

Time commenced – 18.00pm

Time finished 20:45pm

Children and Young People Scrutiny Review Board 24 February 2020

Present: Councillor Lind (Chair)
Councillors Kus, Hezelgrave, Testro and McCristal
Co-optees – Stephen Grundy, Chris Hulse

In Attendance: Suanne Lim– Service Director for Early Help and Children's
Social Care
Graeme Ferguson, Headteacher Virtual School
Jasmine Nembhard-Francis, Head of Service - Quality Assurance
Andrew Kaiser, Head of Specialist Services
Dave Gardner, NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG
Jo Ward, Head of Service, Quality, Standards and Performance

35/19 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Nicky Fenton, Co-optee, Andy Smith, Strategic Director Peoples Services, Pauline Anderson, Acting Director Learning and Skills, Abdul Siddiqi, Youth Mayor, Gargandeep Kaur, Deputy Youth Mayor and Cllr Hussain

36/19 Late items introduced by the Chair

There were none.

37/19 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

38/19 Minutes of the meeting held on 16 December 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 December 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

39/19 Annual Report of Educational Outcomes 2019

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of Peoples Services which gave an overview on the academic outcomes of Derby pupils for the academic school year 2018-19. The report was presented by the Acting Head of Service, Quality, Standards and Performance. The report outlined the key academic performance measures for pupils in Early Years, Phonics, Key Stage 1, 2, 4 and 5.

The officer highlighted the Early Years Performance Measure which gives the percentage of children who achieved a good level of development. The Board were informed that the measure has been improving in Derby over the last 3 years; Derby is now 98th out of 151 local authorities which was a rise of 15 places since last year. The officer outlined next steps for Derby which included carrying out a detailed analysis to identify any common characteristics of the lowest 20%, leading to targeted improvement work.

The Board were informed about the Phonics Measure, where children are tested on how well they recognise sounds and letters. Derby was currently above the national average for the first time. This means that Derby was now ranked 45th out of 151 local authorities at the end of Year 1 and 74th at the end of year 2. The Board noted that only 43% of primary schools in Derby are maintained by Derby City Council, therefore the model used to encourage pupil development could only be one of persuasion as the remaining schools are Academies. The officer described the next steps, which would be to build on success by continuing to work in partnership with schools, academies and the Early Years Teaching School. An analysis would be undertaken to identify any common characteristics of the lowest 20% of pupil and schools to enable targeted improvement work to take place.

A councillor queried if Phonics works for all children. The officer confirmed that the approach does work for nearly all children but there was a problem if a child was deaf, and children with Downs Syndrome also have issues with Phonics. Another issue was the importance of teachers giving a child a book to read which matches the sounds that they have recently been taught. A councillor queried why white boys were behind and what more could be done for them. The officer confirmed that this was a national trend and that communication and language does not come naturally to boys. Certain cultures also place a stronger influence on learning. A councillor then asked if there was a possibility that "Talk Derby" could be losing funding. The officer confirmed that the funding had always been fixed term and that there would be an exit strategy in place. The officer offered to investigate the contractual governance arrangement and report back the findings.

The Officer updated the board on Key Stage (KS) 1, 2, 4 and 5 details of which can be found in the report on pages 5 to 9.

KS4 – Attainment 8 is used for judging outcomes at the end of KS4. Scores can then be compared for pupils nationally with similar KS2 results using Progress 8. A progress 8 score of 0 means the schools or academy pupils' progress was exactly in the middle of that made by pupils in schools nationally. Derby's average for Attainment 8 has improved by 0.1 to 43.3. Derby has improved by 2 places in the national ranking to 130th. For Progress 8 Derby's average is down by 0.05 to -0.24, and was now down 11 places and at 129th out of 151.

Councillors were concerned that Derby scores have been going in a downward spiral over the last two years and asked if work was being done to improve the scores. The officer explained that analysis had shown that Derby schools were not entering children into all the subjects needed to get Attainment 8. The challenge was how to communicate this information out to the wider school community. It was noted that the Opportunity Areas Programme has some secondary programmes. Councillors asked if data could be provided for the last

three years, but the officer confirmed that this was not possible as the data source used does not go back three years. Councillors asked if education cuts had caused the deterioration, or if it was because some schools had downgraded language subjects. Another councillor asked if the impact of children with higher needs had had an effect on Progress 8 scores. The officer confirmed this would be depend on the percentage of children with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) compared to the national average; some schools have the national average number and do well, other schools have less children on EHCPs but don't do as well. The Board noted that the Director of Learning and Skills would like to bring an inclusion report to a future Board meeting. It was also noted that a new Inclusion Monitoring Dashboard had been put in place. A councillor asked if there were any other measures for showing progress of children, and the officer confirmed that "Destinations", or where the child ends up, can also be used to monitor progress.

KS5 – A levels and applied Qualifications, it was noted that only 14% of schools were local maintained schools, the preponderance of Academies becomes more as children get older.

The Board discussed Attendance figures, and were informed that persistent absence (absent for more than 10% of the year) was a concern as pupils would miss large amounts of teaching and learning. Absence was a particular problem for Derby, who are 30th nationally for persistent absence in Derby primaries, and 42nd nationally for secondary schools. Special Schools in Derby had 32% of persistent absence.

The Board resolved:

- 1. to note 2019 academic outcomes and to recognise those key stages and academic measures where improvement has taken place.**
- 2. to support the areas for improvement as highlighted in the report.**
- 3. to note the Opportunity Areas Project funding and associated school improvement activity and to agree the partnership-led approach to school improvement, noting the strategies in place for 2019-20**
- 4. to recommend that an Inclusion Report which gives greater depth about attainment and achievement in SEND be brought to this Board in the summer.**

40/19 Annual Report of the head teacher of the Virtual School for Looked After Children (LAC) 2018/19

The Board considered a report and presentation of the Strategic Director of Peoples Services which gave an update on the academic outcomes of pupils in the Virtual School, for the school year 2018-19. The report outlined the key education performance measures for LAC, the key successes and areas for development for the Virtual School and celebrates the notable progress and achievements of the young people. The reportable cohort are those youngsters

in care for twelve months or more on 31.03.19 The report was presented by the Virtual School Head teacher.

The Board were informed that the Head Teacher of the Virtual School looks after and advocates for children who have been taken into care by Derby City Council. The Virtual School currently has 379 statutory school age pupils from Early Years up to the Year 11. The Virtual School Team comprises 5.5 staff.

The Virtual Head teacher highlighted the key attainment figures. Councillors were informed that there are no statistically significant areas for challenge, the three areas of statistically significant improvement were:

Absence, there are 6 areas of strength see p6 of report for details

Key Stage 2, 5 areas of strength see p7 of report for details

Key Stage 4, 5 areas of strength see p7 of report for details

- Key Stage 2 - Year 6 Attainment in Reading, Writing and Maths (p9) has doubled from 24% in 2018 to 48% in 2019. The officer highlighted that there are less young people with SEND in this cohort. Progress in reading, writing and maths (p13-15) have all improved since last year, progress in RWM was all above the national average
- Key Stage 1 (p17-19) - Year 2 attainment Reading, Writing and Maths; broadly all 3 areas were in line with the national standard. There were 13 pupils in this cohort 9 of who had SEND.
- Phonics (p20) - Of the 15 pupils in Y1 in 2018/19 87% achieved the expected standard of 32: the national percentage achieving the expected standard was 64%.
- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) – Good Level of Development (GLD) (p21) 57%, 4 out of 7 pupils are achieving GLD.
- Secondary Educational Outcomes (p22), Year 11 Attainment 8 and Progress 8 was lower than national. GCSE Results - English and Maths results are significantly above the national average figures.
- Attendance (p24), 6 areas of attendance had improved
- Exclusions (p27). The figures have decreased for the 3rd year to 370 half days.

The key work streams on pages 32 to 33 of the report were highlighted. The officer explained how the extra capacity in the team had benefited children identified in Y5. By giving them additional one to one teaching time in Y6, a significant impact was made on their attainment, progress and the outcomes of the Virtual School.

The key priorities for 2019-20 on page 34 were highlighted, attention was drawn to priority four provision of GCSE support, delivered by trainee teachers from Nottingham University by “Whats App”, to virtual school pupils in different areas of the country.

The Board were informed that the main reasons for the improved performance in primary outcomes were targeted work with specific identified pupils, fewer pupils with SEND in Y6, A focus on quality academic targets within Pupil Education Plans and the allocation of pupil premium, plus strong partnership working and increased capacity in the Virtual School Team.

