

People Select Committee Chair's Update – September 2025

Scrutiny Review – Partnership Working in Early Help	
Achieved since last meeting	<p>A Committee member attended the Children and Young People workshop in July, where partners in early help discussed the self-assessment descriptor which was taken from the Department for Education (DFE) Early Help Systems Guide, identifying what is working well and the priorities to work on. Effective coordination and communication between partners was highlighted.</p> <p>A focus group was held in August with service users of the Family Hub and Family Action to gain their experience of accessing and navigating the service and the online offer. It was felt that the Family Hubs provided lots of support but would like more services located in the Hubs. Similarly, issue-based information and links to professional services was seen as useful to place on the Facebook page.</p> <p>The Committee receive evidence from several partners that offer early help services in September: Cleveland Police who deliver PITSTOP, an early intervention triage service, Harrogate & District Foundation Trust who deliver the 0-19 services, and Family Action who are carrying out differing services and courses supporting families. Each partner discussed their offer and how they felt partnerships were working. Information sharing between different services was highlighted by all partners as key to ensuring effective Early Help support.</p>
Problems or concerns	None
Planned next month	The Committee will receive evidence from Catalyst and Stockton Parent Carers Forum.
On track – yes / no	Yes

Monitoring	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>Progress updates regarding previously completed reviews will be received by the Committee as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost of Living Response - November 2025 • Disabled Facilities Grant – November 2025
Requests for more information	None

Overview / Performance and Quality Assurance	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	No reports received since previous update.
Requests for more information	None

**People Select Committee
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Next Scrutiny Review
Post 16 Provision

2025-2026 Meetings (all 2.00pm unless stated)
Monday 6 October 2025 Monday 3 November 2025 Monday 8 December 2025 Monday 5 January 2026 Monday 2 February 2026 Monday 2 March 2026