

Children & Young People Select Committee

A meeting of Children & Young People Select Committee was held on Wednesday, 11th June, 2014.

Present: Cllr Carol Clark(Chairman), Cllr Norma Stephenson O.B.E(Vice-Chairman), Cllr Michael Clark(Vice Cllr Barbara Inman), Cllr Elliot Kennedy, Cllr Ken Lupton, Cllr Ross Patterson, Cllr Tracey Stott, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley.

Officers: Steve Chaytor(Tees Active), Reuben Kench(DNS) Shaun McLurg(CESC), Steve Rose(Catalyst), Judith Trainer and Kirsty Wannop(LDS)

Also in attendance: None

Apologies: Cllr Ben Houchen, Cllr Barbara Inman, Phil Rigby.

1 Evacuaton Procedure

The evacuation procedure was noted.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests delcared.

3 Minutes from the meeting which was held on the 26th March 2014.

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th March 2014 were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

4 Scrutiny Review of a Safer Place for Children

The Committee were provided with information surrounding the A Safer Place for Children Policy Guidelines. Members received information regarding safeguarding policies in Tees Active, Libraries and in the voluntary and community sector buildings. Members discussed the age restrictions in place at both Libraries and Tees Active in relation to when a child should be permitted unaccompanied into a public setting.

Other comments had been made by Council Services and these had been circulated to the Committee.

The Head of Leisure and Culture advised the Committee that he had triggered a piece of work to develop a new set of national guidelines for safeguarding in leisure settings, designed to pick up the issue of unaccompanied children in communal spaces. All current guidelines dealt with health and safety in classes, pools, etc. but not with the specifics of safeguarding in changing rooms or the passages and times between the drop off and the activity, or during the activity breaks in the unsupervised areas of a building. The NSPCC Director of Children's Safety in Sport was leading the piece of work and the guidelines would be produced in the name of the NSPCC. It was anticipated that the work would conclude within the next 12 months.

Members also considered the draft scope and project plan for the review.

AGREED that

1. The scope and project plan be agreed.
2. The information be noted.

5 Work Programme

Members considered the work programme for the Committee.