

## **Children and Young People Select Committee**

### **Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 20 November 2015**

#### **Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)**

##### **School Organisation and Admission Arrangements (Phase 2)**

The Committee are undertaking the following key lines of enquiry as part of the review:

- To understand the demand for primary places in the 6 planning areas and to be assured of sufficiency and acceptable level of meeting parental choice
- To examine the wider aspects of school organisation, the different approaches that can be undertaken and the zone system which currently operates in Stockton.
- To have an open dialogue with parents, governors and school leaders on the different approaches to school organisation and which is the best system for Stockton

Information gathering meetings have taken place with heads, chairs of governors and stakeholders. One Member session has also been held. Officers will be making individual visits to schools where schools could not attend one of the sessions to ensure that all schools have had the opportunity to comment. The Committee will be finalising the arrangements for meetings with parents at their November meeting.

In addition the Select Committee received the Consultation Document in respect of 2017 admissions and the School Organisation Plan and relevant extract from the Asset Management Plan which were due to be approved by Cabinet on 12 November.

##### **Other Work**

At their meeting in November, the Committee received the Healthwatch Annual Report for 2014/15; discussion centred on access to GPs.

A progress report in respect of the previous review of Employment and Education was submitted. Members were advised that there were still opportunities in the labour market for young people and welcomed progress in respect digital communications. Members also asked that the Select Committee receive invites to future Jobs Fairs. An initial progress update in respect of the review of Child Sexual Exploitation set out good progress in respect of this important issue and the Committee acknowledged that they would have the opportunity to consider early support services as part of the next review of the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

The Committee also confirmed arrangements for visits to frontline services and to meet with looked after children and also to receive an update in respect of inspection of children's homes.