

Buckinghamshire County Council - Executive

Delegation of Children's Services Functions to Director of Children's Services

1. This decision is made by the Executive, as part of the executive arrangements of the authority, under section 15(2)(d) of the Local Government Act 2000, pursuant to section 18 of the Children Act 2004, and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2000.
2. With effect from 1st April 2006, the discharge of the functions of the authority specified in section 18(1)(a) of the Children Act 2004, or any other functions as specified in section 18(1)(b) of that Act, shall be delegated to the Director of Children's Services.
3. Where the authority's Constitution (Part 3h) delegates powers and duties in relation to Children's Services to the Leader or Cabinet, and those powers and duties are common with those exercisable by officers, Members of the Executive and officers shall exercise them as a partnership; subject to their differing roles, notably in relation to decision-making.
4. The Chief Executive shall make, in consultation with the Director of Children's Services, a scheme for the further delegation to senior officers of the powers and duties, within broad functional descriptions, hereby delegated to the Director of Children's Services, incorporating such principles, limitations or other provisions as he/she considers appropriate. Any scheme made under this paragraph shall be made available for inspection upon request.
5. The Chief Executive may, after consultation with the Director of Children's Services, make such detailed delegations to officers within a

given area of responsibility (“internal delegations”) as he/she considers appropriate.

6. The Chief Executive may, in writing, vary any delegation made by him or her.

Specific functions delegated to Director of Children’s Services

7. Within the overall delegation contained in paragraph 2 above, the following specific functions are delegated to the Director of Children’s Services:
 - (a) To exercise the functions conferred on, or exercisable by, the authority by section 18 of the Children Act 2004, or Regulations made thereunder, or by any amending or substituted legislation, or legislation having a similar purpose or made for similar purposes.
 - (b) To discharge the functions for which the lead role is allocated to the Lead Member for Children’s Services, including:
 - (i) the authority’s Performance and Partnership activities in relation to children and young people;
 - (ii) the authority’s Commissioning activities in relation to children and young people;
 - (iii) the improvement of schools and the provision of resources and support services to schools, including planning and information;
 - (iv) school organisation and admissions;
 - (v) education for children with special needs;
 - (vi) early years’ education and childcare;
 - (vii) exclusions from school, and children at risk of offending;
 - (viii) home to school transport;

(ix) the Education Welfare Service and educational psychologists.

c) To discharge the functions of the authority for which the Member Responsible for Safeguarding of Children and Young People has the lead role, including those in relation to:

- (i) children looked after by the authority, children fostered or adopted, and those on the protection register;
- (ii) social care services to vulnerable children and young people, and their families;
- (iii) children subject to child protection;
- (iv) children in need, including those with a disability; and
- (v) emotionally and behaviourally disturbed children.