

**THE “LOST IN CARE” REPORT (WATERHOUSE) “LEARNING THE LESSONS” –
THE GOVERNMENT’S RESPONSE TO “LOST IN CARE”**

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 To update the Committee of any implications there may be for Milton Keynes Council following the publication of “Learning the Lessons”, the Government’s response to the “Lost in Care” (Waterhouse) report. The benchmarking report was reported to Children’s and Youth Committee 14 March 2000.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The recommendations of the Waterhouse Report are focused on what are regarded as continuing areas of concern and the measures necessary to deal with them. The ‘action’ plan for Milton Keynes dictated the areas that needed further consideration. This report supersedes that action plan and updates the committee on work completed taking note of the Government’s response “Learning the Lessons”.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Tribunal and Inquiry into the abuse of children in care in the former County Council areas of Gwynned and Clywd since 1974, chaired by Sir Ronald Waterhouse, published its findings earlier this year. “Learning the Lessons” is the government’s response to this document.
- 3.2 The Government’s response has considered all 72 recommendations made in “Lost in Care” very carefully. Nine of these recommendations are primarily matters for the National Assembly for Wales to consider. The government agrees with the spirit of the remaining 63 recommendations that apply directly to England. In a few cases they propose taking a different route to achieve a similar end.
- 3.3 The Committee received an interim Action Plan addressing the recommendations at its last meeting on 14 March 2000 and a completed Action Plan is now attached at Item for the Committee’s information.