A councillor asked whether any quality careers advice was given to Virtual School Pupils. The officer confirmed that careers guidance was the responsibility of the schools in which the virtual school pupils were placed. However the Pupil Education Plan (PEP) does check what guidance has been given, and also gives details about their destination (training or employment). Steps are also in place to ensure they do not become “not in education or training” (NEETs).

The Board thanked the Virtual School teacher and team for all the work that had been done to improve the attainment of the Virtual School pupils and they asked that their thanks be passed on to the team also.

The Board resolved

- 1. to recognise the achievement of Derby's children who are looked after**
- 2. to support the areas for development as highlighted within the report.**
- 3. to request that the Virtual head teacher pass their thanks to the Team for all the work they are doing in improving attainment for next year.**

41/19 Derby Safeguarding Children's Board: Annual Report 2018 to 2019

The Board considered a report of the Director of Early Help and Children's Social Care, which gave the Board an overview of the annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area. A presentation was given by the Head of Service, Quality Assurance.

The Board were informed that the Annual Report covers the last full year of operation of the Derby Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB). From the end of September 2019 the Derby Safeguarding Children Board and the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board was replaced by one safeguarding partnership covering the city and county.

The officer gave details of the effectiveness of the work of the DSCB over the last year; the importance of listening to the feedback from young people and lay members of the DSCB sub-groups was highlighted. It was noted there had been good progress during the year to ensure that schools found out about domestic abuse incidents in the home quickly to enable support for the child or young person to be put in place. The Board were informed of the work with General Practitioners (GPs) over the last few years to improve their contribution in Child Protection (CP) Conferences by either attending or producing reports for these

meetings. By the end of March 2019, 70% of CP Conferences received reports or had GP involvement compared to 7% in previous years.

The Board were also informed that the DSCB was reviewed by Ofsted in March 2019 during a Thematic Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI). The inspection included a “deep dive” focus on the response to child sexual abuse in the family environment, which raised the awareness and profile of these vulnerable children. The officer described the updated priority areas; including childrens centres, Space @ Connexions for young people, Neglect – support for children at different levels and Domestic Violence and abuse.

The officer talked about the Vulnerable Young Peoples Group, which was chaired by the Strategic Director of Peoples Services; a sub group had also been created which had oversight of the areas; Contextual Safeguarding, Criminal Exploitation, Mental Health of young people and online safety.

The Board noted that two Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) had been completed, both of which considered child sexual abuse within large families over a period of years. Learning from the SCRs has been put in place, all referrals are now put in writing, feedback was given to referrers, more agencies are involved in strategy meetings, including education colleagues, reports are submitted if they are unable to attend.

The officer then highlighted the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (DDSCP) Priorities for 2019/20, which included the emotional health and wellbeing of children and the impact of adverse childhood experiences, Early Help including response to neglect, the contextual safeguarding agenda, parental substance misuse and mental health and the impact on children and family members of domestic abuse and family conflict.

A councillor asked what training was available for social workers around children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). It was confirmed that social workers receive basic training and that any additional, bespoke training can be provided to social workers by the Workforce Development Team.

A councillor queried the paragraph 11.36 of the report regarding 59 quality audit notifications raised for “statutory requirements not met”. The Board were informed that the challenge of meeting deadlines has increased because of the rising numbers of looked after children (LAC). The officer highlighted that the “statutory requirements not met” could just be a visit that was a day late, or a report that should have gone to an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) within twenty days but did not arrive. However whilst these checks were important, it should be understood that they did not constitute a safeguarding matter. The Board were concerned about the issues highlighted above and recommended that a more thorough breakdown of the “statutory requirements not met” be brought back to the next meeting of the Board.

The Board resolved:

- 1. to note the report and work of the Derby Safeguarding Children Board**

- 2. to request that a more thorough breakdown on IRO Quality Assurance Notifications "Statutory Requirements not met" on page 24 of the DSCB Annual Report be brought back to the next meeting of the Board.**

42/19 Implementation of the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of Peoples Services which gave an update following the implementation of the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (DDSCP) multi-agency safeguarding arrangements on 29 September 2019. The report was presented by the Head of Service Quality Assurance.

The Board noted that the Working Together to Safeguard Children July 2018 Act replaced the need to have Local Safeguarding Boards and for Safeguarding Partners, comprising of local authorities, clinical commissioning groups and chief officers of police, to agree arrangements locally to safeguard and protect children. These are referred to as Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements. The statutory safeguarding partners across Derby and Derbyshire retain equal and joint responsibility for local safeguarding arrangements.

