

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting19th January 2017

1. Title of Item/Report

Scrutiny Review of Disadvantage in Early Years and School

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that presented the outcomes of the People Select Committee's review of Disadvantage in Early Years and School. The main focus of the review was tackling disadvantage in the early years, including school readiness. The impact of disadvantage on a child's development and education was widely recognised, as was the crucial importance of the first five years of a child's life.

Some children in the Borough needed to be supported to catch up significantly on a range of factors such as socialisation. The review also intended to follow on from the review of Child Poverty and examine how Pupil Premium was being used in the Borough, and consider the role of the new Early Years Pupil Premium.

RESOLVED that:-

1. Ensure that there is a clear focus on what is meant by disadvantage and this is reflected in relevant strategies.
2. Maintain the focus on identifying children eligible for funded Early Years education, and ensuring a comprehensive level of take-up.
3. i) Roll out the 'Moving Forward Foundation Stage 0 to 5 Years' Transition Guarantee approach;

ii) Embed the 0-5 Years Transition Guarantee and additional work (e.g. local Partnership meetings) to track the impact of children's progress through different settings to inform targeted interventions and quality assurance.
4. Ensure the improvement in number of 2½ year olds receiving health development reviews be sustained and coverage approaches 100%.
5. Work towards an integrated 2 year old check with health and

education professionals.

6. Ensure the Committee receives a full update on the work of local Early Years' services, including the role of both the Children's Centre Teams and the health visiting service as part of the 0-19 Workforce, following the reviews of these service areas.
7. Consider a renewed focus on sensory, physical, and communication activity for Under 5s in Early Years Settings.
8. Ensure that use of Early Years Pupil Premium be reviewed and audited to ensure local good practice (in line with the approach taken with School Pupil Premium).
9. Explore the feasibility of developing a system to secure Pupil Premium funding for the whole journey of the child through their education to reduce the number of eligibility checks required.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The report presents the findings of the scrutiny review that took place as part of the agreed work programme for 2016-17.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Steve Nelson declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 7 - Scrutiny Review of Disadvantage in Early Years and School as he was a member of Catalyst and on the board of Governors at Frederick Natrass School.

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight, 27 January 2017

Proper Officer
23 January 2017