



North Tyneside Council

Children, Education and Skills Sub Committee

12 January 2018

To be held on **Monday 22 January 2018 in room 0.01**, Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY **commencing at 6.00pm.**

| Agenda Item | Page |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Apologies for absence To receive apologies for absence from the meeting. | |
| 2. Appointment of substitutes To be informed of the appointment of any substitute members for the meeting. | |
| 3. To receive any declarations of interest You are invited to declare any registerable and/or non-registerable interests in matters appearing on the agenda, and the nature of that interest. You are also requested to complete the Declarations of Interests card available at the meeting and return it to the Democratic Services Officer before leaving the meeting. You are also invited to disclose any dispensation from the requirement to declare any registerable and/or non-registerable interests that have been granted to you in respect of any matters appearing on the agenda. | |
| 4. Minutes To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2017. | 3 |

Continued overleaf

Members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting and receive information about it.

North Tyneside Council wants to make it easier for you to get hold of the information you need. We are able to provide our documents in alternative formats including Braille, audiotape, large print and alternative languages.

For further information please call 0191 643 5322.

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------|
| 5. | Eating Disorders | - |
| | To receive a presentation on the service and support offered to children, young people and their families in relation to eating disorders. | |
| 6. | Children and Young People's Plan | To follow |
| | To receive a mid-year progress report on the Children and Young People's Plan 2014-18. | |
| 7. | Ofsted Inspection Update | 10 |
| | To receive an update on the progress made in implementing the Action Plan produced in response to the Ofsted Inspection of Children's Services. | |
| 8. | Work Programme 2017/18 update | 18 |
| | To receive an update on the sub-committee's work programme. | |

To all Members of the Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee

Councillor Alison Austin
 Councillor Pamela Brooks
 Councillor Joanne Cassidy
 Councillor Karen Clark
 Councillor Muriel Green
 Councillor Karen Lee

Councillor Andy Newman
 Councillor Pat Oliver (Deputy Chair)
 Councillor Margaret Reynolds
 Councillor Matthew Thirlaway (Chair)
 Councillor Alison Waggott-Fairley
 Councillor Frances Weetman

Parent Governor Representatives

Mrs Michelle Ord

Churches Representatives

Rev. Michael Vine, Church of England

Mr Gerry O'Hanlon, Roman Catholic Church

Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee

20 November 2017

Present: Councillor M Thirlaway (Chair)
Councillors J Cassidy, K Clark, M Green, K Lee,
P Oliver, J O'Shea, and F Weetman.

Rev. M Vine Church Representative
Mrs M Ord Parent Governor Representative

CES31/11/17 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Brooks, A Newman, A Waggott-Fairley and Mr G O'Hanlon, parent governor representative.

CES32/11/17 Substitute Members

Pursuant to the Council's Constitution the appointment of the following substitute member was reported:

Councillor J O'Shea for Councillor P Brooks.

CES33/11/17 Declarations of Interest

In relation to CES36/11/17, SEND Local Offer, Councillor P Oliver declared a non-registerable personal interest as a member of her family received SEND support from the Council.

CES34/11/17 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 October 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

CES35/11/17 Signs of Safety

At its meeting on 17 July 2017 the sub-committee had received a report which introduced Signs of Safety, a practice model for children in need of a statutory assessment being adopted within North Tyneside Local Authority and partner agencies. The report provided a basic overview of what Signs of Safety was, how it would be implemented and the current position in respect of training (previous minute CES15/07/17).

The Safeguarding Manager attended the meeting to provide Members with an update on the progress in implementing Signs of Safety and also to conduct an exercise with Members to help them understand how practitioners used the model.

The Committee was informed that 404 professionals had attended a two day introduction training event, with 75 professionals having undertaken the five day advanced training

course. Four members of staff had been identified to take forward events in 2018 which would be a North Tyneside devised and delivered two day introduction to the model. Feedback from training events had been mostly positive but it was acknowledged that not all members of staff had embraced the model.

