

Time commenced – 6.00pm
Time finished – 6.44pm

CORPORATE PARENTING SUB BOARD
23 APRIL 2013

Present: Councillor Bailey (Chair)
Councillors Atwal, Bolton, Campbell and Martin

In Attendance: Councillor Rawson

36/12 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Khan, Whitby and F Winter.

37/12 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

38/12 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

39/12 Minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2013 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

40/12 LAC Health Needs Report

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Young People on looked after children health needs. The report was presented by the Director of Specialist Services, the Head of Children in Care and the Improvement Officer for Children and Young People. Members noted that following a performance update report presented to the Sub Board in September 2012, further information was requested on performance in relation to SS PM02 – Percentage of looked after children who had their statutory health needs met.

It was reported that the performance measure SS PM02 related to a number of different aspects of looked after children's health:

- dental checks up to date;
- annual health assessment completed; and
- development assessments up to date (for those children aged 5 years and under) – having at least two per year.

Members noted that at the end of September 2012 performance was below the target of 75% with a result of 72.9% and that since then performance had fluctuated considerably, reaching 78.1% in October 2012 and deteriorating down to the provisional result of 69.5% at the end of March 2013.

Members were concerned about the performance figures and it was agreed that an action plan should be brought to the next meeting of the Sub Board with measurable outcomes for three, six and twelve months.

It was reported that some of the problems with dental checks were due to issues around how data was collected and the fact that some young people did not want to go to the dentist. Members noted that changes were to be made to the way that data was collected. Members were concerned that some young people were choosing not to go and the Director of Legal and Democratic Services confirmed that as Corporate Parents the local authority could only support them to make an informed choice.

In respect of development assessments for those children aged five and under, it was reported that there had been some confusion as to whether or not children turning five were required to have another assessment. It was confirmed that the requirement was for children aged five and under to have at least two assessments in a rolling year.

Resolved:

- 1. to note current performance, in relation to SS PM02, and the factors which have been highlighted as contributing towards results during 2012/13;**
- 2. to note and challenge as appropriate the actions planned to improve performance (Appendix 2, page 9); and**
- 3. resolved to request that an action plan be brought to the next meeting with measurable outcomes for three, six and 12 months.**

41/12 Leicester Children's Homes Visit

The Board received a report of the Chair and Vice Chair on Feedback From Visit to Leicester Children's Homes. It was reported that on Thursday 28 March 2013 the Chair, Vice Chair and Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordination Officer attended a visit to Leicester City Council to look at three of their residential children's homes.

It was reported that following on from the Children and Young People Board's topic review into Derby City Council's children's homes, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Sub Board decided to visit Leicester City Council so that they could compare and contrast our services with the provision in Leicester.

Members noted that three homes were visited. Two homes provided care for children with physical and learning disabilities and one home was a mainstream home. It was reported that a number of issues were noted that the Chair and Vice Chair felt would be useful in the development of new homes on the Moorfield's site and also across the service.

It was asked whether young people were being consulted regarding the proposals for the Moorfield site. A Member of the Children in Care Council reported that this would be addressed at their next meeting and a working group would be set up.

Resolved:

- 1. to note the report; and**
- 2. that the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordination officer would look at organising future visits to other authorities children's homes.**

MINUTES END