

ITEM 4

Time commenced – 6.00pm

Time finished – 8.10pm

Children and Young People Scrutiny Review Board

Monday 9 July 2018

Present: Councillor Russell (Chair)
Councillors Ashburner, Harwood, Hezelgrave, Keith and Winter
Co-optees - Gillian Butler, Chris Hulse, Steve Grundy and Ruth Richardson

In Attendance: Frederico Almeida – Youth Mayor
Jax Dominiczak – Democratic Services Officer
Hazel Lymbery – Service Director – Early Help and Children’s Safeguarding
Iain Peel – Local Programme Manager, Derby Opportunity Area
Sonja Sebastien – Deputy Youth Mayor
Andy Smith – Strategic Director of People Services

01/18 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Willoughby and Reverend Nicky Fenton.

02/18 Late items introduced by the Chair

There were none.

03/18 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

04/18 Minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2018 were agreed as a correct record.

05/18 Opportunity Areas

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services presented by the Local Programme Manager, Derby Opportunity Area, on Opportunity Areas.

The report stated that the Department for Education (DfE) had announced the Opportunity Areas (OA) programme on 4 October 2016. Initially six areas were announced, namely: Derby, Scarborough, Blackpool, Norwich, West Somerset and Oldham. The areas have been highlighted due to their relatively low levels of social mobility as described in the Social Mobility Index published in January 2016. Within this index, Derby was placed 22nd from the bottom out of 324 areas nationally. In total, Derby would receive up to £6 million of funding over three years. In addition to this, the Department for Education (DfE) was now supporting this work in Opportunity Areas by developing an ‘Essential Life Skills’ programme over two years to enable children and young people aged 5 -18 years old to

participate in regular extra-curricular activities. It was intended that children and young people will be able to participate in additional out of school activities such as sports, volunteering and social action projects. The funding had been calculated on the basis that it would pay for weekly participation in extra-curricular activities for up to 40,000 pupils in up to 12 per cent of schools in the Opportunity Areas. In Derby, this amounted to a two year grant of up to £800,000 in 2017-18 and up to £1.6 million in 2018-19.

Furthermore the report explained to Members that Opportunity Areas was a strategy targeted towards stakeholders and children and young people to promote social mobility. The city council was the fund holder on behalf of the Local Opportunity Area Board which in turn advised the Department for Education.

The six areas were initially highlighted as being social mobility cold spots as defined in the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission's Social Mobility Index which was published in January 2016.

The Local Programme Manager, Derby Opportunity Area also gave a presentation to the Board, which outlined the following:

- Opportunity Areas
- The Nation; Opportunity Area Programme
- Derby Opportunity Board and Local Governance Structure
- Working Groups
- Year 1 Milestone April 2018 – March 2018
- Progress to Date and Outline Plans
- Derby Opportunity Area Procurement to Date
- Essential Life Skills – Small Grants
- Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics Grants
- Ongoing Evaluation

By working together with the DfE the Local OA board had identified three principal priorities as being drivers for change to improve social mobility within Derby city, these were:

- Increasing the number of children achieving a good level of development in the early years
- Raising attainment in primary and secondary schools
- Ensuring children and young people benefit from a broad range of experiences throughout their school lives.

Members discussed the Local Opportunity Area planned programmes and sought examples of the ways in which families and children and young people had been engage in the programmes; the Local Programme Manager, Derby Opportunity Area stated that this had not been strength of the programme so far but this issue was being addressed.

Resolved:

- **To support the work of the local Opportunity Area Board in improving outcomes for children and young people in the city and improving**

social mobility and by doing so to follow the final advice and recommendations of the Opportunity Area Board and Department for Education regarding the expenditure associated with all Opportunity Area grants which the council holds on behalf of the local area

- **To recommend stronger capturing of the views of parents and young people to facilitate engagement in the programme**
- **To receive updates of outcomes at future meetings.**

06/18 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 Service 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 also received a PowerPoint presentation which updated the Board on recent workforce developments and safe guarding pressures.

The PowerPoint presentation included details on the following:

- Suitable Workforce
- Deployment of Social Workers
- Agency Social Workers
- Open Cases
- Average Social Worker Caseloads
- Making Derby a More Attractive Place to Work for Social Workers

Members were updated on the work the Council was doing to make Derby a more attractive place to work for social workers and discussed the incentives which were in process in attracting social workers to work in the city of Derby.

Resolved:

- **To note the presentation and report**
- **To note the actions being taken to make improvements and challenge progress in relation to Monitoring Safeguarding Practice**
- **That the Board review the advertisement placed when advertising Social Worker vacancies in order to suggest positive ways to promote Derby as a place to live and work.**

07/18 Terms of Reference, Work Programme and Topic Review Discussion

The Board received a report of the Chief Executive which outlined the Children and Young People Scrutiny Review Board's Terms and Reference and Remit.

Members discussed the work programme and the subject for the topic review.

Resolved:

- **To agree the Board's Terms of Reference as detailed in the report**
- **To agree that the work programme for 2018-19 is an ongoing piece of work which can be added to and amended as appropriate**
- **To agree that Child Poverty in Derby form the basis of a Topic Review for 2018-19.**

08/18 Topic Review 2018-19 - Child Poverty in Derby

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on the Topic Review 2018-19. It was agreed by the Members that the topic review would be Child Poverty in Derby.

The Policy and Improvement Manager provided Members with a PowerPoint presentation – Child Poverty – Setting the Scene which outlined the following:

- Definition of Child Poverty
- The Impacts of Child Poverty
- Understanding the Bigger Picture
- Measuring Child Poverty
- Child Poverty in Derby City
- Our Journey on Child Poverty
- Options for the Focus of the Topic Review

Members discussed the topic of Child Poverty, its implications, causes and what was currently being done to tackle the issues surrounding Child Poverty in Derby.

Resolved:

- **To note that Child Poverty in Derby had been agreed as the basis of a topic review for 2018-19.**
- **To receive the presentation and contribute to the development of a work plan for delivery of the topic review.**

MINUTES END