**DATE:** 16<sup>th</sup> December 2010

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director – Children & Young People

**SUBJECT:** Shared Services

**WARD(S)** Borough-wide

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 Halton Council has been approached by Cheshire West & Chester Council (CWAC) to discuss the feasibility of establishing a shared service for children and young people. This report identifies the first steps in taking such an initiative forward, and asks permission to do so.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That:**

- i) That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and Strategic Director of Children & Young People's Services, agree the first steps in having a Shared Service for children and young people with Cheshire West and Chester Council. This would initially only involve arrangements for the Strategic Director of Children's Services and the Safeguarding Unit Manager.
- ii) That the Executive Board agrees to a stepped approach to shared arrangements beyond this, with reports at each stage of the process. This is with specific reference to items within Paragraph 3.5 contained in this report and other areas identified for shared arrangements.

**3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Cheshire West & Chester Council (CWAC) have approached Halton Council to explore the possibility of having a Shared Service for Children and Young People.
- 3.2 This would be an opportunity for Halton Council to share the skills and expertise it has as a Children & Young People's Directorate more widely. There is also the scope to explore a range of efficiencies over time.
- 3.3 Proposals for a sharing services would develop on a stepped basis, where it was viewed by both Councils as meeting its needs. Each Council would remain sovereign in terms of its responsibilities for

services to children and young people. Members would remain responsible and accountable for their own population.

3.4 In order to move the process forward, it is requested that the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Strategic Director of Children & Young People's Services be authorised to take the first steps in agreeing the initial management arrangement for the Shared Service. This would include the position of Strategic Director and a Senior Halton Manager.

3.5 Further reports will follow detailing how the issues listed below would be taken forward:

- Legal Agreements
- Accountability and Governance arrangements
- Councillor involvement
- Financial arrangements
- Personnel matters
- The scope for the arrangements and their timing
- Reporting arrangements
- Risk Register

#### 4.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The Council will be in discussion with Cheshire West & Chester Council for an appropriate management charge for the agreed arrangements.

4.2 Financial arrangements will be reported to Executive Board as part of the stepped approach to the shared service listed in 3.5 above.

#### 5.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

##### 5.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

The Shared Services are intended to meet the needs of both Council's population, within the resources made available to them.

##### 5.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

The Shared Service will include the 14-19 Learning and Employment Agenda.

##### 5.3 **A Healthy Halton**

N/A

##### 5.4 **A Safer Halton**

N/A

##### 5.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

N/A

6.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

6.1 A Risk Register and full risk analysis will be completed as part of Paragraph 3.5 above.

7.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

7.1 Any Shared Service would reflect the needs of both Councils population including Equality & Diversity matters.

8.0 **REASON(S) FOR DECISION**

The Council has the opportunity to provide expertise in Child Protection and Children & Young People's Services to a wider community

The Shared Service is intended to provide a range of efficiencies for the Council in the medium term.

9.0 **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

The Council does not take up Shared Service opportunities. Given the current financial context this does not appear in the Council's best interests.

10.0 **IMPLEMENTATION DATE**

The first step in agreeing the initial management arrangements is January 2011.

11.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer

