

Children & Young People Select Committee

A meeting of Children & Young People Select Committee was held on Wednesday, 21st November, 2012.

Present: Cllr Barbara Inman (Chairman), Cllr Carol Clark, Cllr Elliot Kennedy, Cllr Ken Lupton.

Officers: Cheryl Azam, Lynda Brown, Janet Marriott, Jane Wright (CESC); Fiona McKie, Judith Trainer (LD).

Also in attendance: Phil Rigby, Ione Branton (Parent Governor Representatives); Dianne Roberts (Nursery Manager, Redhill and Port Clarence); Denise Lakinski (North Tees Day Nursery); Catherine Mason (Little Ladybirds Nursery); Susan Dawson (Norton Primary); Christine Smith (Area Manager 4 Children); Jean Orridge (High Clarence Primary School).

Apologies: were submitted by Cllr Ben Houchen, Cllr Ray McCall, Cllr Ross Patterson, Cllr Tracey Stott.

1 Apologies for absence

2 Declarations of Interest

None

3 Minutes for Signature - 5th September 2012

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2012 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4 Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th October 2012

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2012.

AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2012 be approved.

5 Scrutiny Review of Quality and Sufficiency of Childcare

As part of Members review of Quality and Sufficiency of Childcare, various childcare providers had been invited to the meeting to provide evidence. Areas for discussion were circulated prior to the meeting and included:

- How to ensure providers engage with Journey to Outstanding,
- Do providers feel they get enough support for safeguarding,
- Relationships between settings,
- Two year old places.

The following comments were made:

- Penalty clauses for those that don't engage with Journey to Outstanding
- Outstanding childcare providers to offer advice/mentoring to others
- Outstanding childcare providers to hold drop in surgeries for advice and assistance for other providers
- Provision of information so that parents can make well advised choices
- Innovations to encourage engagement ie. Star ratings for childcare providers

- Advertisement of Scheme to parents - were parents aware of their childcare providers Ofsted rating and if they were/were not engaging
- Help from SBC staff to complete Ofsted forms
- Training ie. Safeguarding, IT skills etc.
- Sharing of information and good practice through networking, with networks based around children centre areas, linking the various settings and schools via a "Childminder Associate Model"
- Improving relations between private nursery/childcare provision and school nursery provision
- Lack of provision in some areas of the Borough such as Port Clarence.
- Partnership working with Schools ie. private providers being able to provide handover information if required when a child goes directly from a private provider into full time School.

Members thanked everyone that had attended for their input.

AGREED that the comments be noted.

6 Updates on Previously Agreed Recommendations

Members were requested to consider the assessments of progress contained within the Progress Updates on the implementation of previously agreed recommendations. There were outstanding recommendations from the Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation (EIT) reviews of Early Intervention Grant (EIG) and School Effectiveness.

AGREED that the Progress Updates be noted and the assessments for progress be confirmed.

7 Chair's Update

There was no update at this meeting.

8 Work Programme

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 19th December 2012.

AGREED that the Work Programme be noted.