

County Council

7 June 2019

Item 8(a) - Notice of Motion from Mr Jones on Ofsted inspection of Children's Services

Amendment by Mr Simmons

In light of the recent Ofsted inspection of Children's Social Care Services which rated all elements **the overall effectiveness** of the service inadequate and the acknowledgement of the Executive that **the Council needs to address** it has failed to provide adequate funding to prevent substantial service decline, this Council:

- (a) Calls on the Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People **and the Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Panel** to arrange a **member event** Member Day at the earliest opportunity so all members can understand how the political and corporate leadership enabled services **were able** to decline so severely since the last inspection, **how they can support, enable and ensure the changes required** and, given that all members have corporate parenting responsibilities, to provide an update on the improvement programme and receive assurances that all the children and young people the County Council is **all members are** responsible for are receiving adequate support;
- (b) Pledges to do everything necessary to improve services for those children and families who need support as directed by the Commissioner (soon to be appointed) and the Independent Improvement Board;
- (c) Calls on the Leader to ensure that improving these services is the County Council's top priority and, **recognising the swift action already taken**, that any funding deemed necessary to turn around **support** these services **and the valued staff who provide them** is made available, and that no savings targets are allocated to **proposals divert this ambition for** Children's Social Care; and
- (d) Calls for **members who carry out** oversight, scrutiny and challenge to **ensure they are** be more robust and independent minded, **and invites the Governance Committee to consider whether any changes should be made to the Council's scrutiny arrangements** by enabling all of the Select Committees to nominate their own Chairman and Vice-Chairman, one of which should be drawn from the minority groups. Such nominations to be conducted by secret ballot, in line with recent national scrutiny guidance, and to be implemented as soon as possible.