

# Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

2 April 2015

## Innovations Programme



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## Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive

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### Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to introduce to members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee a presentation on the governments Innovation Programme. The presentation will be given by Carole Payne, Head of Children's Services.

### Background

- 2 The Department for Education (DfE) launched the Innovation Programme in October 2013 to act as a catalyst for developing more effective ways of supporting vulnerable children. The programme is seeking to inspire whole system change so that in five years the following will be achieved:
  - Better life chances for children receiving help from the social care system;
  - Stronger incentives and mechanisms for innovation, experimentation and replication of successful new approaches;
  - Better value for money across children's social care.
- 3 The programme has identified two key areas where there are particular challenges in prevailing practice and clear scope for radical innovation and change. These are:
  - Rethinking children's social work; and
  - Rethinking support for adolescents in or on the edge of care.

### Detail

- 4 The presentation will address how the innovation programme will be used to develop more effective ways of supporting vulnerable children in County Durham covering the following areas:
  - The purpose of the Innovation Fund
  - The problems it seeks to address
  - The progress Durham County Council has already made
  - The actions that will be taken
  - The outcomes that will be achieved

## **Recommendation**

- 5 The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to:
- a) Receive the presentation and comment accordingly;
  - b) Receive progress update at a future date.

## **Background Papers**

None

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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**Finance – None**

**Staffing – None**

**Risk – None**

**Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None**

**Accommodation – None**

**Crime and Disorder – None**

**Human Rights – None**

**Consultation – None**

**Procurement – None**

**Disability Issues – None**

**Legal Implications – None**