

## Overview & Scrutiny Recommendation Response Pro forma

*Under section 9FE of the Local Government Act 2000, Overview and Scrutiny Committees must require the Cabinet or local authority to respond to a report or recommendations made thereto by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Such a response must be provided within two months from the date on which it is requested<sup>1</sup> and, if the report or recommendations in questions were published, the response also must be so.*

*This template provides a structure which respondents are encouraged to use. However, respondents are welcome to depart from the suggested structure provided the same information is included in a response. The usual way to publish a response is to include it in the agenda of a meeting of the body to which the report or recommendations were addressed.*

### **Issue: Education Act 1996 (Section 19) – Response to the report of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman**

**Lead Cabinet Member(s):** Cllr Sean Gaul, Cabinet member for Children and Young People

**Date response requested:<sup>2</sup>** 15 July 2025

#### **Response to recommendations:**

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Accepted, rejected or partially accepted</b>	<b>Proposed action (if different to that recommended) and indicative timescale (unless rejected)</b>
1. That, notwithstanding the complexity of the processes being set out, the Council should ensure that the process chart at Annexe B is re-designed to make it clearer and easier to follow.	Partially accepted	The Annex B is an internal workflow chart for officers. It is a complicated picture since there are several different routes/reasons for the Council's section 19 duties to be engaged. We will continue to amend the workflow chart in line with any

<sup>1</sup> Date of the meeting at which report/recommendations were received

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		changes in guidance from central Government which is expected in the Autumn.
2. That the Council should highlight how there will be sufficient resource – both financial and practical – to ensure the s.19 approach and Pathway of Action can function adequately.	Partially accepted	We are expecting a significant change in approach from central Government in the Autumn and will then reflect that in our approach to S19.