



CHILDREN AND FAMILY COURT ADVISORY AND SUPPORT SERVICE

Paper for the Board Meeting on 9 October 2019

Cafcass Annual Report and Accounts

KEY POINTS

- The Cafcass Annual Report and Accounts (ARA) for 2018-19 have been drafted in line with current disclosure requirements and have been subject to audit and review by the National Audit office.
- Approval was given by the Board to the ARA in June 2019, subject to completion of final work by the National Audit, which has now concluded.
- The ARA was laid before Parliament on the 25 July 2019.

1. AIM AND PURPOSE

- 1.1. To present the Annual Report and Accounts for 2018-19 to an Open Meeting of the Board.

2. ACTION FOR THE BOARD

- 2.1. To note the Annual Report and Accounts for 2018-19 (ARA).

3. BACKGROUND (incorporating KEY STRATEGIC ISSUES FOR THE BOARD TO CONSIDER)

- 3.1 The ARA have been drafted in line with current disclosure requirements. The Report incorporates previous comments from the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC) and the Board. The Report has also been subject to audit and review by the National Audit Office (NAO), the findings from which have been reported to ARAC. Ministerial approval has also been received.
- 3.2 An easy read version of the ARA has been produced and was promoted via our external newsletter, website and social media channels. Key content, such as our progress on driving up the quality of our work, has been 'lifted' and promoted by these channels also; the impact of this promotion is tracked by the Communications team.

4. IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

- 4.1. The ARA are an important means of demonstrating the accountability of the organisation to its stakeholders, children and young people, to the general public and to Parliament.

5. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

- 5.1. There are no financial implications arising from the presentation to the Board of the enclosed ARA.

6. RISK ANALYSIS

6.1 There are no risks arising from the presentation to the Board of the enclosed ARA.

7. DIVERSITY ANALYSIS

7.1. The content of the report is based on the FREM (Government Financial Reporting Manual), which stipulates the aspects relating to diversity, such as the employment of disabled persons, that we must report on.

Julie Brown, Director of Resources

27 September 2019