

27 JANUARY 1992

CHILD CARE STRATEGY

Wards Affected: All**Report Authors:** I Davey & Jane Held
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Ext DPA**1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To propose an outline child care strategy for the Social Services Department for the next year, to ensure that services are delivered within a statutory framework as effectively as possible during a period of change.

2 Summary of Main Points

- 2.1 The report outlines the "traditional" models of child care that have resulted in the type of service that currently exists.
- 2.2 It identifies the main changes that affect this model at present as a result of National legislative changes and local initiatives. (The Children Act 1989, the Criminal Justice Act 1991, and the Council's Going Local Initiative). It also identifies other factors that affect it. (The Community Charge and its effect).
- 2.3 It looks at the types of services that exist in the Borough and makes some outline proposals as to the changes that need to take place in the coming year to ensure that the service meets the imperatives of the "new world" without affecting service delivery, in the most effective way possible.
- 2.4 It proposes that the detail as to how the Department propose to achieve these changes be submitted to the next Committee following consultation on the strategy with users, staff, trade unions, and other Departments. It also proposes that the Children's Services Development Plan that will be considered at the next Children's Services Sub-Committee be presented as a complementary report in March.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 That members approve the outline Child Care Strategy as proposed in the body of the report and Appendix 1.

