

Time commenced – 6.00pm
Time finished – 7.47pm

Children and Young People Board

4 September 2017

Present Councillor Eldret (Chair)
Councillors Anderson, Care, Hezelgrave, Willoughby and Winterand Steve Grundy

In Attendance: Councillor Sara Bolton – Cabinet Member for Safeguarding and Children and Young People

Hazel Lymbery - Director – Early Help and Children's safeguarding

Steven Mason – Democratic Services Officer

Frank McGhee – Director of Integrated Commissioning

Jawaria Nadeem – Deputy Youth Mayor

Gurmail Nizzer – Acting Director of Commissioning

09/17 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Roulstone and Williams and Eleanor Berry.

10/17 Late items introduced by the Chair

There were none.

11/17 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Winter wished it to be noted, in relation to 15/17- Take up of Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) for 2,3 and 4 year Olds in Derby, that she was a Nursery Manager. The Democratic Services Officer advised that this was not a pecuniary interest, in this instance, and that she did not have to leave the room during consideration of that item.

12/17 Minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2017 were noted, subject to the following amendment.

That Councillor Sara Bolton was in attendance and not Sarah Bolton.

13/17 Single Inspection Framework – Report and Improvement Plan

The Board received a scrutiny covering report of the Chief Executive on Responding to Ofsted's inspection of services for children in need of help and

protection, looked after children and care leavers. The report was presented by Councillor Sara Bolton, Cabinet Member for Safeguarding and Children and Young People, and the Director – Early Help and Children's Safeguarding.

It was reported that in November 2013 Ofsted commenced inspections against a new inspection framework on local authority services for children in need of help and protection; children looked after and care leavers (the 'SIF' inspection).

It was also reported that Derby City was inspected under this framework in March 2017.

It was noted that a report on the inspection outcome and the proposed improvement plan, which had to be returned to Ofsted and the Department for Education by Wednesday 20 September 2017, was due to be considered by Council Cabinet on Wednesday 6 September. It was also noted that the Council Cabinet report had been circulated to Members of the Committee when the agenda for that meeting had been published.

Members discussed the mechanisms of reporting progress against the action plan.

Members noted that the services for children who need help and protection was judged as 'requires improvement' and also noted the steps that had been taken since that judgement had been made.

Members noted that social work caseloads in reception and locality teams remained too high and the impact that this had upon the quality of work, such as in assessments and plans.

Members agreed that the action plan was measurable.

It was agreed that at page 4 of Appendix 3 of the Derby Ofsted report, the accountable officer for ensuring the criteria in the homeless 16/17 year old protocol was used in discussions with young people, should be the relevant Head of Service.

Resolved to note the report

14/17 Monitoring Safeguarding Practice

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services and a presentation on monitoring Safeguarding Practice. The report was presented by the Director – 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 Board were updated on recent workforce developments.

Members discussed the recruitment and retention of social workers. Members

noted that the Council was able to attract newly qualified social workers but struggled to attract experienced social workers. It was also noted that experienced social workers from agencies were being used to fill the gaps. It was reported that one of the Cabinet Pledges was to reduce the use of costly agency social workers.

Members again noted the high social worker caseloads and discussed the caseloads of newly qualified social workers. Members requested that data on timescales of cases be circulated to the Board after the meeting.

Members noted the work that had been done to attract social workers, including the introduction of a mortgage subsidy scheme. It was noted that a recruitment and retention task and finish group had recently been re-established.

Resolved to note the actions being taken to make improvements.

15/17 Take up of Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) for 2,3 and 4 year Olds in Derby

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on Take up of Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) for 2, 3 and 4 Year Olds in Derby. The report was presented by the Acting Director of Commissioning.

It was reported that in relation to the “Two Year Old FEEE Flying Start Offer”, the Department for Education (DfE) had set fixed national criteria on who could access the 15 hours of FEEE and that this targeted Derby City's 40% most disadvantaged two year olds.

