

**Cabinet - Thursday, 8 March 2018**

**Written Question from Mr Richard Hards of Whippingham to Cllr Paul Brading - Cabinet Member for Children's Services**

There have been many high profile prosecution cases recently which have collapsed because the police have failed to disclose all the evidence they had collected during their investigations.

Can the Cabinet Member for Children's Services give an assurance that Children's Services always discloses all evidence to the court in child protection cases, even if such evidence is not helpful or undermines the council's case?

## **RESPONSE**

*“The decisions made by the Family Court are of huge significance to the children concerned and their families for the rest of their lives. It is vital that the court is able to draw on all relevant information to make sure that the decisions it makes are properly evidenced and proportionate. The Isle of Wight Council does indeed include all relevant evidence in the documents it submits to courts even if that evidence supports conclusions that are different to the recommendations of the local authority.”*