

Children & Young People Select Committee

A meeting of Children & Young People Select Committee was held on Wednesday, 5th September, 2012.

Present: Cllr Barbara Inman (Chairman), Cllr Carol Clark (Vice Chairman), Cllr Michael Clark (vice Cllr Tracey Stott), Cllr Ben Houchen, Cllr Elliot Kennedy, Cllr Ken Lupton, Cllr Ray McCall. Ione Branton (Parent Governor Representative).

Officers: Lynda Brown, Terry Frank, Lynda Hobson, Janet Marriott (CESC); Michelle Jones, Fiona McKie, Judith Trainer (LD);

Also in attendance: Mr D Campbell (Non Voting Co-opted Representative). Donna Cartmell (Childminder).

Apologies: Cllr Tracey Stott, Cllr Ross Patterson, Phil Rigby.

CYP Evacuation Procedure

16/12

The evacuation procedure was noted.

CYP Declarations of Interest

17/12

None

CYP Councillor Mick Eddy

18/12

Members stood in silence as a mark of respect for Cllr Mick Eddy who had recently passed away.

CYP Draft Minutes - 25th July 2012

19/12

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 25th July 2012.

AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 25th July 2012 be approved.

CYP Scrutiny Review of Quality & Sufficiency

20/12

Members were provided with a presentation that covered the following:-

- Local and comparative Ofsted data in relation to outcomes for settings. This covered childminders, private nurseries and community schools provision.
- An outline of the working arrangements and relationship between the local authority and settings.
- Further information on the 'Next Steps' tracking system which was referred to at the last meeting. This would include examples of how this would be used to record progress of specific children to support a deeper understanding of the process.
- Further information regarding 'Journey to Outstanding' including examples of good practice and the key issues in under performance of childminders.
- An exploration of the proposal to develop existing networks for childminders who could then be part of the delivery plan for the extended offer of funded places for targeted 2 year olds.

A Childminder from Ingleby Barwick was in attendance at the meeting to provide members with an insight into the relationship between childminders and the

local authority. She had achieved "outstanding" in her ofsted inspection.

All childminders were inspected and 86 were currently operating at satisfactory or below. 19 of these childminders were not currently engaged with the Local Authority's development programme. The Council provided a Development Officer to each childminder. Development Networks had also been put in place to mentor newly registered childminders.

Members were offered the opportunity to observe the next outstanding forum, nursery managers and childminder network events.

A number of site visits had also been organised to independant and school nurseries, and local childminders.

Members held discussion on ways to engage the childminders that were not currently participating in the Council's training and development scheme. Officers reported that they did not allow childminders that were not engaged to be part of the scheme to provide childminding to vulnerable children aged between 2-3.

Members requested information on the amount of male childminders taking part in the scheme. It was reported that there were currently 3 male childminders in Stockton.

Members wished to know what procedures were in place for those childminders that had children that were underperforming. It was reported that support could be provided at an earlier stage rather than problems being identified at school age.

Members wished to know how the views of parents were sought when they had their children in a childminder setting. This matter would be considered further by officers.

AGREED that the presentation and comments be noted.

**CYP
21/12** **Youth Participation**

Members were provided with an update on arrangements for the establishment of a more representative and democratically elected youth assembly and the formal election of the Member of the Youth Parliament (MYP).

For some time there had been a recognised need to establish a new structure establishing a more representative and democratically elected Youth Assembly. The new structure would

- Work with young people directly in youth led action projects
- Actively encourage youth involvement and community change
- Involve young people in innovative and accessible ways, take part in consultations to guide the work we do as a Council
- Provide information to young people about projects, the work of the Council and other youth services

It was proposed that the new structure:

- would replace the current Shadow Youth Board with a more representative “Youth Assembly” made up of representatives from a range of existing youth forums;
- that the MYP should be a representative on the youth assembly so that young people’s voices in the Borough were heard on local, regional and national level;
- local youth elections for YMP and the Youth Assembly be held with support from Democratic Services, electoral services;
- IYSS to work closely with Democratic Services to include a broader referral process for future MYPs, closer links with the schools and develop an action plan to work towards a 2013 election option. This will also raise awareness in schools, colleges/ youth forums etc.

Members were requested to consider the new model and approach to the Youth Assembly and youth elections, prior to Cabinet consideration on 6 September. The Committee’s comments would be verbally reported to Cabinet. Following Cabinet consideration, the proposed model and approach would be subject to consultation with young people and stakeholders.

Members held discussion and raised the issue of resources/cost implications. It was reported that this would be met from existing budgets.

AGREED that the new model be supported.