

**PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Care Leavers EET**

| <b>SCRUTINY MONITORING – PROGRESS UPDATE</b> |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Review:</b>                               | <b>Scrutiny Review of Care Leavers EET</b> |
| <b>Link Officer/s:</b>                       | <b>David Willingham</b>                    |
| <b>Action Plan Agreed:</b>                   | <b>September 2021</b>                      |

Updates on the progress of actions in relation to agreed recommendations from previous scrutiny reviews are required approximately 12 months after the relevant Select Committee has agreed the Action Plan. Progress updates must be detailed, evidencing what has taken place regarding each recommendation – a grade assessing progress should then be given (see end of document for grading explanation). Any evidence on the impact of the actions undertaken should also be recorded for each recommendation.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Recommendation 7:</b>   | Has a Borough-Wide commitment to creating a sustainable model to increase access to work experience and job opportunities with local employers and partner agencies for young people leaving care through the creation of a dedicated brokerage resource which will focus on pro-actively finding, placing and maintaining young people in education, employment and training. |
| <b>Responsibility:</b>   | David Willingham/Rhona Bolland   |
| <b>Date:</b>   | 3 by April 2022 and minimum of 5 by April 2023 working across minimum of 4 areas<br>April 2022   |
| <b>Agreed Action:</b>  | Develop plan to identify and engage with relevant existing forums and strategic groups to improve work experience and job opportunities across the borough. Use Children's Services review as an opportunity to create dedicated brokerage coordination resource.  |
| <b>Agreed Success Measure:</b>   | Increased numbers of apprenticeships and opportunities within SBC. 3 by April 2022 and minimum of 5 by April 2023 working across minimum of 4 areas. At least 5 external employers are engaged and offer opportunities in first year, and continues to improve and is monitored through CIOC Strategic Group. Opportunities are coordinated through dedicated teams.           |
| <b>Evidence of Progress (September 2022):</b>  | 2 x Care Leavers working towards a Youth Support Apprenticeship in Children's Services<br>1 x Care Leaver working within Care for your Area  |
| <b>Assessment of Progress (September 2022):</b><br>(include explanation if required) | 2. On Track  |

## PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Care Leavers EET

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Evidence of Impact (September 2022):   | The review and recruitment is now complete and we have a new team who are keen to embed this work. we have seen a change in the way teams think about young people and the importance of focusing on EET.  |
| Evidence of Progress (February 2023):  | 1 x Care Leavers working towards a Youth Support Apprenticeship in Children's Services<br>1 x Care Leaver working within Care for your Area  |
| Assessment of Progress (February 2023):<br>(include explanation if required) | <p>3. Slipped</p> <p>The co-production of the CIOC/CL strategy will help the Local Authority focus on the priorities on the 'family business' and a priority plan will be formed as part of the ongoing work.</p> <p>Work is also re-aligned to ensure our in-house Pathway Team are engaging with our work ready young people, this is on an outreach basis enabling workers and young people to meet in a place suitable and comfortable for the young person.</p> <p>As a Local Authority we need to look wider than Children's Services for work experience placements and Apprenticeship opportunities: greater variety of opportunity and less sensitivity of case work for young people who have previously received a service. This would allow for more meaningful work and job shadowing across all Directorates. We also need to consider more entry-level jobs elsewhere in SBC.</p> |
| Evidence of Impact (February 2023):  | Children's Services Team is working together on this agenda and using the Employer Engagement Worker role is allowing us to have those conversations with the external employees that serve Stockton-on-Tees.  |
| Evidence of Progress (November 2023):  | Progress is ongoing but further work is required at a corporate level to ensure we have commitment across all directorates to provide opportunities.   |
| Assessment of Progress (November 2023):<br>(include explanation if required) | <p>2. On-Track</p> <p>This is a council wide response and requires commitment from CMT to drive the agenda forward.</p> <p>Ongoing work with the DWP, and the draft protocol that needs management agreement will allow for a collaborative approach to move young people into the labour market and away from the benefit system.</p>   |
| Evidence of Impact (November 2023):  | Children's Services have the evidence of how this has been successful, and we need to use this as the blueprint across the council.  |
| Evidence of Progress (July 2024):  | <p>As of 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024, we have:</p> <p>6 young people on work placements within the council</p> <p>4 of those have secured apprenticeships to start September 2024</p> <p>1 young person is doing work placement alongside policing degree.</p> <p>1 young person accepted on degree to start in September and using work placement as work experience.</p> <p>3 young people are currently midway through there apprenticeship that started September 2023</p>  |

## PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Care Leavers EET

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | 1 young person completed apprenticeship, secured a full-time post and is now working in our edge of care team support other young people who are at risk of becoming care experienced.  |
| Assessment of Progress (July 2024):<br><small>(include explanation if required)</small> | 1 Fully achieved  |
| Evidence of Impact (July 2024):   | <p>Paper to be presented to cabinet on 16<sup>th</sup> July with recommendation to endorse additional employability support for care experienced young people aged 16-25, including prioritising access to apprenticeships and job vacancies and guaranteed interviews for those meeting essential criteria.</p> <p>The succession of this will form the basis of how we approach external partners and local employees to progress beyond the council.</p> |

|   |                            |                      |                     |                          |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Assessment of Progress Gradings:</b> | <b>1</b><br>Fully Achieved | <b>2</b><br>On-Track | <b>3</b><br>Slipped | <b>4</b><br>Not Achieved |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|