

Time commenced – 6.02pm
Time finished – 8.38pm

**CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE
29 November 2016**

Present: Councillor Bolton (Chair)
Councillors Care, Roulstone, Russell, Whitby

In attendance: Pervez Akhtar – Corporate Parenting Lead
Gill Black – Volunteering Matters
Members of the Children in Care Council
Graeme Ferguson – Virtual School Head
Annamarie Johannesson – Derby Foster Care Association
Rod Jones – Interim Head of CIC Regulated Services
Andrew Kaiser – Head of Service, Locality 1 & 5
Suanne Lim – Director - Specialist Services
Steven Mason – Democratic Services Officer
Alice Sanghera – Commissioning manager
Lesley Smales – Designated Nurse for Children in Care

28/16 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Williams.

29/16 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were none.

30/16 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

31/16 Minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2016 were agreed as a correct record, subject to the following amendment.

That at 14/16 apologies were also received from Councillor Care.

32/16 Children in Care Council – Update November 2016

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on Children in Care Council – Update November 2016.

Gill Black provided an update on recent Children in Care Council (CICC) meetings. It was reported that the Corporate Parenting agenda had been considered at the last meeting of the CICC. Members of the CICC asked a number of questions in relation to reports on the agenda.

Members of the Children in Care Council left the room.

The Interim Head of CIC Regulated Services provided feedback on questions raised about Children's Homes by members of the CICC.

Resolved to note the Children in Care Council update.

33/16 Annual Report of the Head of the Virtual School for Looked After Children for the Academic Year 2015/16

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on Annual Report of the Head of the Virtual School for Looked After Children for the Academic Year 2015/16. The report was presented by the Virtual School Head.

It was reported that 2016 saw major reforms to the primary school accountability measures and that this included new attainment and progress performance measures and a new floor standard for schools.

It was also reported that the former assessment system of using 'National Curriculum levels' had stopped for children in primary school education. Members noted that, instead, there was a new 'expected standard' (a higher standard than in 2015), along with new national curriculum tests in English reading, mathematics and grammar, punctuation and spelling (GPS).

It was also noted that a school would be above the floor if at least 65% of pupils met the expected standard in English reading, English writing and mathematics; or the school achieved sufficient progress scores in all three subjects.

It was reported that in secondary schools there had been changes in the way headline performance measures were reported. Members noted that the previous measure of 5 good GCSE passes at A*-C grades, including English and maths, had been replaced by different measures.

It was also noted that with these significant changes to the Primary and Secondary performance measures and the curriculum, the Department for Education (DfE) had advised that the performance in 2016 not be compared with previous years.

It was reported that the data contained within the report was provisional until the DfE released the validated data in March 2017.

There was discussion around the Pupil Premium and the Pupil Premium Plus and how the money should be spent.

Resolved:

- 1. to recognise the achievement of Derby's children who are looked after;
and**

2. to support the areas for development as highlighted within the report.

34/16 NEET and Participation Strategy Review

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on NEET and Participation Strategy Review. The report was presented by the Head of Service, Locality 1 & 5.

It was reported that the city had had a NEET and participation strategy in place for two years, which had aided improvements in performance in relation to the numbers of young people who were engaged in recognised forms of education, training or employment (EET) when they left school.

It was also reported that the strategy was refreshed in April 2016 to ensure it remained fit for purpose and built on the success of the first two years of the strategy. Members noted that in July 2016, DMT agreed to a two year strategy and action plan with a review after 12 months, given that performance had improved and that there were no foreseeable risks of performance slipping in the near future.

Members also noted that the report provided an outline of the progress that had been made against the strategy action plan in the past three months.

Resolved to note the progress made against the NEET and Participation strategy in the past three months.

35/16 Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service for Looked After Children – Update Report

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director for People Services on Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service for Looked After Children – Update Report.

It was reported that the therapeutic needs for Looked After Children (LAC) were important to the Council and Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (SDCCG) who plan many children's health services. It was also reported that getting the right care and support at the right time for children in care (CIC) including those who have been adopted, could help a young person's placement to be more stable, and permanent, with much better outcomes. It was noted that CCGs must work closely with the Council to make sure health services for all children and young people were good quality. It was also noted that in Derby the Council and SDCCG had worked together to fund a service which would also give support to young people who had been sexually abused and those who displayed Harmful Sexual Behaviours and would safeguard them from harm.

It was reported that the main aim of this service was to bring two existing services together so they could help more young people. It was also reported that the services which had been brought together were a small Derby City Council Social Work team, and Derby Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust (DTHFT) Clinical Psychology Department (funded by SDCCG).

Members noted that it was agreed that the service should be managed by SDCCG and would be a pilot to see how it worked for 18 months, with DTHFT as the lead organisation to deliver the service.

Resolved to note the report.

36/16 Children and Young People Missing from Care

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on Children and Young People Missing from Care. The report was presented by the Head of Service, Locality 1 & 5.

It was reported that the plan to reduce the incidences of children and young people going missing had been in place since May 2015 and was updated in June 2016 on the back of the annual report on missing children and young people for 2015-16.

The Board received a presentation on progress over quarter 2 of 2016-17.

There was discussion around the re-design of the Return Interview form to help professionals better gather information.

Resolved to note progress over quarter 2 relating to children and young people who go missing.

37/16 Annual Health Report for Looked after Children April 1st 2015 – March 31st 2016

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on Annual Health Report for Looked after Children April 1st 2015 – March 31st 2016. The report was presented by the Designated Nurse for Children in Care.

The report described how health commissioners and providers had worked together, in partnership with the local authority to meet the health needs of children in care in Derby City.

The report also outlined service performance and set out the objectives and priorities over the next financial year for children in care in Derby City. It was noted that in July 2015 an inspection took place by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) Derby City for looked after children and safeguarding.

It was reported that looked after children and young people shared many of the health risks and challenges and that they often entered the care system with a worse level of health than their peers. It was also reported that this was often due to the blended effects of the impact of poor parenting, poverty, chaotic lifestyles, abuse and neglect.

The Board noted that the number of looked after children nationally had increased steadily over the past seven years. It was also noted that there were 69,540 looked

after children on 31 March 2015, an increase of 1% compared to 31 March 2014 and an increase of 6% compared to 31 March 2011.

There was discussion about the different types of health assessments and the requirement, the actual resource and the current gap in Derby for Specialist Nurses.

Resolved to note the Annual Health Report.

MINUTES END