It was also reported that Derby City's three and four year old FEEE take up target for the universal entitlement in 2016-2017 was 90% and that localised data evidenced an increasing trend of eligible children accessing their FEEE.

It was noted that from September 2017 the Government were introducing an additional 15 hours of free childcare for working families and that this would be on top of the universal offer of 15 hours, which all three and four year olds could continue to access.

It was also noted that a promotional campaign by the Council's Childcare and Families Information Team (CFIT) aimed at parents, professionals and childcare providers, had resulted in 800 successful applications to date being made to HMRC by Derby City families for the new 30 hour offer.

Members considered the eligibility criteria, such as Universal Credit, Income Support and Pension Credit.

It was reported that the DfE had confirmed the eligibility criteria would be both parents working (or the sole parent was working in a lone parent family) with each parent having a weekly income equivalent to 16 hours at the national wage or living wage (£120 per week) and neither parent having an income of more than £100,000 per year.

It was agreed that it was important for the Board to monitor and scrutinise take-up, particularly in areas where take-up was lower. Members requested that take-up data be circulated to the Board after the meeting.

Members asked that responses to the following two questions be circulated to the Board after the meeting:

1. Early Intervention based on emerging health needs is sometimes needed for two year olds, and currently this happens for three year olds, is there a reason for this?
2. For those eligible families with two and three year olds, who do not take up the offer of free places, when families are contacted, are there any particular reasons why they don't wish to take up places?

Members agreed that an update should come to a future meeting of the Board.

Resolved:

- 1. to note the good take up of Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) for 2, 3 and 4 Year Olds in Derby;**
- 2. to note there is a robust Implementation Plan to deliver the extended childcare offer for eligible three and four year olds to encourage high levels of take up of the new offer; and**
- 3. to agree that an update report be provided to a future meeting of the Children and Young People Board.**

16/17 Updated on Integrated Commissioning

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director for People Services on Update on Integrated Commissioning. The report was presented by the Director of Integrated Commissioning.

Members were provided with an update on progress against the integrated commissioning priorities agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board and Children, Families and Learners Board. It was reported that these were core to an integrated commissioning approach, and central to the commissioning strategy which was delivered across the local authority and the Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (SDCCG).

It was also reported that the recent Ofsted report on Children's services spoke very positively of the embedded integrated commissioning approach across the local authority and SDCCG. It was noted that with significant changes taking place across the Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Groups it was important that the benefits of the integrated model were acknowledged and that the needs of children and young people were adequately addressed through an integrated team.

The Board considered a number of key commissioning projects.

Members discussed the Transforming Care programme. It was reported that for young people with autism or a learning disability and at risk of admission to a mental health inpatient bed, a commissioner led 'Community Care, Education and Treatment Review' (CETR) process was in place to support the exploration of other options prior to admission.

It was reported that the Future in Mind programme was in year three of a five year programme to improve mental health services for children and young people. It was also reported that the programme covered Derby City and Derbyshire County Council geography and related to the SDCCG area. Members were particularly interested in the soon to be launched parenting train the trainer project, to support parents and carers to support their children with autism and ADHD. Members agreed an extra resolution, in relation to the train the trainer project, that a robust strategy be implemented to publicise the courses, including the use of networking with outside bodies. Members requested that a guide to the range of services available through the Future in Mind programme be circulated to the Board after the meeting.

Members discussed the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service – The Keep. It was reported that an emotional health and wellbeing service was launched on 1 October 2016 supporting children and young people aged 0-18 who were in care, adopted or on Special Guardianship Orders (SGOs). Members commended the team responsible for the work around KEEP.

Members considered the Safer Families for Children (SFFC) volunteer based organisation. It was noted that the organisation provided help to families at the edge of care where one of the children in the household was aged 10 or under.

Resolved:

- 1. to note the update from the Director of Integrated Commissioning on the progress made on key commissioning projects; and**
- 2. to agree that a robust strategy should be employed to publicise the parenting train the trainer project.**

MINUTES END