

Elected Member's Impact on Outcomes for Children Looked After

Discussion Paper

All elected Members should be aware of the Every Child Matters (ECM) Outcomes Framework. This framework was developed as a result of the Victoria Climbié enquiry, which identified the need to improve the systems in place to safeguard and support all children and young people. The framework was based on the concept of 'Outcome-based Accountability', which has been described as the 'So what?' approach to performance management. In other words, it poses the question, "How does what you do impact on outcomes for children and young people?"

Elected Members have a responsibility to all children and young people, as residents of Middlesbrough, to enable them to achieve the ECM outcomes. As Corporate Parents, elected Members have additional legal and moral responsibilities towards children who are looked after by the local authority to ensure that they are able to:

- Be Healthy
- Stay Safe
- Enjoy & Achieve
- Make a Positive Contribution
- Achieve Economic Well-being

It has been suggested that the Corporate Parenting Board should issue a challenge to all elected Members to say how they have supported this process. Members would be asked to reflect on their work over the previous year and to complete the attached form. The purpose of the exercise would be to identify any areas for improvement and to help the Board to develop its work programme for 2008-2009.

A briefing note giving Members additional information about the ECM outcomes and about outcomes for children looked after would accompany the form.

Do You Make a Difference?....

to Children and Young People Looked After by Middlesbrough Council?

Think back over the last year and the work that you have done in your Ward and across the town as:

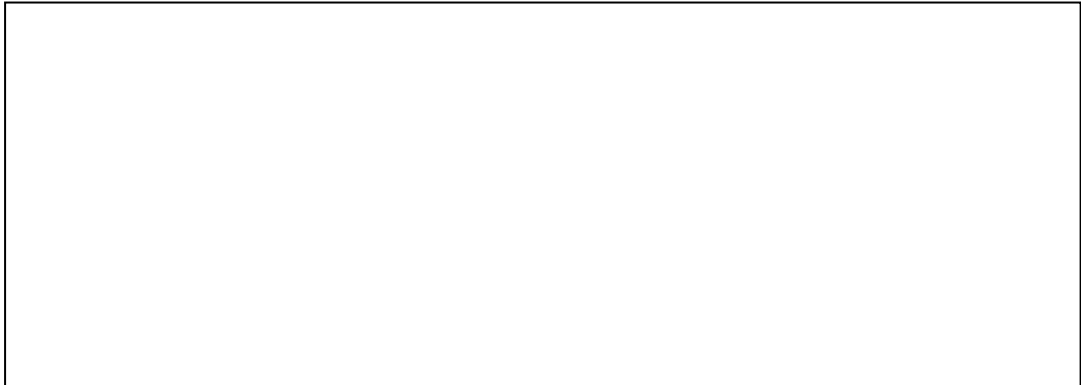
- a Member of Middlesbrough Council
- a Member of Overview & Scrutiny
- a Member of the Executive
- a Member who is a School Governor
- a Member undertaking official duties on behalf of the Council

Under each of the following headings, consider what you have done to improve that outcome for children and young people.

Be Healthy

Stay Safe

Enjoy & Achieve



Make a Positive Contribution



Achieve Economic Well-being



Please send your completed form to the Member's Office for the attention of the Corporate Parenting Board.

Thank you