

**COUNCIL ASSEMBLY**  
**(ORDINARY)**  
**WEDNESDAY 16 JULY 2014**  
**PUBLIC QUESTION**

**1. QUESTION FROM SHAILA RAVINDRANATH TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS**

Would the cabinet member be willing to promote and actualise policies and practices related to children's supportive needs of secure, loving caringness including their emotional development, with a holistic approach together with parents and carers and not perpetuate divisive models, instead uniting us all in one human global family?

**RESPONSE**

All those who work in children's services are committed to delivering the best possible service to children and families and with this in mind the service has fundamentally changed the way that practitioners work, in order to improve outcomes for families.

An example can be found in *Social Work Matters*, the new practice model which ensures that social workers work holistically with families to ensure children are safe and parents have the skills and tools to manage family life effectively. The service is putting the new structure and culture in place to ensure staff have the skill and confidence to help families to improve their lives. Similar models have been highly successful in other authorities and *Social Work Matters* was received very positively by Ofsted inspectors following a recent thematic study in Southwark.