

Report to: **Children's Services Scrutiny Committee**
Date: **15 June 2006**
Title of report: **Visits by Children's Services Scrutiny Committee**
By: **Director of Law & Performance Management**
Purpose of report: **To outline to members suggestions for a day of visits to areas of work within the Children's Services department**

RECOMMENDATION

The Children's Services Scrutiny Committee are recommended to:

- 1. support the idea of a day of visits taking place; and**
 - 2. suggest areas that could be included on the itinerary**
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1. Visit to areas of work within the Children's Services Department

1.1 To help members increase their knowledge and understanding about the varied work carried out by the Children's Services department, it is suggested that a day of visits be arranged.

1.2 These visits would allow members an opportunity to talk with managers and staff about their area of work and tour areas, where appropriate.

1.3 Members are requested to suggest places that they would like to see included on the itinerary for the day. Places that members might like to consider include:

- Children's centre
- SEN school
- Family centre
- YOT Team

1.4 To allow for the necessary arrangements to be made, and to fit in with the work of each department, it is suggested that these visits take place in the autumn. Once an itinerary has been established a range of suitable dates will be discussed with managers and circulated to members for them to consider.

1.5 Given the size of the committee it might be sensible to limit the visit to seven or eight members. If more members than this wish to attend the itinerary could split to allow two separate visits to take place, each concentrating on places within a particular area of the county. Members could then feed back their experiences at a later scrutiny committee meeting.

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Local member: All

Background documents - none