

Children and Families Committee

29th April 2024

Implementation of All Age Direct Payment Policy – one page overview

Report of: Deborah Woodcock, Executive Director Children's Services

Report Reference No: AH/09/2023-24

Ward(s) Affected: All

Purpose of Report

- 1 This report seeks agreement from Children and Families Committee to implement the 'all age' Direct Payment Policy. A copy of the joint Committee report along with the proposed policy and accompanying appendices are attached and should be read in conjunction with this document.
- 2 Direct payments contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan 2021 – 2025 objectives of a council which empowers and cares about people, an open and enabling organisation and a thriving and sustainable place.

Background

- 3 The 'all age' Direct Payment Policy sets out the Council's approach to providing direct payments. The policy provides guidance on making and receiving a direct payment where there is an eligible need for adults, adult carers and children and/or those with parental responsibility for a child.
- 4 A Member briefing took place on 15th November 2023 for both Adults and Health and Children and Families Committee Members to provide an overview of the Direct Payment workstream particularly the 'all age' Direct Payment Policy and to provide an opportunity for Members to shape and inform the development of the policy and future commissioning.
- 5 Adults and Health Committee agreed to the implementation of the 'all age' Direct Payment Policy at the Committee meeting held on 25th March 2024. A copy of the minutes of the Adults and Health Committee meeting can be accessed via the following: [Minutes Template \(cheshireeast.gov.uk\)](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/minutes-template)
- 6 Whilst the policy relates primarily to adults this also relates to children who receive a direct payment. The alignment of the 'all age' Direct Payment Policy aligns the approach for providing and managing direct payments for adults and children, to meet their care and support needs.

Recommendation:

- 7 Children and Families Committee is recommended to agree and instruct officers to implement the 'all age' Direct Payment Policy.
- 8 Children and Families Committee to agree that any future "all age" policy/services development decisions around Direct Payments to be dealt with by the Adults and Health Committee.