A steering group had been established and met on a weekly basis to ensure progress was being made, the project plan was on track and that the processes were compatible with the implementation of Liquid Logic.

In response to a question it was clarified that Northumbria University had been commissioned to conduct interviews with staff now and again in 12/18 months time to establish whether practice had changed and also if anyone had amended their view of the model, either in support or against.

Before undertaking the exercise, the Members were reminded that the six practice principles of the model were:

1. Understand the position of each family member
2. Find exceptions to the abuse/harm
3. Discover family strengths and resources – including family networks
4. Focus on goals
5. Scale safety and progress
6. Assess willingness, confidence and capacity

And that the four domains for enquiry were:

1. What are we worried about (Past harm, future danger and complicating factors)
2. What's working well (existing strengths and safety)?
3. Where are we on a scale of 0 to 10 where 10 means there is enough safety for CP authorities to close the case and 0 means it is certain that the child will be (re) abused (Judgement)
4. What needs to happen (Future safety)

Using the four domains for enquiry Members were asked to complete a form with an example that they thought of themselves. Members were not asked to feedback to the group.

In response to questions, the term 'find exceptions to abuse/harm' was explained and Members assured that the focus on safeguarding remained central, thresholds were still linked to risk, monthly supervision still happened and escalation routes remained in place. Signs of Safety was seen as a more effective tool for getting parents and carers to change their behaviours than previous practice and the voice of the child was still key; for example, it was the child who identified who their 'safe' person would be.

The Chair thanked the Safeguarding Manager for her attendance at the meeting and for taking the Members through the exercise.

CES36/11/17 The SEND Local Offer

The sub-committee received a report on the progress made on implementing the Local Offer in North Tyneside. The Commissioning Manager for the People Based Commissioning Team attended the meeting to present the report and answer any questions.

The sub-committee was informed that under the Children and Families Act 2014, the Authority was required to develop and publish a 'Local Offer' setting out the support available across education, health and social care for children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) up to age 25.

The Local Offer was essentially a website which listed the services comprising the Local Offer. The services in North Tyneside fell under six broad headings: early years; education; health; social care; leisure; and information, advice and support. The Local Offer had two key roles:

1. To provide up-to-date, accessible information about provision and how parents, carers and young people with SEND could access it. Having an accurate and comprehensive directory of services was therefore an important element of the Local Offer; and
2. The Local Offer should be used as a tool to measure how well services meet local need and achieved the outcomes set out in the joint commissioning arrangements. Local authorities had a duty to publish comments from children, their parents, and young people on the Local Offer and any actions they intended to take in response. These views and comments would also be used to inform future commissioning decisions.

The outcome expected from this approach to commissioning was that the portfolio of services and support evolved to reflect the changing needs of children and young people with SEND and their families. This aspect of the Local Offer was part of the Authority's broader responsibility to keep under review all the educational and training provision and social care provision for children and young people with SEND.

Progress on implementing the Local Offer was overseen by the SEND Strategic Board which included representation from the Authority, the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, schools, and the Parent/Carer Forum. The Board had oversight of the Self-Evaluation Framework (SEF) and monitored the implementation of the next phase of work on the Local Offer and progress in addressing the key issues identified in the SEF.

The key milestones achieved over the past 12 months were:

- a) Joint working with the Parent Carer Forum to co-produce the Local Offer. This was identified as a strength in the Self Evaluation Framework (SEF) for the SEND Area Inspection.
- b) The Local Offer was being promoted by a variety of routes and media including through events hosted by the Parent Carer Forum and publicity in the Council's resident's magazine.
- c) The Local Offer website had been refreshed and aligned with the Sign Directory to enable users to navigate seamlessly between the two sources of information.
- d) The Disabled Children's Register has been launched on-line and integrated with the Local Offer website.
- e) Partners had been engaged and briefed to increase their involvement in the Local Offer. This had included raising the awareness of schools by briefing Head Teachers and Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators (SENCOs) and health partners e.g.

