

Time commenced – 6.00pm  
Time finished – 8.31pm

## **Inspiring Young People Board**

24 April 2017

Present      Councillor Whitby (Chair)  
                 Councillors Anderson, Care, Roulstone, Williams and Eleanor Berry and  
                 Steve Grundy

In Attendance: Maureen Darbon – Director of Early Help and Children's Safeguarding  
                 Steven Mason – Democratic Services Officer  
                 Jasmine Nembhard-Francis – Children's Quality Assurance  
                 Andy Smith – Strategic Director of People Services  
                 Sarah Walker – Policy and Improvement Manager

### **33/16    Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Hezelgrave and Smale.

### **34/16    Late items introduced by the Chair**

There were none.

### **35/16    Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Whitby wished it to be noted that he was a Derby City Council Foster Carer.

### **36/16    Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2016**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2016 were agreed as a correct record.

### **37/16    Annual Performance Summary of Derby's Looked After Children**

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on Annual Performance Summary of Derby's Looked After Children. The report and a presentation were presented by the Policy and Improvement Manager.

It was reported that at the end of March 2016, there was a total of 450 looked after children in Derby City and that this represented a 4% decline from the position reported at the end of March 2015 and equated to a rate of 76 per 10,000 children (< 18 years of age).

It was noted that an early statistical release on the total number of children in

care, including some outcome related information, was published by the Department for Education (DfE) at the end of December 2016 and highlighted that Derby had fallen below the comparator average of 77 per 10,000.

It was reported that at the end of March 2016, the largest percentage of Derby's looked after children were:

- Male (60%)
- Aged 10-15 years (36%)
- White British (78%)
- Placed in a foster care placed (68%)
- Placed outside of Derby City (59%)

Members received a presentation on how Derby compared nationally in relation to the profile of its looked after children, alongside a summary of whether health needs were being met and outcomes for its care leavers. Members were also updated on recent trends pertaining to Derby's looked after children, with any areas for further consideration being highlighted.

**Resolved to note the report and presentation.**

## **38/16 Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy Annual Report 2015 to 2016**

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy Annual Report 2015 to 2016. The report was presented by the Strategic Director of People Services.

Members considered the strategy, attached at appendix 2 of the report.

It was reported that the Derby Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Strategy was implemented and maintained by multi-agency partners and overseen by the Derby Safeguarding Children Board. It was also reported that there was a well-developed strategy to tackle CSE that had made significant progress over the last 5 years.

It was noted that the CSE strategy was delivered through the '3 P's' approach:

- Prevention through heightened awareness amongst children, professionals, families and communities
- Protection of children and young people through direct and indirect work with children and families and equal focus on
- Prosecution or disruption of offenders.

(Department of Children, Schools and Families guidance: Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation (2009))

Members discussed safeguarding and public protection, particularly child safeguarding in children's sport and agreed a number of extra recommendations.

**Resolved:**

- 1. to note the actions being taken within the strategy;**
- 2. to recommend that any children's teams booking/using Council sports facilities should demonstrate that safeguarding procedures and a policy are in place;**
- 3. to recommend that Council appoints a champion for children's sport;**
- 4. to recommend that relevant officers should consider what can be learnt from boys who come forward in relation to child sexual exploitation;**
- 5. to agree that good practice, in relation to the Derby Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy, should be promoted and shared; and**
- 6. to agree that the Derby Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy and Early Help should continue to be prioritised going forward.**

## **39/16 Monitoring Safeguarding Practice**

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on Monitoring Safeguarding Practice. The report and a presentation were presented by the Director of Early Help and Children's Safeguarding.

It was reported that having a stable and competent workforce was a pre requisite for safeguarding children and young people and driving forward improvements.

The presentation updated the Board on recent workforce developments, including the use of agency workers, average social worker caseloads and attempts to make Derby a more attractive place to work for social workers and team managers.

Members agreed that priority should be given corporately, to a concerted recruitment campaign for social workers. It was agreed that the recruitment of social workers and the use of agencies could form the basis of a future topic review for the Board.

**Resolved:**

- 1. to note the actions being taken to make improvements; and**
- 2. to agree that priority should be given corporately, to a concerted recruitment campaign for social workers.**

## **40/16 Leaving Care Topic Review**

The Board received a report of the Chief Executive on Leaving Care Topic Review.

It was reported that Members of the Inspiring Young People Board agreed, at its meeting on 12 September 2016, to carry out a topic review into leaving care.

It was also reported that at the meeting of the Board on 14 November,

consideration was given to the scope of a topic review and the following possible lines of enquiry were identified:

- Suicide rates amongst care leavers
- Review of the leaving care process
- Gaining the perspective from young people who had gone through the process – is there a feedback process?
- Review of the leaving care plan – can it be started earlier?
- Review of leaving care guidance – is it too complex?
- Consideration of best practice and comparative data

It was noted that on 8 December Councillors Whitby, Hezelgrave and Roulstone met with Antony Mains, Leaving Care Team Manager, to discuss the Leaving Care Service.

It was also noted that at the meeting of the Board on 12 December, a report was presented on Leaving Care Service and following this the scope of the review above was agreed, with the following additions:

- What numbers of care leavers are not in suitable accommodation?
- Review of the funding for 'stay put'.
- Speak to the Leaving Care Forum.
- What numbers of care leavers are in custody and are the numbers in Derby higher than elsewhere?
- What numbers of care leavers have mental health issues, such as self-harming?
- Review of any links between the Department of Work and Pensions and TheSpace@Connexions
- .What are the pregnancy rates amongst care leavers and how many of their children go into care? What mentoring can Ripplez provide?

It was agreed that the scope of the review should be used as the basis for a number of questions to be sent to relevant officers for response and that the Board would then consider those responses with a view to making final recommendations.

**Resolved to agree that the leaving care topic review be carried over to the 2017/18 municipal year.**

MINUTES END