

Time finished – 8.52pm

30 October 2017

In Attendance: Pauline Anderson – Interim Director – Learning and Skills
Councillor Sara Bolton – Cabinet Member for Safeguarding and Children
and Young People
Andrew Kaiser – Head of Service, Early Help – Locality 1 and 5
Hazel Lymbery - Director – Early Help and Children's safeguarding
Steven Mason – Democratic Services Officer
Hayley Milward – Residential Childcare Worker
Jawaria Nadeem – Deputy Youth Mayor
Iain Peel – Director – Learning and Skills
Councillor Russell – Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Tiny Simbani – Youth Mayor
Andy Smith - Strategic Director of People Services
Diane Whitehead – Head of School Organisation and Provision

Apologies were received from Councillor Anderson and Eleanor Berry.

There were none.

Councillors Roulstone and Willoughby wished it to be noted that they separately had children with special educational needs. Councillor Roulstone also wished it to be noted that in relation to item 23/17, she was a member of the Parent Carers Together Forum. Councillor Willoughby also wished it to be noted that in relation to item 24/17, he had a child who attended an Enhanced Resource School.

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

The Board received a report of the Chief Executive on The Cabinet Pledges.

It was reported that in April 2017 the Council Cabinet made 50 pledges, setting out how the Council would achieve its vision for Derby. It was noted that a copy of the report that went to Council Cabinet was attached at Appendix 2 of the report.

Members were provided with an opportunity to gain a fuller understanding of all the pledges that related to children and young people, with a view to considering how they could best support the implementation of the pledges.

Councillor Sara Bolton – Cabinet Member for Safeguarding and Children and Young People and Councillor Russell – Cabinet Member for Education and Skills spoke to the Board on their respective pledges.

Members noted the ways in which the views of young people were being captured, such as through the Corporate Parenting Committee, and the plans to increase participation.

Members noted the progress made at the children's home that had not been judged as 'good' by Ofsted.

The Board discussed the take-up of funded childcare places, the Adult Learning Club, work experience for school children, the importance of free music tuition and educational outcomes. Members agreed that it was important for the Board to continue to scrutinise educational attainment.

It was agreed that going forward, the Board should receive 'milestone' updates on progress with the pledges.

Resolved:

- 1. to note the Cabinet Pledges;**
- 2. to agree that the Children and Young People Scrutiny Review Board should continue to scrutinise educational attainment; and**
- 3. to agree that the Board should receive 'milestone' updates on progress with the pledges.**

22/17 Current profile of Derby's looked after population and outcomes

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on Current profile of Derby's looked after population and outcomes. The report and a presentation were presented by the Director – Early Help and Children's safeguarding.

It was reported that the number of looked after children and young people in Derby in September 2017 was 470 and that this was an increase from the previous September, when it was 409. It was also reported that this increase was expected.

The Board noted that as of September 2017 the largest percentage of Derby's

looked after children were:

- Male (57.4 %)
- Aged 10 – 15 years (38.3%)
- White British (63%)
- Placed in foster care placements (75.8%)
- Placed outside of Derby (61.7%)

The Board considered a summary of key outcomes under stability of placements, health needs and adoption, for Derby's looked after children, as of September 2017.

Members discussed a number of issues including the speed of the adoption process, out of area foster care placements and the use of independent fostering agencies.

Councillor Sara Bolton – Cabinet Member for Safeguarding and Children and Young People updated the Board on a number of matters such as the Caring at Christmas campaign, the work of the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service – The Keep, foster carer recruitment events and the attendance of members of the Children in Care Council at meetings of the Corporate Parenting Committee.

Resolved to note the report and presentation.

23/17 Preparing for an inspection of services for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on Preparing for an inspection of services for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

It was reported that Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) commenced local area inspections of services for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) in May 2016.

It was also reported that the aim of inspections was to answer the following three key questions:

1. How effectively does the local area identify children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities?
2. How effectively does the local area assess and meet the needs of children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities?
3. How effectively does the local area improve outcomes for children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities?

Members noted that all local areas would be inspected at least once during a five year period, from May 2016 onwards. It was also noted that to date there had been 39 inspection letters published, with four inspections in the East Midlands

region; Nottinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Rutland and Derbyshire.

The Strategic Director of People Services and the Service Director for Early Help and Children's Safeguarding presented Members of the Board with an update on Derby City's current strengths and areas for improvement, in line with the inspection framework.

Members discussed a number of issues including the numbers of requests for assessments, timescales and Educational Health Care Plans.

Resolved to note the key elements of the SEND inspection presented at paragraphs 4.4 to 4.7 of the report.

