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22. TROUBLED FAMILIES PROGRAMME

Further to Minute No. 13 (6) the Committee considered the report of the Director of Young People and Families in relation to the Troubled Families Programme in order for Members to determine issues and determine the merits of conducting a possible joint review on this area with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care).

The report indicated that a review of the programme would be welcomed; although any review might be more productive mid-way through the programme in Q4 of 2013.

The report set out the background to the programme; how troubled families were defined; and recent progress made within Sefton with its partners.

The report also outlined the nationally determined criteria being used, namely:-

- Crime and/or Antisocial Behaviour;
- Education and truancy or exclusion from school;
- Unemployment; and
- the Local Discretion which had been agreed as domestic violence and alcohol misuse.

Committee Members discussed a number of issues, including involvement with registered social landlords, together with alcohol and drug misuse. Concerns were also expressed that families could lose their accommodation, particularly in view of forthcoming changes to the benefits system.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report and early programme progress be received;
- (2) a review of the programme be considered midway through the programme in quarter four of 2013; and
- (3) the report be referred to the Council's Area Committees for information.