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and Health Watch North Tyneside.

- f) Work was underway on a new Joint Commissioning Strategy with the CCG.

The activities to be delivered and the milestones to be achieved over the next 12 months in the next phase of implementation were:

- a) To develop the content, usability and levels of usage of the Local Offer website and explore the potential to maximise user engagement e.g. by adding graphics.
- b) To undertake a critical evaluation of the Local Offer website with the Parent Carer Forum and making further refinements in light of feedback from users.
- c) To continue to work to populate the Local Offer website with information about SEND services and support.
- d) To monitor usage of the website against key performance indicators (e.g. website hits and levels of feedback received).
- e) To continue to monitor and raise awareness of the Local Offer through inspection fieldwork, to include discussions with elected members, local area officers from health, education and social care, meeting with leaders of early-years settings, schools, colleges and specialist services.
- f) To increase the engagement and awareness of parents and carers and children and young people.
- g) To publish comments from children, their parents, and young people on the Local Offer and the action to be taken in response.
- h) To complete the Joint Commissioning Strategy and implement joint commissioning arrangements with the CCG.
- i) To strengthen arrangements for collecting information about needs, including via the Disabled Children's Register and improving the intelligence available about needs to inform commissioning decisions.
- j) To report progress to the SEND Strategic Board on progress in implementing the Local Offer action plan to ensure that any problems were addressed and opportunities for raising awareness and engagement grasped.

It was acknowledged that the website was flat and unimaginative and improvements to it were needed as SEND provision was complicated and it was essential to help parents, carers and young people understand and use the website. Monitoring of its use and activity had begun and once the collection and use of data had been improved this could be used to make decisions on commissioning and shaping the Local Offer.

In response to a question on the awareness of parents of the Local Offer and its purpose, the sub-committee was assured that a lot of work had been undertaken to ensure that people who worked with parents and carers knew about it and promoted it; this included SENCO's, headteachers, the locality teams, young people and other parents and carers. Every effort had been made to engage with as wide a group of people as possible and the team was working with the Authority's communications team to push awareness even wider and there was an emerging improvement plan. It was suggested that a leaflet or

information sheet explaining what the Local Offer was and how it could be accessed would help people who were hard to reach to access the information and support available by leaving it in places where they could pick it up.

The Chair thanked the Commissioning Manager for his attendance and presentation to the committee.

(After the discussion on this matter, Mrs M Ord left the meeting.)

CES37/11/17 Child Sexual Exploitation Update

The Senior Manager for Safeguarding and Children's Services attended the meeting to provide the sub-committee with its regular update on the work being undertaken to tackle child sexual exploitation (CSE) in North Tyneside. The report provided information relating to individual cases and what work was being undertaken across the Authority and with partners since its last update in July 2017.

The sub-committee was informed that the definition for CSE had been revised by the Department of Education in February 2017 and the Sexual Exploitation sub group (SEG) had incorporated the new definition into a revised Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) CSE procedure. The definition was now as follows:

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

Nine young people were currently identified as high risk of CSE and were monitored through the Missing, Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Panel (MSET), this was a multi-agency panel which was chaired by the police and vice chaired by Children's social care. The panel reviewed the risk assessment and the risk reduction plans for the high risk young people.

A social worker was still seconded to the Sanctuary Team which gave greater insight into new risk, vulnerabilities and identifying networks and the sub-committee was assured that no children or adults from North Tyneside had been linked to the recent court cases in Newcastle relating to CSE.

The risk assessment tool now included education and GP details to ensure a clear process for communicating information. The latest training developments were also reported; this included that all teams in Sport and Leisure had received CSE training and that all licensed hackney carriage and private hire drivers in North Tyneside would be expected to complete CSE training before being issued with a new licence and also undertake refresher training every three years.