24/17 Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Provision in Derby

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director for People Services on Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Provision in Derby. The report was presented by the Head of School Organisation and Provision and a Residential Childcare Worker.

It was reported that the Council had an important role in championing the needs of vulnerable children in Derby, and ensuring the continued inclusion of children with special needs in all of the schools in the city. It was also reported that the Department for Education also required Local Authorities to consider Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision in the context of meeting the national SEND reforms.

Members noted that following very careful consideration and initial consultation with parent representatives, SEND partners and head teachers, proposals had been developed to improve Derby's specialist provision for children and young people with SEND and to help support parents, carers and families.

It was reported that the key proposals included:

- a. Updating Enhanced Resource School and Special School Placement Criteria to help ensure that children and young people with SEND are placed in the most appropriate type of provision for their individual needs and to provide transparent and clear criteria for children, young people and their families.
- b. A fresh look at specialist provision to ensure it is relevant to current needs of children and young people in Derby, for example, proposals have been developed to create Enhanced Resource School provision to meet with Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs, which the City does not currently have.
- c. Improving SEND pupil pathways and alignment between infant, junior and secondary Enhanced Resource School placements to help effective transition planning for Children.
- d. Developing an Early Years Inclusion Fund for all Early Years providers as a single source of funding to support the inclusion of children with SEND.

- e. Capital investment to add Enhanced Resource Provision to Meadow Farm Primary School and increase and improve Enhanced Resource School provision at The Bemrose School.
- f. Updating Derby's Special Education Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Funding Bands so that the methodology for allocating SEND funding to schools is fit for purpose and reflects the proposed new placement criteria.

It was noted that Council Cabinet, at its meeting on 4 October 2017, gave approval to consult on the proposals as set out in the consultation document, attached as Appendix 3 to the report. It was also noted that the consultation period would start on 6 November 2017 and would run for a six week period up until 15 December 2017. It was reported that the proposals would be widely consulted on and consultation events would be held for parents and carers. It was also reported that the outcome of the consultation would be reported to Council Cabinet on 14 March 2018.

The Board thoroughly considered the consultation document and made a number of recommendations. It was agreed that the Democratic Services would capture the Boards comments and circulate them to the presenting officers.

Members wanted any future changes to SEND provision to be as seamless as possible. Members agreed that more background information, such as the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, should be made available as part of the consultation. It was felt that the consultation document was a lengthy one and should be broken down into areas through the consultation process. It was highlighted that some parents and carers may have their own special educational needs and may struggle to process the information in the consultation document. It was agreed that there should be a summary document available for parents and carers of mainstream pupils. Members thought it would be useful for frequently asked questions to be compiled as the consultation progressed.

Resolved:

- 1. to note that approval has been given by Council Cabinet to consult on proposals to improve Derby's provision for children and young people with SEND;**
- 2. to recommend that a specialist central team be established;**
- 3. to recommend that the consultation document be broken down into areas through the consultation process;**
- 4. to agree that the consultation should be accessible to parents with additional needs;**
- 5. to agree that background information should be made available to complement the consultation document;**
- 6. to agree that a summary document should be made available for parents and carers of mainstream pupils; and**
- 7. frequently asked questions should be compiled and made available as the consultation progresses.**

25/17 Appointment of Co-opted Members

The Board received a report of the Chief Executive on Appointment of Co-opted Members.

It was reported that there was provision for up to eight co-opted members to be appointed to the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Board to partake in discussion on education matters. It was also reported that three were directly nominated faith representatives (categorised as Church of England, Catholic and other faiths), while between two and five parent governors could also be appointed.

It was also reported that this provision originated from requirements for the inclusion of representatives specifically mentioned in Section 499 of the Education Act 1996, which also applied to overview and scrutiny committees by virtue of Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 2000.

It was noted that the terms of office for the Council's current co-opted members to the board expired on 31 December 2017. The report sought to update Members on progress in receiving nominations to Council for ratification on 22 November 2017.

Resolved:

- 1. to note and endorse the nominations of Gill Butler and Chris Hulse to the Board with effect from 1 January 2018 as parent governor representatives;**
- 2. to note and endorse the nomination of Ruth Richardson to the Board with effect from 1 January 2018 as 'other faith' representative;**
- 3. to note and endorse the re-nomination of Chris Reynolds to the Board with effect from 1 January 2018 as the Catholic representative; and**
- 4. to note that a nomination from the Church of England is awaited from the nominating body.**

26/17 Opportunity Areas

Resolved to defer the item until a future meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Review Board.

27/17 Early Help Annual Report

Resolved to defer the item until a future meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Review Board.

MINUTES END