

Children & Young People Select Committee

A meeting of Children & Young People Select Committee was held on Wednesday, 5th September, 2007.

Present: Cllr David Harrington(Chairman), Cllr Mick Eddy(Vice-Chairman), Cllr Mrs Ann Cains, Cllr David Coleman, Cllr Maurice Frankland, Cllr Miss Barbara Inman, Cllr Alan Lewis, Cllr Andrew Sherris, Mr G Davies

Officers: Mrs J Morrison (CESC), G Birtle, S Whaley(LD)

Also in attendance: Ingrid Ablett-Spence, Oonagh McGeever(North Tees PCT), Mr G Davies (Non Voting Co-opted Representative)

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Cllr Broughton, Mr Cash (Parent Governor Representative)

CYP 17/07 **Declarations of Interest**

None

CYP 18/07 **Minutes - 15th August, 2007**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th August 2007 were agreed as a correct record.

CYP 19/07 **Review of Corporate Parenting**

Members took evidence from officers of North Tees PCT to provide information about service provision for looked after children within the Borough.

It was explained that PCT delivers all nursing roles for children requiring District and School Nurses and also Health Visitors. Services are also developed with partner/agencies including, Stockton Borough Council, schools, voluntary sector agencies, GP's and community paediatricians. Parents and children are also included in the strategic development of services.

The Committee heard that a database exists to record health and educational information about looked after children. Members also heard that health issues of looked after children had been dealt with by a Health Visitor, but was now to be undertaken by a dedicated Nurse funded by the PCT. An increased number of joint funded posts also exist between Stockton Borough Council and North Tees PCT which was given as evidence of strengthening partnership arrangements.

Questions were raised regarding the annual health review of looked after children by the Committee and Members learned that a small number of older male children refused health reviews and had expressed a preference for a male nurse. The Committee was informed that the trend for male nurses was for them not to be attracted to such posts or that they are more likely to move on to management positions. The vulnerable health case worker is to assist in dealing with this issue. The Committee requested more data to be provided by the PCT.

Members asked questions in relation to Dentistry and Mental Health provision and the Committee learnt that more robust systems are in place for dental care and clear referral protocols exist for Mental Health issues.

Concluded that the Committee's report be drafted and recommendations be developed.

**CYP
20/07** **Work Programme**

The project plan for the Corporate Parenting Review was examined and the Committee was still on course to report to Cabinet on 25th October 2007.

The Committee was made aware that preparations would start to be made regarding the next Select Committee review which will examine the School Organisation Plan.

Concluded that the Work Programme be noted.