

Children and Young People Select Committee

Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 26 March 2013

Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)

Scrutiny Review – Quality of Childcare

The final report and recommendations were agreed by Cabinet on 7 March 2013. The review examined the Ofsted framework and work to engage with providers to improve quality, the view of providers in Stockton borough, and the changes to free childcare entitlement. There is a growing body of evidence which shows that good pre-school childcare gives children a flying start and leads to better outcomes as they move through school. The overall recommendations aim to:

- Improve information available to parents when making decisions on childcare
- Consider the use to networks and peer support to improve quality of childcare
- Ensure officers continue work to ensure any gaps in the provision of places are identified and met.

The Committee will receive an action plan on how the recommendations will be implemented, detailing officers responsible for action and timescales, at their next meeting on 24 April.