

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting18th October 2018

1. Title of Item/Report

Children's Services Progress Update: 2018/19 – Quarter 1 (April – June 2018)

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that provided a summary of performance across Children's Services for Quarter 1. It was based on the Children's Strategy priorities agreed by Cabinet in June 2017.

The report summarised performance information in relation to the Children's Services Strategy 2017-20. The strategy, agreed by Cabinet in June 2017, sets out the key priorities for Children's Services and the key performance indicators associated with delivery.

The update report was in three parts:

- a. Update on 2018/19 priorities.
- b. Update on other actions and progress against the wider strategy
- c. A summary of key points

An update on progress included:

- a. Further sessions on safeguarding and corporate parenting for members would be delivered this year.
- b. In line with the agreed regional approach and the formation of the regional Improvement Alliance, the Council would undertake a self-assessment across Children's services which would be peer challenged and reviewed by two other Councils before being considered as part of a regional improvement plan. Both the LGA and the Department for Education were also involved in the work.
- c. As part of the new Ofsted ILACS framework (Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services) the Council received an annual conversation with Ofsted. The outcomes of which were attached to the report.

d. The Council was leading on the discussions to consider and develop new safeguarding arrangements as required by the Children and Social Work Act 2017. The Act provided for the abolition of LSCBs and their replacement with new locally developed arrangements. Initial proposals were being considered to explore closer working with Hartlepool Borough Council on a new safeguarding partnership. The proposal was that this would be launched in shadow form in December 2018, with a view to going live from 1 April 2019, well in advance of the deadline of 1 September 2019.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The report be noted.
2. The outcomes from the Annual Conversation with Ofsted be noted.
3. Reasons for the Decision
To ensure that Members are aware of progress and issues in the delivery of the Children's Services Strategy 2017-20.
4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected
None.
5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest
None.
6. Details of any Dispensations
N/A
7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed
Midnight, 26 October 2018

Proper Officer
22 October 2018