



CHILDREN AND FAMILY COURT ADVISORY AND SUPPORT SERVICE

Paper for the Board Meeting on 15 June 2018

Cafcass Annual Report and Accounts

KEY POINTS

- The Cafcass Annual Report and Accounts for 2017-18 have been drafted in line with current disclosure requirements and have been subject to audit and review by the National Audit office.
- Approval is now sought from the Board.

1. AIM AND PURPOSE

- 1.1. To present the 2017-18 Annual Report and Accounts (ARA) to the Board for approval.

2. ACTION FOR THE BOARD

- 2.1. To consider and approve the 2017/18 Annual Report and Accounts, following recommendation from the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC).

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 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 is being produced and will be promoted via our external newsletter, website and social media channels. Key content, such as our progress on driving up the quality of our work, will be 'lifted' and promoted by these channels also; the impact of this promotion will be tracked by the Communications team and reported to the Board.

4. BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN AND SERVICE USERS

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

5. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

- 5.1. There are no financial implications arising from the approval by the Board of the enclosed ARA.

6. RISK ANALYSIS

- 6.1 There are no risks arising from the approval of the Board of the enclosed ARA.

7. DIVERSITY ANALYSIS

- 7.1. The content of the report is based on the FREM, which stipulates the aspects relating to diversity, such as the employment of disabled persons, that we must report on.

Julie Brown, Director of Resources
Rebecca Barrett, Interim Head of Communications
01 June 2018