

Children and Young People Select Committee

A meeting of Children and Young People Select Committee was held on Wednesday 16th April 2025.

Present: Cllr Carol Clark (Chair), Cllr Barbara Inman (Vice-Chair), Cllr Robert Cook, Cllr Ray Godwin, Cllr Emily Tate, Cllr Alan Watson (sub for Cllr David Reynard), Cllr Sally Ann Watson and Cllr Katie Weston

Officers: Majella McCarthy, Mandie Rowlands, Jane Williams, Haleem Ghafoor and Judy Trainer

Also in attendance: Cllr Lisa Evans

Apologies: Cllr David Reynard and Cllr Stephen Richardson

CYP/1/25 Evacuation Procedure

The evacuation procedure was noted.

CYP/2/25 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

CYP/3/25 Minutes

AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2025 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

CYP/4/25 Monitoring of Recommendations - Scrutiny Review of Narrowing the Gap in Educational Attainment

The Select Committee received an action plan in respect of Recommendation 17:

Review cost of living responses to diminish impact

Review Cost of Living responses to diminish its impact, with specific reference to period poverty, food poverty and school uniform:

- Work with Child Poverty Network.
- Work with schools to better promote/communicate Cost of Living interventions.
- Encourage all schools to 'Poverty Proof the School Day'

The lead officer for implementing the recommendation attended the meeting and presented an action plan setting out planned actions and progress to date on a range of initiatives supporting delivery of the objective.

The launch of the Family Support Fund was highlighted which provided a family support service offering new funding to help children access everyday opportunities.

AGREED that the action plan be approved.

CYP/5/25 Scrutiny Review of Holidays are Fun (HAF)

The Select Committee reviewed the draft final report following its scrutiny of Holidays are Fun. The final report was scheduled to report to Cabinet in May.

The overall aim of the project had been to understand if HAF was inclusive of and attended by those families who most need it and the impact of the programme on family health and social and economic wellbeing.

The relevant Cabinet Member and Corporate Director were in attendance and provided positive feedback on the review outcomes.

Members highlighted some issues regarding communication with town and parish councils and the Select Committee agreed to add an additional recommendation to review and strengthen communications with them.

AGREED that, subject to the inclusion of the additional recommendation set out above, the final report be approved for submission to Cabinet.

CYP/6/25 Chair's Update and Select Committee Work Programme

AGREED that the work programme be noted.

Chair: