

CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL – WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

MEMBERS: Cllr Cahal Burke, Cllr Lisa Holmes, Cllr Donna Bellamy, Cllr Sheikh Ullah, Cllr Darren O'Donovan, Fatima Khan-Shah (Education Co-Optee), Dale O'Neill (Co-Optee)

SUPPORT: Yolande Myers, Governance & Democratic Engagement Officer

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION		
ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
1. Improvement Journey	<p>Maintain a focus of the improvement journey in Kirklees to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the letters sent to the Director of Children's Services following each Ofsted Visit • Considering the implementation of the improvement journey, and how this aligns with the recommendations of the Children's Ad-hoc Scrutiny Panel. • To consider the Sufficiency Strategy of local placements to ensure that children are not placed outside of the area 	<p>That the Panel are confident that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That children in Kirklees are safe. • The service is one that is considered good by Ofsted. <p><u>Panel meeting 11 June 2018</u> The Panel considered the draft strategy and action plan on the sufficiency of placements until the end of the calendar year 2019. The Panel agreed :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That a table with statistics relating to the numbers of children in Local Authority in care should be brought to each Children's Scrutiny Panel. 2. That the Panel support the principles contained within the draft Sufficiency Strategy.
2. Special Educational Needs (to include Home to School Transport)	<p>Monitor the Self Evaluation Form for SEND, in preparation for an Ofsted Inspection to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. key indicators to ascertain progress, plus an action plan to show where progress is being made 2. Engagement with parents – initially the focus could support their engagement with services. The Panel will support SENDACT with this. <p>The SEND report will be considered by the Panel and implementation of the recommendations will be reviewed on</p>	<p>That the Panel are confident that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children with SEND are receiving the appropriate support. • That SENDACT are fully prepared for the Ofsted Inspection. • That SENDACT is a service that is regarded as 'good', with partners working alongside to ensure there is no delay for children. <p>It is anticipated that the Panel will be asked to formally sign off the final Ad-Hoc report on Special Educational Needs early in 2019 – date to be confirmed.</p>

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	<p>a regular basis. Six-monthly progress report to the Panel in August 2019 – to be confirmed.</p> <p>Monitor the implementation of the Home to School Transport Policy to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requesting that the final draft version of the policy be shared with the panel. 	<p>That the School Transport policies offer the best outcomes to ensure children can attend school, with the finite resources available to the Council.</p>
3. CSE and Safeguarding	<p>Monitor issues relating to CSE and Safeguarding following the disbanding of the CSE Panel.</p> <p>The Panel would like to see:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection on lessons learned • details of the current good practice • anonymised narrative examples of good practice OR illustrative narratives of good practice • How does communication / engagement with ward councillors when incidents occur in their ward take place? Could this be improved? • Overall areas for improvement and or next steps <p>The 2nd report will be from the Public Protection team. The Panel would like to know what work is being done with takeaways, accommodation providers in training them on CSE. They may also include how the training of taxi drivers is undertaken.</p>	<p>That the Panel is assured that lessons had been learned from previous cases of CSE.</p> <p>That the Panel is convinced that the best practices identified following the review by Dr Peel are being implemented in Kirklees, and ensure good outcomes for vulnerable children.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting on 10th September 2018</u> An initial discussion took place at the Panel meeting on Monday 10th September 2018. However the issue will be considered further at a future additional Panel meeting – date to be confirmed.</p> <p>That as many takeaways and accommodation providers as possible receive CSE training. That these providers begin to feel more comfortable and better informed as to how and when to report potential safeguarding issues.</p>
4. KSCB	<p>Review the improvements of the KSCB.</p>	<p>That the Board is considered as ‘good’ and that the Panel is satisfied that it is effective and accountable.</p>

