

Time commenced – 6.00pm
Time finished – 8.40pm

Inspiring Young People Board
23 November 2015

Present Councillor Whitby (Chair)
 Councillors Care, Hezelgrave, Nawaz, Roulstone and Williams and Steve Grundy

In Attendance: Councillor Bolton

07/15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Eleanor Berry and Bev Stewart.

08/15 Late items introduced by the Chair

There were none.

09/15 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Roulstone wished it to be noted that they were both registered foster carers with Derby City Council.

10/15 Update on Integrated Commissioning

The Board received a report of the Acting Strategic Director of Children and Young People updating the Board on progress against the integrated commissioning priorities. It was reported that the Health and Wellbeing Board and Children Family and Learners Board have agreed a set of seven commissioning intentions which are central to the commissioning strategy delivered across the Local Authority and the Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (SDCCG).

Members were informed that there is a lot of commissioning work being undertaken and the main focus is on demand management and trying to address an increasing demand for services and the increasing financial pressures that go with this.

It was reported that work is almost complete to produce a new Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), with data collection complete, analysis underway, and a final draft JSNA document in progress. This is being developed closely alongside the Children and Young people's Plan to be considered over the coming year, with a view to ensuring that information is used to inform strategy and prioritisation.

Members were informed that the first significant piece of work with public health colleagues commenced in October and that from April 2016 work on recommissioning for health visitor services will commence.

It was reported that a new programme of work has been put together on Behaviour Pathway, including six key areas of additional work, which are:

- Eating disorders
- Emotional health and well-being
- Increasing capacity for Looked After Children
- Early Help
- Parenting interventions
- CAMHS liaison transformation (around the prevention of hospitalisation).

Members were informed that the first phase of Priority Families has been completed and work is onto phase 2, which continues to apply the approach of the first phase of the programme to a larger group of families with a wider set of problems including domestic violence, debt and children at risk of being taken into care. It was noted that there is a higher number of families requiring assistance with fewer available resources, presenting a significant challenge over the next two to three years.

It was reported that the Retained Remand fostering pilot in partnership with Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils had been particularly successful in derby. Members queried if this would continue and were informed that Remand fostering beds would be available and shared across Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire.

Members questioned what the authority is doing about the 12 month waiting list for paediatric psychologists and were informed that this is now running under a triage system and the wait time is coming down, albeit slowly.

The Board resolved to note the report.

11/15 Monitoring Safeguarding Practice

The Board received a report of the Acting Strategic Director of Children and Young People which was presented by the Acting Service Director for Early Help and Children's Safeguarding.

Members were informed that there are still issues with the recruitment and retention of experienced social workers. The average retention time with Derby City Council is around 3 years with the first year being the Assessed and supported year in employment (ASYE) as a Newly Qualified Social Worker (NQSW). NQSWs usually then stay for a further two years. The Council currently has 18 social workers on an ASYE and the remaining workforce is transient and of varying abilities. It was reported that the vacancy rate is higher than the national average, but lower than many other authorities, including Nottingham and Leicester.

Members queried if poor quality social workers could be 'blacklisted' from working at the authority and were informed that if a social worker is 'bad' they would not be re-employed by the council, but if they are particularly bad the council will report them to the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) is an independent, UK-wide regulatory body. It was reported that the council is currently in a process of signing off a regional protocol on how to treat social workers in future, which will include a cap on fees and will disallow agency workers to move freely across authorities.

It was reported than social worker caseloads are too high, however, there are no unallocated cases in the city and the council has a zero tolerance of looked after children and children under a child protection provision to be without an allocated social worker. Having a manageable caseload will depend upon recruitment and retention of social workers and having an attractive package and a workforce of experienced social workers. The protocol should assist with some of these issues.

The Board resolved to recommend;

- **That the Chair writes to the Government to request that social worker agency fees are capped across the country in a similar way to that of NHS agency workers emphasising that this has cross party support from the Council.**
- **To Council Cabinet that the Council explores the possibility of developing an East Midlands Social Worker Agency led by Local Authorities.**

12/15 Transforming Children's Health Services

The Board received a report of the Acting Strategic Director of Children and Young People on Transforming Children's Health Services which was presented by the Director of Commissioning. It was reported that this work is currently moving forward through the Joined Up Care Board and work is primarily moving towards a self-help and preventative agenda.

Members were informed that there are issues with the wait for diagnosis for children with neurodevelopmental issues/special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and that work is being done to ensure that the child is getting help during this period. It was reported that there has been a 5% growth in Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) over the last 5 years. Headteachers of nursery schools have expressed concern that things like ADHD and ASD are not being picked up early enough. A triage system has been put in place to assist with the acceleration of assessments.

Members asked how parents with children diagnosed with ADHD/ASD are being supported and were informed that training is provided through the 'Future in Mind' programme. Members were also informed that work is being done to build resilience through the community.

The Board resolved to note the report.

13/15 School Improvement – Inspection update

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services on the detail and implications of the revised school improvement inspection framework. Members were informed that the framework for the inspection of local authority arrangements to support school improvement was originally published in May 2013. A revised framework for school improvement was published by Ofsted in November 2014. Minor revisions were made in 2015.

It was reported that there are a number of elements of the framework which remain unchanged from 2013 including the fact that not all local authorities will receive an inspection under this framework. Inspections will instead be 'triggered' by any individual local authority meeting one or more of eight 'selection criteria'. Members were informed that There will usually be 5 working days' notice before inspectors arrive on site at a local authority.

Members were informed that Derby City Council is using good practice across all schools in the city to allow schools which requirement improvement to learn from others. It was reported that phonics is still an issue, with Derby ranking 146 out of 152, and the authority is therefore extending the project which improved phonics outcomes in the lowest performing 15 schools. Arboretum Primary School is currently a model school for Read, Write, Inc and a Lead EAL School for Derby University.

Members queried the implications of becoming a combined authority and ensuring that all authorities and education providers are in discussions around post 16 education delivery and ensuring that Derby's interests are protected, including Further Education and apprenticeships, ensuring employability and making sure that the package of services provided is right for our children.

The Board resolved to recommend to Council Cabinet that if the council becomes part of a combined authority, that Derby is strongly involved in any discussions around post 16 education delivery and ensuring that Derby's interests are protected and the package of services provided is right for our children.

14/15 Early Help Annual Report

The Board received a report of the Acting Strategic Director of Children and Young People.

It was reported that to help demonstrate the impact of Early Help services, Derby developed a performance framework in April 2014 to develop assessment of activity and support evaluations on impact. Members were informed that the first year of the framework (2014-15) involved setting baselines for each of the

measures.

It was further reported that the service conducted a 'How Was It for You' client survey across Early Help teams over 2014-15. 160 forms were completed, and of this number, 127 (79.3%) said they felt they were treated with respect by their worker.

Members were informed that themes and issues identified from qualitative data collected as part of client feedback helped inform the main areas of support that clients found helpful. The data from survey alongside case re-referrals provided benchmarks for the first year of the Early Help performance framework, which in turn helped set targets for Early Help in 2015-16.

The Board resolved to add progress reports on the Early Help Action Plan and Education and Healthcare Plans to the Inspiring Young People's Board future work programme.

15/15 Work Programme and Topic Review

The Board received a report of the Report of the Chair of the Inspiring Young People Board on the future work programme and topic reviews which allowed members an opportunity to consider additional items for the work programme and actions in relation to the current topic review.

Members were informed that there had been a successful session held with some members of the Board to interview Derby City Council Foster Carers, Foster Care Social Workers and officers from the Fostering and Adoption Team in relation to the topic review on the Recruitment and Retention of Foster Carers. Members were informed that further visits and sessions would be happening and they would receive invites to these by email.

The Board resolved to note the report.

MINUTES END