

Children and Young People Select Committee
Care Leavers EET
Scrutiny Review
Outline Scope

<p>Scrutiny Chair (Project Director): Cllr Carol Clark</p>	<p>Contact details: carol.clark@stockton.gov.uk</p>
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<p>Which of our strategic corporate objectives does this topic address?</p> <p>This review supports the Council Plan priority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A place where people are healthy, safe and protected from harm <p>Improving EET opportunities meets our Corporate Parent responsibilities for Care Leavers.</p>	
<p>What are the main issues and overall aim of this review?</p> <p>We currently have 229 Care Leavers and this number will continue to rise alongside recent rises in the number of children entering our care.</p> <p>Of these young people 66% are EET and 34% are NEET</p> <p>On further breakdown of these figures, there are 161 of these young people who are aged 18 yrs. and over and 68 are aged between 16/17 yrs.</p> <p>The percentage of NEET for 16/17 yr. olds is 9% The percentage of NEET for 18+ is 44%</p> <p>Whilst any plan to improve services won't necessarily produce direct savings, the benefit, however, will be seen on an individual basis and a reduction in reliance on the wider public services and accessing acute services such as mental health service or antisocial behaviour/police services.</p> <p>Although outcomes for young people in Stockton were in line with national averages, the review would examine whether the Council was doing enough and what more needed to be done to further improve performance and outcomes for young people.</p>	

The Committee will undertake the following key lines of enquiry:

- What is the current data and intelligence around our care leavers who are not in education employment or training (NEET)?
- What options are there to improve our performance?
- What support is there currently for this cohort of young people?
- What gaps in services are there so that a business plan can be developed to improve multi-agency and cross partner agency working?
- What best practice is there nationally?
- What do young people think about the support they have received?
- How well are Council Services working together and working with other agencies?
- What support is there for care leavers supporting families?
- What additional support is there for care leavers with a disability?

Who will the Committee be trying to influence as part of its work?

Cabinet, key partners.

Expected duration of review and key milestones:

Seven months:

Scope and Project Plan agreed – 11 November 2020

Evidence gathering – December 2020 - March 2021

Draft Recommendations – 21 April 2021

Final Report – 19 May 2021

Submission to Cabinet – 24 June 2021

What information do we need?

Existing information (background information, existing reports, legislation, central government documents, etc.):

Data and reports from Leaving Care, Data and reports from Virtual Schools, Data and reports from Youth Direction, Case Studies, Central Government data/documents

National research – Living Wage – Joseph Rowntree

New information:

Further case studies, feedback from C&YPIOC from Lets Take Action and NEET group, research and best practice from other Local Authorities who are reducing NEETs and improving EET outcomes

<p>Who can provide us with further relevant evidence? (Cabinet Member, officer, service user, general public, expert witness, etc.)</p>	<p>What specific areas do we want them to cover when they give evidence?</p>
<p>SBC Officers</p>	<p>Background/ Context Local and National Picture Importance of EET Outcomes for Care Leavers</p>
<p>Other Local Authorities</p>	<p>Best Practice</p>
<p>Young People/ Care Leavers</p>	<p>Young People/ Care Leavers perspective both EET and NEET and with a disability</p>
<p>How will this information be gathered? (e.g. financial baselining and analysis, benchmarking, site visits, face-to-face questioning, telephone survey, survey)</p>	
<p>Committee meetings, interviews.</p>	
<p>How will key partners and the public be involved in the review?</p>	
<p>As above.</p>	
<p>How will the review help the Council meet the Public Sector Equality Duty?</p>	
<p>The Equality Act 2010 protects everyone from discrimination on grounds of nine Protected Characteristics, including Disability.</p>	
<p>The Council is under a duty to:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act. • Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. • Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. 	
<p>The review will contribute towards meeting the Council’s requirements under this Duty, particularly in relation to the outcomes for more vulnerable children.</p>	
<p>How will the review contribute towards the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, or the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy?</p>	
<p>The Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019 – 23 includes the key strategic priority: “All children and families get the best start in life”.</p>	
<p>Supports the vision to ensure children and young people are protected from harm and supported to be the best they can be in life and that as young adults they get the right support at the right time to help prevent, reduce or delay the need for ongoing support and maximise their independence into adulthood.</p>	
<p>Provide an initial view as to how this review could lead to efficiencies, improvements and/or transformation:</p>	

Improving opportunities for some of the most vulnerable young people in our area.

Improving their motivation and self-esteem, mental health and wellbeing and their own economic wellbeing thus improving their life chances.

A joint understanding across partner agencies of who the target group of post 18 NEET are and what needs to be done to work together effectively to improve life chances for this group and consider ways in which opportunities can be created for EET.

Project Plan			
Key Task	Details/Activities	Date	Responsibility
Scoping of Review	Information gathering	October 2020	Scrutiny Officer Link Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss aims and objectives of review	30 October 2020	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member, Director, Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Agree Scope and Project Plan	Scope and Project Plan agreed by Committee	11 November 2020	Select Committee
Publicity of Review	N/A	N/A	
Obtaining Evidence	Background/ Context Local and National Picture Importance of EET Outcomes for Care Leavers Officer roles – virtual school, leaving care, youth direction, HR, Council as an employer Case Studies Other LA best practice Feedback from local employers Young people’s perspective, LTAG, Living in Care Council	16 December 2020 20 January 2021 17 February 2021 17 March 2021	Select Committee
Members decide recommendations and findings	Review summary of findings and formulate draft recommendations	21 April 2021	Select Committee (Informal Session)
Circulate Draft Report to Stakeholders	Circulation of Report	April/May 2021	Scrutiny Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss findings of review and draft recommendations	29 April 2021	Select Committee Chair and Vice-Chair, Cabinet Member, Director, Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Final Agreement of Report by Select Committee	Approval of final report by CYP Select Committee	19 May 2021	Select Committee, Cabinet Member, Director
Consideration of Report by Executive Scrutiny	Consideration of report	22 June 2021	Executive Scrutiny Committee
Report to Cabinet/Approving Body	Presentation of final report with recommendations for approval to Cabinet	24 June 2021	Cabinet