

ROLE SPECIFICATION
EXECUTIVE MEMBER
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

CONTEXT

The majority of the Council's functions are the responsibility of the Executive (as assigned to it by law or under the Constitution) who will take most of the day to day key decisions. The Executive has to make decisions which are in line with the Council's overall policies and budget.

ROLE

Members of the Executive will have wide ranging leadership roles and will need to:

lead the community planning process and ensure best value, with input and advice from scrutiny commissions and panels, area boards, officers and any other persons as appropriate;

lead the preparation of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework, to include attending and contributing to the Council's annual strategic planning event;

take decisions on resources and priorities with other stakeholders and partners in the local community to deliver and implement the budget and policies decided by full Council;

be the focus for forming partnerships with other local public, private, voluntary and community sector organisations to address local needs;

ensure that the diverse needs of all groups and citizens are properly reflected in local strategies, plans and service provision;

commit to the delivery of fair and non discriminatory services to all members of the local community;

commit to upholding human rights and promoting equality and diversity ;

present where appropriate performance reports to the Resource and Performance Scrutiny Panel;

represent the Council's view on Portfolio issues at Council, Executive and where appropriate, scrutiny commissions;

represent the view of the Council on matters of corporate or strategic policy as the lead executive member, to the Government and to other bodies and organisations relevant to the Council's work;

participate as a member of any panel, task group or other Council forum as appropriate;

participate in local consultative arrangements and actively engage in communication and dialogue with any bodies and organisations involved in portfolio issues;

provide support and guidance and work collaboratively with the designated lead members working within the portfolio holders area of responsibility; and

be responsible for the functions delegated to the Executive either as a whole or to the Executive Member, as set out in the Council's Constitution.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of the Executive Member for Children and Young People is pivotal to the success of the Council in meeting its aims and objectives under the Children Act 2004 within the corporate and community planning framework adopted by Council.

In addition, this role has lead political responsibility for the successful delivery of operational and financial performance targets within the Council's Service Development and Delivery Planning framework on all issues relating to the children and young people portfolio, in conjunction with appropriate Director/s.

The main areas of responsibility are:

participation in the formulation and application of policies and in decision making and cross cutting issues, concentrating on the following policy and service areas:-

- Children's Social Services
- Children's Services Planning
- Planning and management of education
- Schools Standards
- Youth Justice Plan (working with the Executive Member for Safe and Secure Communities, where appropriate)
- Children and Young People's Health
- Youth Services and Connexions

to ensure that the requirements to develop, disseminate, monitor and update the range of Departmental and Statutory Plans are fulfilled;

to ensure that the Council gives appropriate attention to the pursuit of the priority outcomes for children and young people and high standards by Schools within the Borough;

to ensure that the Council fulfils both the letter and the spirit of its legal obligations as Corporate Parent;

to foster good relations with all of the Schools, relevant voluntary sector organisations and other partners in the Borough, acting, as appropriate, as advocate for them, and as the Council's spokesperson to them in their dealings with the Council;

to present, where appropriate, performance reports to Resource and Performance Scrutiny Panel and Audit Committee; and

to facilitate good outcomes throughout the Borough, especially through participation in the work of the Children and Young People's Partnership.