The Board were informed that Derby City Council had won the bid to set up the Business Office, which was based in Derby City Council and district offices, and that all the posts in the business support team had been filled. The officers all had a clear work plan in line with their role. The Board were also informed that the DDSCP website was in place and was being updated to ensure that all procedural documentation has the DDSCP logo; it was hoped to have this work completed in the following six months. Sub Groups had been set up and all have terms of reference and Chairs had been identified. A Safeguarding Practice Review Manager regularly attends key meetings in Derby and Derbyshire and was developing a method to enable cross authority and partnership learning on Case Reviews which take place. The officer highlighted the challenge in Learning and Organisational Development, where the contract had ended for the website's on-line course booking provider; but it was confirmed that the main training offer had been delivered and a new on-line booking provider has now been secured. A councillor asked if work had been undertaken to ensure there were no more procurement issues and the officer confirmed that there were none.

The Board were informed that the Policy and Procedure sub-group had benefitted from the joined up approach and that discussions were effective. Where possible there was synergy between the two local authorities, but where processes are different these were accepted with policy and procedures to reflect this.

The officer highlighted the strengths of the new partnership, which include increased efficiency and effective working practices to safeguard children and

families, comprehensive discussions with Strategic and Chief Officers in decision making, a more joined up approach to address challenges such as child exploitation, and in future there will be less meetings to attend once the processes have been bedded in.

The Board resolved to note the progress being made to implement the new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements across Derby and Derbyshire in compliance with Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 statutory guidance and the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

43/19 Contextual Safeguarding

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of Peoples Services which outlined the headline principles of Contextual Safeguarding as a strategic response by partners in Derby, and the current progress of Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership (DDSCP) in developing a defined, holistic model of practice. The report was presented by the Director of Early Help and Children's Social Care.

The Board were informed that reducing serious youth violence and criminal related exploitation was a priority for Derby. Derby has become good at implementing the older, more traditional, safeguarding arrangements where children need support in the family environment. But there was now more extra familial risk in communities such as group youth violence, drug dealing, knife crime, child sexual and criminal exploitation. These risks cannot be managed by social care alone. There has to be a joined up approach with the Police and other services to work together to manage the risks. The DDSCP have been having discussions to establish the best approach for Derby.

The officer informed the Board that Contextual Safeguarding was a strategic response by partners in Derby in order to create a safer Derby. Currently there was an increasing population of young people becoming known to police and there needed to be a wider response of engagement with young people to stop the escalation.

The Board noted the key strategic principles of Contextual Safeguarding were outlined in the report and include:

- an approach to understanding and responding to young people's experiences of significant harm beyond their families
- the power of relationships that young people form in their neighbourhoods, schools and online
- Parents or Carers do not have much influence over these situations, and young people's experiences of extra-familial abuse can undermine parent-child relationships

The Board were informed that partners agreed to adopt a Place/People Risk approach and to pilot a Community Peer Group Assessment Model (a holistic assessment of extra familial harm to a young person or groups of young people). It involved a multi-agency (Social Care, Police and Education) sharing of needs and knowledge in respect of a group of young people in a particular area who

were identified as potentially being at risk. The partnership put together a plan to address issues, which included installing CCTV in the local park to disrupt activity and prevent further risks. Schools were engaged to help prevent more young people being drawn into the groups. A councillor asked if the CCTV was still in place and whether it had been successful in dispersing the young people. The officer confirmed that the CCTV was successful in moving the young people from the area and that a check would be undertaken to see if the cameras were still in place.

A councillor was concerned about the young people of Derby being involved in drug dealing, and felt that close community and partnership work in particular wards of the City needed to be replicated across the City. It was agreed that learning and strengths in particular wards and communities needed to be harnessed and used: It was also highlighted that involving young people themselves was a good way to resolve issues. Another councillor suggested contacting the local Neighbourhood Boards as they might be able to provide funding for youth engagement.

The Board noted that by undertaking the Community Assessment, evidence arose of an approach to strategically support prevention. Through a structured process, intelligence about a developed, urban street gang in Derby was shared and prevention activity by the partnership was strategically coordinated and planned. The DDSCP are now considering the outcomes and learning from the pilot and the wider implication as a preventative strategy for the City.