In response to questions it was confirmed that the nine young people currently identified as high risk of CSE were all looked after children, with one residing out of the borough; that one of the reasons the Sexual Exploitation sub group had formed from the merged children's and adults sub group to ensure no-one fell through the cracks at eighteen; and

the checks and balances of the on-line training for licensed drivers was explained.

The sub-committee was also reminded of the difference between child sexual exploitation and child abuse in a family environment and the work of Bright Futures and SCARPA in helping raise awareness of young people to enable them to protect themselves and their friends from exploitation and to help them articulate their experiences.

It was **agreed** to note the updated information on the work being undertaken to raise awareness of, and protect children from, sexual exploitation and the implementation of the recommendations from the sub-committee's Child Sexual Exploitation Sub Group.

CES38/11/17 Implementation of ADHD recommendations

The sub-committee received a report which updated it on the progress made against the recommendations from the Support for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in North Tyneside Sub Group report submitted to Cabinet in January 2017 (minute CAB117/01/17).

The sub-committee was presented with a table setting out the actions Cabinet had agreed to take in response to the recommendations and details of the progress that had been made implementing the actions.

The sub-committee was informed that due to changes in staffing there had been delays in the implementation of the recommendations, which had also had an impact on the future work required with health colleagues regarding the collection of ADHD data. The Action Plan and progress to date had also been shared with Healthwatch.

The sub-committee was pleased to note that now both SENCO's and headteachers could refer directly to CAMHS and that the CCG had funded one dedicated crisis appointment per day.

In response to questions the sub-committee was informed that it was believed that all schools had taken up the Emotionally Healthy Schools resource pack and confirmation of the exact number would be provided after the meeting.

It was pointed out by a member of the ADHD sub group that the wording in point 7 was different to recommendation 7 of the sub group; the sub group had wanted dedicated closed sessions at leisure centres for children with ADHD and their families not just to offer them Ease cards and encourage attendance. Information was requested on how many parents had taken up the offer and if they had found it useful. In response, the sub-committee was informed that the Parent/Carer Forum was looking at this and how it could be reflected in the Local Offer and a recent event had been held in Leisure services to inform staff about ASD and ADHD.

It was **agreed** that the work undertaken by the Council and its partners in response to the report and recommendations of the sub-committee be noted.

CES39/11/17 Work Programme 2017/18 update

The sub-committee was provided with an update on its work programme and the progress of its in-depth investigation into the transition process for children with disabilities to adult services.

The sub-committee was reminded that their work programme had been agreed in June 2017 and had received all reports expected. The items of business for the November, January and March meetings had increased which had included the addition of reports on the SEND Local Offer, the Ofsted Action Plan and an update on the work being undertaken at Seaton Burn Community College.

The sub group examining the transition process between children and adult services for disabled young people was expected to submit its report to the January 2018 meeting of the sub-committee.

During discussion on the next subject for an in-depth investigation it was proposed that an examination into how schools used their Pupil Premium funding and how the spending and the impact of the spending was recorded would be a suitable topic. Another proposal was to examine how permanently excluded pupils were educated and how their progress was monitored.

Agreed (1) to note the progress against, and additions to, the Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee's work programme for 2017/18;
(2) that an initial scoping exercise of a sub group to investigate how schools used Pupil Premium funding be undertaken and presented to the January 2018 meeting of the Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee; and
(3) that the Chair and Deputy Chair discuss with appropriate officers the best way for the sub-committee to examine how permanently excluded pupils were educated and how their progress was monitored.

Meeting: Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee

Date: 22 January 2018

Title: Ofsted Inspection Update

Author: Nik Flavell, Senior Manager

Tel: 0191 643 7219

Service: Children, Young People and Learning

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

Between 27 February 2017 and 23 March 2017 North Tyneside Council's services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers were inspected by Ofsted as part of their national inspection programme. Ofsted published their findings by way of Report on 13 June 2017. Ofsted judged the overall effectiveness of children's services in North Tyneside to be 'Good', placing the Authority within the top performing Children's Services within the country.