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		<p>That the Panel is convinced that the best practices identified following the review by Dr Peel are being implemented in Kirklees, and ensure good outcomes for vulnerable children.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting on 9th November 2018</u> The Panel considered the draft KSCB annual report.</p> <p>The Panel will consider an update report on KSCB at the first meeting of the 2019/20 municipal year.</p>
5. Children and Young People's Plan	To receive the final draft plan once completed.	That the Panel is assured that the voice of the child is heard in Kirklees and that they have the ability to influence process and policy where appropriate.
6. Visit to Duty & Advice	The Panel will visit staff at Duty & Advice to seek feedback on service changes and working arrangements	<p>The Panel is assured that staff are well supported to do their job and that retention rates improve to those seen in other 'good' Local Authority areas.</p> <p>The Panel is clear that staff have been trained on the chosen Social Work Model and the newly implemented IT system.</p> <p>Visit to staff in Duty and Advice Team – to be arranged.</p>
7. Front Door Policy	Review progress of the Kirklees Front Door Policy to include:	That the Panel is assured that head teachers feel confident in the front door policy, and have seen a positive change.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visiting a head teacher's forum to obtain feedback on their experiences of the front door policy. • To seek the experience of social work staff at the visit to Duty and & Advice. 	
8. Early Support (Edge of Care)	<p>Maintain an overview of the work done to improve the Edge of Care in Kirklees to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy for Partnership working - Early Help • Multi Systemic Therapy • Family Mental Health Service • Family Conferencing • To seek the experiences of head teachers on the visit to the HT forum • Examples of how the interventions are working • Issue of future funding 	<p>The Panel is ensured that the Edge of Care model in Kirklees is clarified and enhanced, and should including consideration of whether good practice from other areas might be effectively adapted for use in Kirklees.</p> <p>That as part of clarifying the Edge of Care approach, the role of Schools is considered and schools have the opportunity to be part of the approach</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 10th September 2018</u> The Panel considered a report on the development of the Early Support Strategy, the Family Support Service and provide information on the 3 programmes (Family Group Conferences, Multi Systemic Therapy and the Family Mental Health Service) funded through the Department for Education Innovation Fund. The Panel agreed the following actions:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Members of the Panel be invited to attend the information event on 2nd October 2018. 2. That a report be brought to the Panel on the development of schools as community hubs by the end of 2018. 3. That a report on the success of the early support strategy, to include details of the partnership working arrangements, be brought to the Panel early in 2019 – date to be determined.

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9. Elective Home Education	<p>The ad-hoc EHE Scrutiny Panel continues and has received evidence from witnesses and visits including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visiting parents who currently EHE their children <p>Further evidence will be sought from:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C & K Careers • Visiting Leeds to see their approach • Considering policies and procedures in other areas of the county. 	<p>The Panel is ensured that that children who are home educated receive the best offer from Kirklees council.</p> <p>That the Panel is content that any new Elective Home Educating policy is updated and fit for purpose.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting on 14th January 2019</u> The Panel will consider an update report on the Ad-Hoc Panel on Elective Home Education and which will outline the work that is still outstanding.</p>
10. Learning Strategy Refresh	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
11. CAMHS Transformation Plan	To maintain an overview of the work of CAMHS in Kirklees, particularly to update on the autism assessment waiting list.	<p>That the Panel is satisfied that CAMHS continue to improve the service offer, and that the waiting lists for autism assessments continue to reduce.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting on 14th January 2019</u> The CAMHS local transformation plan refresh will be considered by the Panel for discussion and information. The refresh includes an update on Autism assessments and the current position in Kirklees.</p>
12. Statistical Information /	A standing item for each meeting containing details of how many children are in care, and particularly how many are placed out of area.	The Panel is satisfied that the Early Help initiatives are having an impact on the number of children in care.

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table relating to children in care		That children are placed in foster care as near to home as possible, unless they are placed with family connected persons which may be a further distance.
13. Virtual School	<p>The Panel would like to see some case studies of children who have been supported by the Virtual School and an update on the work of the Virtual School and an explanation of its statutory responsibilities – report to Panel on 22nd February 2019.</p> <p>That foster carers be invited to attend a Panel meeting, to outline their experiences of the Virtual School.</p>	That the Panel has a clear understanding of how the virtual school works, and is content with the progress of children that the virtual school supports.
14. Schools as Community Hubs	<p>The Panel would like to monitor how Schools as Community Hubs are working, how they were coping with any pressures as a result of the new early help initiatives and see examples of good practice.</p> <p>The Panel would also like to speak to a number of schools to ensure that they are receiving the correct support for the additional responsibilities that they have taken on and be satisfied that the best outcomes for children were being achieved.</p>	That schools are supported in the additional responsibilities and that the best outcomes for children are achieved.
15. Performance Information	The Panel will continue to monitor the performance of the Learning Early Support Service and Child Protection & Family Support.	The latest performance reports will be considered informally by the Panel as a standing item.
16. Children's Home Visit	Members of the Panel will visit Copthorne House. The date has yet to be confirmed.	