

5. EVALUATION OF STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

The Committee received a report from Mary Richardson, Senior Social Policy Analyst, on the evaluation of the Canterbury Strengthening Families Project, undertaken by the Council for the Strengthening Families Local Management Group. The report provided background to the scheme and the findings of the evaluation, and noted barriers, weaknesses and future priorities.

The Committee **decided** that:

1. The report be received and the work of the Children's Advocate, Lyn Campbell, and Senior Social Policy Analyst, Mary Richardson, be acknowledged.
2. The involvement of the Council be noted as being considered a key strength of the project.
3. The key role played by the Children's Advocate in developing and managing the Strengthening Families Project locally be noted.
4. The Council's on-going involvement in Strengthening Families as a means of enhancing partnerships between local and central government be endorsed.
5. The Council continue with its involvement in the Strengthening Families Project to ensure effective co-operation between local and central government, and that the evaluation of significant programmes such as this be encouraged.