

**Children and Education Select
Committee
17 November 2017
Interim Director for Children's Services**



Purpose of report: Scrutiny of Services

Background:

1. The Director for Children's Services is a statutory role under section 18 of the Children's Act 2004. The statutory guidance for the role sets out the following:

"The DCS is responsible for securing the provision of services which address the needs of all children and young people, including the most disadvantaged and vulnerable, and their families and carers. In discharging these responsibilities, the DCS will work closely with other local partners to improve the outcomes and well-being of children and young people. The DCS is responsible for the performance of local authority functions relating to the education and social care of children and young people. The DCS is responsible for ensuring that effective systems are in place for discharging these functions, including where a local authority has commissioned any services from another provider rather than delivering them itself. The DCS should have regard to the General Principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and ensure that children and young people are involved in the development and delivery of local services."¹

2. The committee will receive a brief update from the newly appointed Interim Director for Children's Services, Rose Durban, regarding service priorities for the next six months.

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Sources/background papers:

Directors of children's services: roles and responsibilities, Department for Education, April 2013

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https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/271429/directors_of_child_services_-_stat_guidance.pdf

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