

26 September 2016

Scrutiny Review of Disadvantage in Early Years and School

Summary

The Committee is requested to consider evidence from Ofsted following their national review of Disadvantage in Early Years, and also receive a briefing on

Detail

1. Ofsted has published its national review of how Local Authorities and Early Years providers tackle issues faced by disadvantaged families and their children, '*Unknown Children – destined for disadvantage?*'. The report 'paid particular attention to the implementation and impact of national and local policies on the day-to-day practice of early years providers in some of the most deprived areas of England.' This is attached at **Appendix 1**.
2. As Members are aware, Stockton Council contributed to the review, and the published findings and recommendations provide the overall context for the Committee's own work.
3. The Committee has been able to secure the attendance of Lee Owston, Ofsted's National Lead for Early Years, in order to brief the Committee on the report, and in particular:
 - the main findings of the review from a national perspective;
 - Stockton's position.
4. The Education Improvement Service's Early Years Team has developed a Welfare Audit for Settings for use with private providers. This covers a range of issues to help providers ensure that are meeting the legal requirements laid out in the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2014). This document also asks how the provider meets the needs of vulnerable groups, and how this work is recorded to show how children have progressed and become 'ready for school'. An extract is attached at **Appendix 2**, as an example of the Council's work on this agenda.
5. Further to the discussion on engagement at the last meeting, the Early Years Engagement Worker has provided further detail on their role and this is attached at **Appendix 3**.

Site Visits

6. The notes of the Committee's visits to Star Children's Centre, and Tilery Primary School are attached at **Appendix 4**.

Early Years and Children's Centre Review

7. The Council is undertaking a separate review of Early Years and Children's Centres as a whole, in relation to how these will be organised in the future. This review has now gone out to public consultation and the consultation document is attached at **Appendix 5**. The Committee will be briefed on the review and how it relates to the Committee's own work at the meeting.

Government Consultation on National Funding Formula

8. At the meeting the Committee will be briefed on the Government's consultation on an early years national funding formula, and the potential outcomes for Stockton.
9. Further information can be found via:

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/early-years-funding/eynff>

Next Steps

10. The meeting on 17 October will be used to focus on the role of pupil premium, with particular emphasis on the use of the new Early Years Pupil Premium.

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