Ofsted made seven formal recommendations to the Authority about areas for development. All areas were known to Officers and improvement work was on-going at the point of inspection. The Authority was required to provide an 'Action Plan' relating to the recommendations for approval by the Secretary of State and Her Majesty's Chief Inspector and did so within the required timescale on 19 September 2017. The Action Plan seeks to deliver improvements to services for vulnerable children and young people within the Borough.

The purpose of this report is to update the sub-committee as to progress achieved in relation to the twenty three identified actions and to identify areas to progress during the next period.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the sub-committee:

- note and approve the progress made in relation to the Action Plan devised by Officers to address the recommendations of the Ofsted Inspection of North Tyneside's services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers; and
- note the actions requiring further progress during the next three month period.

3. Information

Background to the Inspection

- 3.1 Between 27 February 2017 and 23 March 2017 North Tyneside Council's services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers were

inspected by Ofsted (the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills) as part of their national inspection programme.

- 3.2 The inspection took place over a four week period. The inspection team consisted of four of Her Majesty's Inspectors from Ofsted and three additional inspectors. The inspection team were onsite for fifteen working days and read case files, observed staff working with children and families and other professionals and discussed with staff and safeguarding partners the help and care given to children and young people. They also talked directly to children, young people and their families.
- 3.3 The Inspection focused on the overall effectiveness of services based upon judgments about:
- the experiences and progress of children who need help and protection;
 - the experiences and progress of children looked after and achieving permanence;
 - adoption performance;
 - the experiences and progress of care leavers; and
 - leadership, management and governance.

Outcome of the Inspection

- 3.4 Ofsted published their findings by way of Report on 13 June 2017. Ofsted judged the overall effectiveness of children's services in North Tyneside to be 'Good'. Ofsted define this grading as being achieved when inspectors find work of good quality, with some outstanding elements and which is delivering measurably improved outcomes. This overall judgment was based on the following findings:
- the experiences and progress of children who need help and protection were judged to be 'Good';
 - the experiences and progress of children looked after and achieving permanence were judged to be 'Good';
 - adoption performance was judged to be 'Good'; and
 - leadership, management and governance was judged to be 'Good'.
- 3.5 Ofsted judged the experiences and progress of care leavers in North Tyneside to be 'Outstanding'. Ofsted define this grading as being achieved when inspectors find work of the highest quality which is delivering improved outcomes that exceed expectations.
- 3.6 Alongside these very positive findings, Ofsted formally identified seven recommended areas for development. All areas were known to Officers and improvement work was on-going at the point of inspection.

Formal Recommendations requiring action by the Authority following Inspection

- 3.7 The formally identified seven recommended areas for development were:
1. Ensure that assessments are regularly updated to reflect the changing needs of children and that they fully consider children's identities, contingencies and research.
 2. Ensure that support to children who are privately fostered is timely, managed well and effectively meets the needs of children.
 3. Improve the timeliness with which designated officers complete investigations.

4. Improve the oversight of IRO's (Independent Review Officers) of the progress of plans between child protection conferences and between children looked after reviews, and evidence this on the child's records.
5. Ensure that life story work and later life letters are of consistently good quality and completed in a timely way to ensure that children and their adopters have a clear understanding of a child's history in preparation for placement and for later life understanding.
6. Ensure that supervision for all staff is consistently of good quality because it is reflective, directive, regular and well recorded.
7. Ensure that actions identified as a result of audits are specific and measurable and have timescales.

Response by the Authority

- 3.8 The Authority devised and submitted an Action Plan to address the seven recommendations to the Secretary of State and Her Majesty's Chief Inspector on 19 September 2017, within the prescribed timescale.

Progress to Date

- 3.9 The Authority identified twenty three specific actions to address the seven recommendations. A matrix with these actions and a brief summary of progress to date is appended to this Report.
- 3.10 In summary, of the twenty three actions, eleven have been successfully completed within the period. Of the remaining twelve, five are dependent upon the implementation of the new Case Management System (Liquid Logic LCS) which is scheduled to 'Go Live' within the next quarter. One action, relating to use of a new post within Children's Social Care to progress work, has been discontinued due to a change in workforce planning with the responsibilities for the work passing to another Officer. The final six are all work in progress and will be delivered in the next quarter.

4. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Post-Inspection Action Plan: Update for First Three Months Activity (Oct-Dec 2017).

5. Background documents

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the office of the author. This report is also available electronically at:

- [Ofsted Report - Inspection of Children's Services.](#)



North Tyneside Council

Post-Inspection Action Plan: Update for First Three Months Activity (Oct-Dec 2017)

| | Ofsted Recommendation | Actions that will be taken | Update | Status |
|----|--|--|--|--------|
| 1. | Ensure that assessments are regularly updated to reflect the changing needs of children and that they fully consider children's identities, contingencies and research. | a. Early Help Assessments to be regularly and systematically updated of the assessment of a child's needs. | Early Help Assessments are regularly and systematically updated following every Review (6-12 Weeks). | G |
| | | b. The Single Assessment to be used as the updating Social Work Report to Review Child Protection Conference and Looked After Review, facilitating the regular and systematic updating of the assessment of a child's needs. | This significant change in practice will be delivered when LCS is introduced on 26 February 2018. LCS has been configured to reflect this approach to Single Assessment updates. | A |
| | | c. Training of all practitioners undertaking assessment in how to clearly record a child's ethnic, cultural and religious heritage, disability and communication needs and how to consider the implications of these factors in assessment, planning and intervention. | This training will be delivered after 31 March 2018 due to other training priorities including Signs of Safety and LCS Training. | A |

| | Ofsted Recommendation | Actions that will be taken | Update | Status |
|----|--|--|---|--------|
| | | d. Training of all practitioners in the Signs of Safety model of practice, including how to construct clear and concise 'Danger Statements' and 'Bottom Lines' with which to inform contingency arrangements that manage risk effectively. | All Children's Social Care and Early Help Practitioners have received a two-day training on Signs of Safety, with a number also attending a five-day advanced course to embed the model of practice across services. | G |
| | | e. All Social Workers to have access to the 'ccInform' research website, awareness of the contribution that it can make to high quality assessment and intervention and trained on how use the website to inform their practice | All Children's Social Care Social Workers have been provided with a licence with which to access the research website. | G |
| 2. | Ensure that support to children who are privately fostered is timely, managed well and effectively meets the needs of children. | e. Designated Manager for Private Fostering responsibilities will transfer to another manager | On 13 November 2017 as part of changes to the structure of Children's Social Care, the Designated Manager for Private Fostering transferred to a named MASH Team Managers improving the initial response to private fostering arrangements. | G |
| | | f. The management of Private Fostering Notifications, Assessment, Review and Statutory Visiting to be transferred to the MASH and Social Work Assessment Teams to ensure a timely and effective response | On 13 November 2017 as part of changes to the structure of Children's Social Care, Private Fostering cases are assessed by the MASH and Social Work Assessment Teams rather than transferred to the Permanency Team improving the initial response to private fostering arrangements. | G |
| | | g. Quality Assurance Audit Tool for Private Fostering cases developed and implemented | A new Audit Tool for Private Fostering cases will be developed in light of the recording processes on LCS. In common with other audit tools, the Tool will include Signs of | A |