The Board resolved to note the progress and direction of travel in developing a Contextual Safeguarding approach for Derby

44/19 The Light House Residential Short Breaks Service - Update

The Board considered a report of the Director of Early Help and Children's Social Care, which provided an update on the current and proposed future arrangements of the Light House Residential Short Breaks Service following a period of public consultation between September and December 2019, as part of an on-going review of the service. The report outlines the main findings from the consultation and next steps in regards to moving forward in relation to the service review.

The Board were informed that the Integrated Disabled Childrens Service (IDCS), of which the residential short breaks service was a part, was jointly funded between Derby City Council (DCC) and Derby and Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (DDCCG). These organisations contribute to a pooled budget which pays for all the support for the Lighthouse including staff. DCC manages the overall provision. The service was statutory and provides respite services to vulnerable groups of children, young people and their families across Derby. Feedback from parents/carers from engagement sessions and public consultation, has highlighted the need for the service which was described as a "lifeline" for keeping disabled children in their families.

The Board noted that the contract with the healthcare provider for the service ended on 31 May 2019, after the provider gave notice. Interim arrangements were put in place with Nurture Care. It was felt that this was an opportunity to

look at different models of operational delivery for Social Care staff who could deliver a range of health tasks based on national guidance.

The Officer informed the Board that a programme of pre-engagement was launched on 19th November 2018 followed by a formal, 90 day consultation from 5 September 2019 to 3 December 2019 which was run alongside the interim model.

There was positive feedback on elements of the Lighthouse that respondents felt worked well:

- Staff continuity provides routines and stability
- High Quality Care
- Regular Care reviews
- Good Communication
- Staff listen and are patient with children

The Board were informed that since April 2019 the Light House had been able to open safely 3 nights per week, with qualified nurses on duty, which gave a reduced offer for families. There have been delays in recruiting to the full Social Care staffing establishment and delays in up skilling and competency assessing Social Care staff in health tasks. The service now had a nearly full complement of staff, being only 1 Night Care Assistant away from being fully staffed. There was a range of governance and procedures in place which are owned fully by the team and a commitment to on-going training from staff.

Currently a robust model was in place with enough Social Care Staff recruited so the number of nights offered to families could be increased. It was planned to move to four nights a week at the end of February 2020 and possibly five nights a week in March. The Quality committee needed to be certain that the service could be run without a nurse, and it was noted that there had been no instances in the last three months where health care staff were needed. On 31 January 2020 the Light House successfully ran its first Social Care led night with no health practitioners.

The Officer informed the Board that there were four families with children who have higher level health needs that are unlikely to be met by Social Care Staff at the Light House. Multi-disciplinary panels alongside families have begun to assess how these children's needs can be met. The Board noted that the remaining 48 children who access the service have had their needs safely met using this new holistic model of care delivery.

A Councillor commented that it must have been a tough job to retain the trust of the parents and also look at providing a more rounded level of care which would be better for the children. The officers should be commended for their work and also for the staff taking on health training. Councillors agreed that officers and staff should be commended for the work undertaken in difficult circumstances. A member of the Board also asked about staff morale and was informed that all staff had stayed and had galvanised well; the changes have helped them to develop confidence. Another Councillor asked if there had been any complaints. The officer highlighted that 12-15 engagement events had been undertaken, consultation on line, face to face sessions and coffee mornings. The officer

confirmed that there had been a lot of information sharing and no increase in complaints. Praise should also go to staff and parents who have coped with the reduced level of services.

The Board resolved:

- 1. to note the key outcomes from the public consultation and proposed future direction of the service delivery model.**
- 2. to note the financial and operation implications of the direction outlined in this report.**

34/19 Work Programme and Topic Review 2019/20

The Board considered a report which allowed the Board to study its Terms of Reference and Remit for the forthcoming Municipal Year. The report set out key work areas, issues and potential topic review subjects within the service areas, for discussion or inclusion in the work programme.

The Board agreed the work programme set out in appendix 1 to the report, with the addition of the following:

Annual Report of Educational Outcomes 2019 - an Inclusion Report which gives greater depth about attainment and achievement in SEND be brought to this Board in the summer.

Derby Safeguarding Board: Annual Report 2018-19 the request that a more thorough breakdown on IRO Quality Assurance Notifications "Statutory Requirements not met" on page 24 of the DSCB Annual Report be brought back to the next meeting of the Board

The Board resolved to note the terms of reference and the Overview and Scrutiny Rules as set out in the Council's Constitution

MINUTES END