

# **CHILDREN'S HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND EDUCATION OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, 22 JULY 2015**

PRESENT:- Councillors Gemma McCracken (Chair), Michael Bray, Fionuala Foley, John Haines, Cathy Martyn, , Teresa Page, Maureen Penny, James Robbins, Eric Shaw, Carol Shelley, Nadine Watts, Steve Weisinger and Julie Wright, Paul Sunners (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education, Pete Rowe (Healthwatch), Steve Colledge (Swindon Association of Secondary Headteachers), Steve Henderson (Equalities Advisory Forum).

Apologies for absence were received from David Dawson (Catholic Diocese), Mary Cosker (Healthwatch), Alison Paul (Swindon Association of Special School Headteachers).

Also Present: Councillor Fionuala Foley, Cabinet Member for Children's Services.

## **1. Appointment of Vice-Chair**

Resolved – That Councillor Maureen Penny be Vice-Chair of this Committee for the Municipal Year 2015/16.

## **2. Declaration of Interest**

Councillor James Robbins declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest as he was a Foster Carer.

Councillors Julie Wright, Nadine Watts, Maureen Penny, Gemma McCracken, Carol Shelley and Paul Sunners declared personal and non-prejudicial interests as they were school governors.

## **3. Public Question Time**

No public questions were submitted for this meeting.

## **4. Appointment of Co-optees**

The Director of Law and Democratic Services submitted a report concerning the appointment of co-optees to the Children's Health, Social Care and Education Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the Municipal Year 2015/16.

Resolved – (1) That this Committee confirms the appointment of the following representatives:

- (a) David Dawson as the Catholic Church Diocese representative.
- (b) The appointment of a Church of England Diocese representative as and when nominations were received.
- (c) The appointment of 2 Parent Governor Representatives as and when nominations were received.

(2) That the appointment of the following non-voting representatives be confirmed:

- (a) Alison Paul (Swindon Association of Special School Headteachers).
- (b) Simon Cowley (Swindon Association of Primary Headteachers).
- (c) Steve Colledge (Swindon Association of Secondary Headteachers).
- (d) Steve Henderson (Equalities Advisory Forum).
- (e) Mary Cosker (Swindon Healthwatch).
- (f) Paul Sunners (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education).

## **5. Children's Services Performance Report**

The Board Director, Commissioning, submitted a report providing this Committee with an update on performance and key issues relating to commissioning and performance of Children's Services.

A key purpose of Children's Health, Social Care and Education Overview & Scrutiny Committee was to hold Commissioners of Children's Health and Social Care Services to account.

Any Commissioner of Children's Health and Social Care Services in Swindon was required to provide information on the planning and provision of children's health and social care services within the Borough and consult with the Committee on any planned substantial changes or developments to service provision.

The Committee noted members corporate parenting responsibilities, work undertaken regarding looked after children and the areas of expertise that could be offered by the Corporate Parenting Board. They further discussed the importance of building better relationships with academies.

Resolved – That the next quarter performance report include information on:

- (1) Fixed term exclusions by Ward.
- (2) Children in out of borough placements.
- (3) The percentage of children dropping out of education/employment.
- (4) Further to (3) above, actions being taken to address this.
- (5) The number of children home schooled that are in the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND).
- (6) Further to (5) above, information process broken down by Ward.
- (7) Further to (5) above, actions being taken to support this group.
- (8) Any increase or decrease in sexual health problems.

## **6. Work Programme 2015/16**

The Director of Law and Democratic Services submitted a report concerning a work programme that details the activities that this Committee will be undertaking during the forthcoming Municipal Year.

The work programme details the various topics and issues that each Committee intends to look into during the coming year, with the aim of producing evidence based recommendations intended to provide service improvements for Cabinet and external agencies/bodies to consider.

Resolved – (1) That the work programme, as set out in the Appendix to the report be agreed, subject to the following amendments:

"Mind the Gap" is moved from December to September 2015.

"Youth Offending Team" is moved from April 2016 to December 2015.

(2) That representatives from Primary and Secondary Schools be invited to attend the February 2016 concerning the School's curriculum.

(3) That the Clinical Commissioning Group submit a report to the April 2016 meeting concerning commissioning and health services.

(4) That members be requested to submit questions for a Q&A session with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services at the Scrutiny Meeting to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

(5) That the minutes of the Health and Well Being Board be submitted to this Committee.

(6) That Councillors, Members and stakeholders submitting areas for consideration under this Committee's Work Programme for the Municipal Year, 2015/16, be thanked.

(7) That, the Committee Officer be requested to circulate an invitation to all members and stakeholders requesting they volunteer to serve on the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Task Group.

## **7. Dates of Future Meetings**

Meetings of the Committee are scheduled for the remainder of 2015/16 as follows:

Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2015 at 6.00 p.m. in Committee Room 6.  
Theme of Meeting: Health.

Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 at 6.00 p.m. in Committee Room 6.  
Theme of Meeting: Safeguarding/ Child Protection.

Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016 at 6.00 p.m. in Committee Room 6.  
Theme of Meeting: Education.

Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 6.00 p.m. in Committee Room 6.  
Theme of Meeting: School Place Planning.