

# Children & Young People Select Committee

A meeting of Children & Young People Select Committee was held on Wednesday, 25th April, 2012.

**Present:** Cllr Barbara Inman (Chairman), Cllr Carol Clark, Cllr Mick Eddy, Cllr Ben Houchen, Cllr Ken Lupton, Cllr Ross Patterson, Cllr Tracey Stott.

**Officers:** Jane Humphreys, Lynda Brown, Shaun McLurg, Simon Willson (CESC); Fiona McKie, Judith Trainer (LD).

**Also in attendance:** Cllr Ann McCoy (Cabinet Member); Colin Morris (Safeguarding Board).

**Apologies:** were submitted on behalf of Cllr Elliot Kennedy, Cllr Ray McCall, Mr D Campbell, Mr R G Lupton.

## **1 Declarations of Interest**

## **2 Minutes for Signing - 25th January 2012**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th January 2012 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

AGREED that the minutes be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

## **3 Draft Minutes - 21st March 2012**

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of 21st March, 2012.

AGREED that the minutes be approved.

## **4 Children and Young People - Service Overview**

Members were provided with a Children and Young People service overview. Each service area presentation was broken into four key areas:- Achievements, Challenges, Emerging Issues, Impact from previous Scrutiny Reviews.

Firstly, Colin Morris Chair of Stockton's Safeguarding Board was in attendance to detail the work of the Safeguarding Board. There were many changes such as a new styled inspection process, introduction of Health and Wellbeing Boards, changes to serious case reviews, increased demand etc.

Jane Humphreys, Corporate Director of Children, Education and Social Care, highlighted the recent streamlining of the service to meet efficiency savings. Detail was provided on the introduction of new inspection regimes, Family and Friends Policy, the Schools Capital Strategy, review of adoption process etc. There were many positive changes taking place including progress on two new children's homes in the Borough.

Discussion centred in particular on:

- Pressures on social care
- Highest levels of children in care
- Adoption performance – new national scorecards
- Sector led improvement and challenge

- Use of building assets following EIT review
- School places, planning and provision
- Academies and Free Schools

AGREED that the Overview be noted.

## **5 EIT Review of School Effectiveness - Draft Final Report**

Members were provided with the draft final report of the EIT Review of School Effectiveness.

AGREED that the report be approved for submission to Cabinet.

## **6 Work Programme**

The next meeting was due to be held on Wednesday 6th June, 2012 and would consider the scope for the Committee's next review of the Quality of Childcare, the action plan for the review of School Effectiveness and the latest monitoring report on previous reviews.

AGREED that the work programme be noted.

## **7 Chairs Update**

None.