

# Children and Young People's Partnership

A meeting of Children and Young People's Partnership was held on Wednesday, 18th October, 2017.

**Present:** Martin Gray (Chairman)(SBC), Diane McConnell (SBC), Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy (SBC), Joanne Ryan (Big Life), Nathan Duff (Catalyst), Simon White (Secondary School Representative), Julia Armstrong (Primary School Representative), Jo Heaney (CCG), Amanda Taylor (Action for Children), Chris Davis (TEWV)

**Officers:** Kirsty Wannop (SBC)

**Also in attendance:** None

**Apologies:** Bev Bearne (SBC), Steve Rose (Catalyst).

## 1 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## 2 **Minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2017**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th September 2017 were confirmed as a correct record.

## 3 **Looked After Children - Comparative Analysis**

Members were provided with information from the SRF50 data that was released around the same time each year.

The information provided performance data from a number of comparative performance measures. The figures highlighted that there had been an increase in numbers of Looked After Children (LAC). This was due to an increase in numbers coming in to care as well as Stockton not having a greater flow of children leaving care.

It was questioned why it was thought there had been a rise in LAC. It was explained that the rise started around the time of the Ofsted inspection when some cases that weren't deemed LAC were then moved to be LAC.

It was highlighted that there had been an increase due to Court decisions that were also deemed LAC where it was not felt that they should be. Though most of the increases were due to the above reasons more did need to be done on the early help and edge of care agenda to stop cases becoming LAC.

### Discussion/Queries

- Was there a targeted piece of work to be done with a specific age range that were becoming LAC and not leaving?
- The schools representatives had noticed a rise in LAC numbers and also that there was a common trend of attachment disorder with those that were LAC. It was also highlighted that LAC children, moving schools especially during teenage years was not beneficial due to difference in curriculum and exam boards, but also for those with an attachments disorder and more needed to be done to prevent this happening.
- Need for a change of perception of early support/early help that there

isn't sufficient available.

- There was a need to listen to the voice of the child and what was important to them, rather than making assumptions.
- Need to be more ambitious for our children in terms of providing them with life skills and allow them to follow their own pathway.

RESOLVED that the information and discussion be noted/actioned as appropriate.

#### **4 Strategic Review of Education**

Consideration was given to a report that summarised the approach and progress to date in a strategic review of the Council's education role. It set out anticipated savings to respond to the loss of education Service Grant, and further work to be progressed.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

#### **5 Future in Mind**

The Future in Mind initiative was established to consider ways to make it easier for children, young people, parents and carers to access help and support when needed and to improve how children and young people's mental health services were organised, commissioned and provided.

A small amount of funding was available from Government that was available through the CCG budget, for collaborative commissioning but was not ring-fenced and proposals for the funding would be put to the CCG Executive Board for approval. There were already projects from this year that would continue into next.

Members were provided with a presentation and the main information provided included:-

- Aims of the project.
- What were the concerns
- ASCL and National Children's Bureau survey of schools 2016 information.
- Growing up in Stockton survey proposed model for pilot
- Delivered training in pilot schools.
- School champions skill development
- What works for schools
- Early outcomes
- Next steps.
- Primary schools and our approach
- Benefits of primary schools

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

#### **6 Forward Plan**

The Partnership noted its work programme.

