

People Select Committee

A meeting of People Select Committee was held on Monday, 9th December, 2019.

Present: Cllr Mrs Jean O'Donnell(Chairman), Cllr Mohammed Javed(Vice-Chair), Cllr Helen Atkinson, Cllr Eileen Johnson, Cllr Mick Moore, Cllr Bill Woodhead MBE, Cllr Barry Woodhouse

Officers: Margie Stewart-Piercy, Rob White, Judy Trainer, Marianne Sleeman (MD)

Also in attendance:

Apologies: Cllr John Gardner

**PEO
23/19** **Evacuation Procedure**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and the evacuation procedure was noted.

**PEO
24/19** **Declarations of Interest**

There were no interests declared.

**PEO
25/19** **Minutes from the meeting held on 7th October 2019 for approval / signature**

Consideration was given to the minutes from the meetings held on 7th October 2019.

AGREED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 7th October 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**PEO
26/19** **Scrutiny Review of Tees Credit Union**

Consideration was given to the presentation of the Scrutiny review of the Tees Credit Union by the Consultation & Corporate Affairs Manager.

The main issues discussed during the presentation and in response to the Committee's questions were as follows:

- The aim of the Credit Union was to protect the vulnerable people within the Borough.
- The Local Authority were looking to offer a package deal called 'Own Comforts' which would include white goods for people setting up home.
- Discussion took place around the term 'pay day loans' and how this was mainly associated with very high interest rates; could a more user friendly term/name be used.

- People would be vetted when requesting a loan to make sure they do not go into further debt.
- Discussion around what effect this committee can have on the Tees Credit Union; questions can be asked to see if the service is needed.

AGREED:

Members agreed the scope of the Scrutiny Review of Tees Credit Union which would be covered over 2 meetings.

- The Credit Union should be properly publicised.
- Financial statistics to be given to members.
- A mystery shopper would be used to relate the experience of using the Credit Union.
- Locality Forums would be contacted.

**PEO
27/19**

Presentation - Emotional Health in Schools

Consideration was given to the presentation on Emotional Health in School by the Transformation Lead, Children's Services.

The main issues discussed during the presentation and in response to the Committee's questions were as follows:

- A health related behaviour survey was developed by the Schools Health Education Unit (SHEU). The surveys were completed in 2016 and 2018. Approximately 3,200 completed the survey in 2018.
- There were no direct comparisons between the survey outcomes carried out in 2016 and 2018.
- Schools in Stockton on Tees are in line with other benchmarked schools in:
 - Managing their own emotional health and wellbeing
 - Students knowing who they can trust and talk to.
 - Students agree they have a high level of resilience.
 - Children feeling safe in their community and school.
 - Children have the ability to say no to peer pressure.
- Discussion took place around the lack of information the NHS hold on children's emotional mental health and wellbeing. The average young person will see their GP only twice a year.
- A CPD network would be created to focus on emotional health and mental wellbeing.
- An online counselling service for children in schools is available; (Kooth) to offer support and guidance for young people to supplement face to face counselling.

- Children's Services acknowledge there are areas for improvement and Action plans are in place in some schools.
- Members were informed the 2 most vulnerable in the next five years would be 0 – 5 and 18 – 25 vulnerable males.

AGREED:

The Presentation on Emotional Health in Schools was noted.

- An update on the SHEU survey with more in depth statistics and some input from Teachers would be provided to the Committee.
- Figures around the 6% increase of children stating bullying is not taken as an issue in schools would be provided to the Committee.
- Females to be looked at as a comparator within the 18 -25 high risk group.

**PEO
28/19** **Select Committee Work Programme**

Consideration was given to the People Select Committee Work Programme.

AGREED

The People Select Committee Work Programme be noted.

**PEO
29/19** **Chairs Update**

The Chair had no further update.