

Elected Member Policy Lead - Role Profile

Title	Policy Lead : Children & Families
Accountable to: Reports to:	Full Council Leader /Deputy Leader of Council
Portfolio Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversight of strategic direction of Children and Families policy and services. • To articulate and support achievement of corporate priorities and the Single Outcome Agreement within portfolio. • Ensure decisions made by Council are fully informed in relation to key elements of portfolio.
Portfolio focus:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide strategic overview to facilitate development of policy for Children and Families' services which directly provides or commissions support, protection and care for vulnerable children, young people and families. • To provide strategic overview to support and develop policy for the delivery of the Social Work Criminal Justice Services. • To provide vision and leadership in improving standards within Argyll and Bute Children and Families. • To ensure plans and strategies are in place to meet the commitments in the Children and Young Peoples Act for nursery education for every three and four year old and looked after two year olds. • To facilitate improvements in family and children's services in order to support good parenting and help families through difficult situations. • Explore opportunities to work with partners in the Public, Private and Third Sector in providing services for those who need them most within local communities. • To facilitate effective community engagement and consultation with service users and community networks in respect of policy portfolio which ensures openness and transparency and robust feedback mechanisms. • To facilitate and support the role of Children's Champions to ensure provision of effective support to looked after children • To ensure strategy and plans are in place to work with Partners and communities to reduce the impact of alcohol and drugs on communities, families and individuals.
Key activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake a strong and confident figurehead role to represent the portfolio of services at Council, regional and national levels. • To champion role of Corporate parenting across the council. • Provide strategic vision and leadership in development of portfolio. • Ensure regular communication and reporting on activities to members of Council, Strategic Management Team and Council Officers to provide clarity on political direction and assist in working through

	<p>strategies and plans within the portfolio.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the policies of the Council to the media and wider community. • Work collaboratively with Elected Member Policy Leads and Chief Officers across areas of responsibility. • Develop and support effective partnering with organisations which support and assist in the delivery of strategies, plans and services within portfolio. • Chair meetings, sub groups and committees as required ensuring the agenda of the business is properly dealt with; that the opinions of other participants and the advice of officers, are allowed to be expressed: ensure the proper and timely conduct of the meeting in compliance with the Council Constitution and that clear decisions are reached. • Bring forward effectively issues and business for consideration to ensure Council is focused on the right issues at the right time and that decisions are made in light of overall Council policy. • Identify any crosscutting issues which may require corporate or joint working across portfolios, services and/or partnerships. • Participate in wider corporate agenda to support effective functioning of Council i.e. contribute to budget working group, participate in appointment panels
<p>Committee and Partnership Working Responsibilities:</p>	<p>Membership of Other Bodies: Criminal Justice Partnership Corporate Parenting Board</p>
<p><i>This role profile does not supersede the Role of Lead Councillors and associated responsibilities as set out in Appendix 1 of the Argyll and Bute Council Constitution. It has been drawn up to complement this documentation and provide further support and direction in fulfilling the role of Policy Lead.</i></p>	