

Children and Young People Select Committee Chair's Update – January 2021

Scrutiny Review – The Cost of School Uniform	
Achieved since last meeting	<p>The Select Committee's final report was warmly received by Cabinet in December and approved all recommendations.</p> <p>The Select Committee had concluded that school uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone; it also is a means of ensuring that children living in disadvantage are not identifiable by what they are wearing. However, schools need to ensure that uniform is easily accessible and affordable. The Committee felt that some school policies were overly prescriptive and placed too much emphasis on expensive branded items from specialist suppliers, particularly at secondary phase.</p> <p>The Committee also recognised the importance of providing support to families struggling to meet uniform costs and were impressed by the support offered by Stockton schools and local community organisations. However, the Committee felt that this support needed to be better publicised and co-ordinated.</p>
Problems or concerns	None
Planned next month	<p>An action plan will be presented to the Select Committee in January.</p> <p>To raise awareness of the report and recommendation, as well as circulating to all Academy Trusts and Head Teachers, the finding will be shared at Governors Sessions and Closing the Gap Session.</p>
On track – yes / no	Yes

Scrutiny Review – Care Leavers EET	
Achieved since last meeting	<p>The Select Committee have approved a scope and project plan for this review.</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> <p>The first evidence gathering session was held in December setting some background and context to the review.</p>
Problems or concerns	None
Planned next month	Second evidence session in January examining all officer roles.
On track – yes / no	The review will report to Cabinet in June 2021.

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Overview / Performance and Quality Assurance	
Key Issues / Problems or concerns	A Healthwatch report on <i>The Impact of COVID 19 on Young People</i> was considered at the December meeting of the Select Committee.
Problems or concerns	None
Requests for more information	-

Monitoring	
Key Issues / Problems or concerns	There has been no monitoring considered since the last update.

Next Meeting
20 January 2021 5pm