

## **County Council**

**7 June 2019**

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

#### **Amendment by Dr Walsh**

In light of the recent Ofsted inspection of Children's Social Care Services which rated all elements of the service inadequate and the acknowledgement of the Executive that it has failed to provide adequate funding to prevent substantial service decline, ***calling into question the confidence this Council can have in its Leader and whether she should retain that position***, this Council:

- (a) Calls on the Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People to arrange a Member Day at the earliest opportunity so all members can understand how the political and corporate leadership enabled services to decline so severely since the last inspection 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 responsible for are receiving adequate support ***and in particular by ensuring senior staff stability***;
- (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 that any funding deemed necessary to turn these services around is made available ***if necessary by drawing on contingencies this year, with appropriate budget provision next year and following***, and that no savings targets are allocated to Children's Social Care; and
- (d) Calls for oversight, scrutiny and challenge to be more robust and independent minded, 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.