

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting14th February 2019

1. Title of Item/Report

Scrutiny Review of the Child's Journey

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that presented the outcomes of the Children and Young People (CYP) Select Committee's review of the Child's Journey.

The aim of the review was to challenge how effectively the Council planned and delivered services across the whole of Children's Services which were based on the views, and lived experiences of children. The review tested how the Council engaged with children and young people at a number of levels: strategic, service-level delivery, and working with individual children and young people.

RESOLVED that:-

The Council:

In terms of strategic engagement -

1. Requires all those working with children and young people to promote a culture and use of language which recognises individuality, respects young people's preferences on language, avoids labelling and use of jargon, and emphasises the child or young person at the heart of all we do.
2. Endorses the development of the Bright Minds Big Futures Big Committee and requests further updates on its progress.
3. Proposes that the Corporate Parenting Board continues to engage, and work closely with, the Let's Take Action Group.

In terms of service change -

4. Ensures that future safeguarding partnership arrangements retain a focus on the voice of the child as part of its active learning process.

5. Supports the expanded role of the Young Inspectors beyond residential care home inspection.
6. Undertakes a specific piece of work with the Big Committee on how the Council can evidence young people's views have an impact on care planning.
7. Undertakes consultation with children and young people to redesign the children in care / looked after review process.
8. Encourages all schools to respond to views expressed by pupils through examples such as the secondary school wellbeing survey (Schools Health Unit Exeter - SHUE) survey, which demonstrate the need for a strong pupil voice.

In terms of working with individual children and young people –

9. Notes that the Committee welcomed the commitment to using appropriate tools for engagement, and consideration should be given to widening their use where appropriate.
10. Ensures a continued focus on the child's lived experience is embedded into assessment and care planning and that this is monitored through audit and supervision.

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 2018-19.

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, 23 February 2019

Proper Officer
19 February 2019