

Children & Young People Select Committee

A meeting of Children & Young People Select Committee was held on Thursday, 28th November, 2013.

Present: Cllr Carol Clark(Chairman), Cllr Norma Stephenson O.B.E(Vice-Chairman), Cllr Ken Lupton, Cllr Terry Laing(Vice Cllr Ben Houchen).

Officers: Caroly Chubb, Ian Caley, Andy Hatley, Lynda Brown, Shaun McLurg, Jane Humphreys, Dave Willingham, Simon Willson (CESC), Richard Poundford, Louise McDonald(DNS), Judith Trainer, Jenna McDonald and Kirsty Wannop(LDS).

Also in attendance: Young People from NEET Programme.

Apologies: Cllr Ben Houchen, Cllr Barbara Inman.

1 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

2 Minutes for Signature - 28th August 2013 and 18th September 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th August 2013 and 18th September 2013 were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

3 Draft Minutes - 16th October 2013

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 16th October 2013.

AGREED the minutes be approved.

4 Performance Update Q2 2013-14

Members considered the report that provided information on Children Services Performance at the Quarter 2 period of 2013/14 (i.e. as at the end of September 2013) and School and Academy performance.

The main issues discussed included:-

- The peer review that was due to take place in December 2013 would now take place in January 2014.
- The timeliness of adoptions was queried and it was agreed that further information on complex cases be circulated to the Members.
- Some of the national data for schools was unavailable until January 2014.

AGREED that

1. The further information be circulated.
2. The information be noted.

5 Scrutiny Review - Employment and Education - Stand 3 - Support

The Committee considered information regarding the Review of Employment and Education - Strand 3. Members received presentations on 14 - 19 Participation Plan, Careers, Not in Education, Employment or Training(NEETs)

and Grants.

The main discussion included:-

- The importance of careers guidance from Year 9 students through to Year 11. The service included presentations, profiling sessions, options at 16 and specific sectors, individual interviews and assemblies.
- The need to develop students' understanding of their own vocational personality.
- The need to educate parents as well as pupils.
- How the NEET programme was funded and the aim of it, activities that could be offered to people on the NEET programme and outcomes from the programme.
- NEET performance.
- Work on the post 16 transition from school into colleges, employers and learning providers.
- The aims, objectives and key priorities of the Stockton 14-19 Full Participation Plan.

There were young people in attendance that had taken part in the NEET programme and provided an overview of their experiences. They suggested that young people should go into school to share their experiences.

Those Members that had been on a site visit provided a brief update. There was still some visits to be arranged.

AGREED the information be noted.

6 Work Programme

Members noted the Committee's work programme.