| | Ofsted Recommendation | Actions that will be taken | Update | Status |
|----|--|---|---|--------|
| | | | Safety principles. This will be completed by 31 March 2018. | |
| | | h. General awareness of Private Fostering Regulations by Social Workers improved through Staff Briefings and Learning Forums. | Private Fostering Awareness is scheduled for a Lunch Time Staff Training event on 15 Mar 2018. | A |
| 3. | Improve the timeliness with which designated officers complete investigations. | i. Increase the capacity of the LADO Service from current single post holder for greater resilience and improved performance. | On 13 November 2017 as part of changes to the structure of Children's Social Care, LADO responsibility transferred to the two MASH Team Managers improving resilience through increased capacity. | G |
| | | j. The LADO Service transferred to the MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub). | The LADO Service transferred to the MASH on 25 September 2017. This co-locates the service with activities to safeguard children ensuring a co-ordinated and timely response. | G |
| | | k. The LADO Service Case Management System for recording case work transferred onto Liquid Logic LCS. | A bespoke LADO Service module has been procured for LCS and will ensure secure recording of information with improved tracking and reporting functionality. Go Live is 26 February 2018. | A |
| 4. | Improve the oversight of IROs of the progress of plans between child protection conferences and between children looked after reviews, and evidence this on the child's records. | l. Change to the recording of the Mid-Point Review process by developing and implementing a 'Midway Monitoring Form' to enable clear recording on the child's record of the oversight of the Independent Reviewing Officer in relation to progress of Child Protection Plans and/or Care Plans. | A Midway Monitoring Form has been developed and introduced by the Independent Review Service. | G |

| | Ofsted Recommendation | Actions that will be taken | Update | Status |
|----|---|--|--|--------|
| | | m. IRO Quality Assurance Framework to be amended to include monitoring and review of Mid-Point Review process. | The IRO QAF has been amended to include monitoring of mid-point reviews. The quality and impact of this process will be reported upon by way of an assurance Report to SMT. | G |
| 5. | Ensure that life story work and later life letters are of consistently good quality and completed in a timely way to ensure that children and their adopters have a clear understanding of a child's history in preparation for placement and for later life understanding. | n. Creation of a 'Permanency Champion' post to support, review and champion timely and effective care and care planning for children and young people, including Life Story work and Later Life letters. | Following a review of the staffing of Children's Social Care, the post of Permanency Champion has been deleted. The responsibilities have transferred to the Senior Manager for Looked After Children Resources. | N/A |
| | | o. Training of all Social Work Staff on the preparation and completion of Life Story Work and Later Life Letters | A new process for the delivery of Life Story Work, including a training programme is being developed for agreement by SMT. The training will be delivered from 01 April 2018. | A |
| 6. | Ensure that supervision for all staff is consistently of good quality because it is reflective, directive, regular and well recorded. | p. Training of all Supervisees and Supervisors in the Signs of Safety model of practice, including how the approach supports and underpins good quality reflective and directive Case Supervision. | A new policy was launched on 01 January 2018 following consultation with staff and managers. The policy was developed to reflect Signs of Safety principles. | G |
| | | q. The Supervision Policy is changed to be consistent with, reflect and facilitate the Signs of Safety model of practice | A new policy was launched on 01 January 2018 following consultation with staff and managers. The policy was developed to reflect Signs of Safety principles. | G |
| | | r. Review, development and implementation of performance management information relating to Supervision | LCS will ensure secure recording of Case Supervision. Go Live is 26 February 2018. | A |

| | Ofsted Recommendation | Actions that will be taken | Update | Status |
|----|---|--|---|--------|
| | | s. Introduction of Direct Observation of Supervision by Senior Managers as part of quality assurance activity | A Direct Observation template has been developed and will be utilised by Senior Managers from 01 January 2018. The expectation is that Senior Managers will observe one Supervision session per month. Findings from the Observations will be aggregated and an Assurance Report provided to SMT. | A |
| | | t. Review, development and implementation of enhanced question set in relation to the experience of Supervision as part of the bi-annual Social Workforce Health Check | The new Principal Social Worker (from 01 November 2017) will develop the question set and ensure its inclusion in future Health Checks. Consideration will be given to an annual Supervision Survey as well. | A |
| | | u. The recording of Case Supervision recording case work transferred onto Liquid Logic LCS. | LCS will ensure secure and accessible recording of Case Supervision. Go Live is 26 February 2018. | A |
| 7. | Ensure that actions identified as a result of audits are specific and measurable and have timescales. | v. Change the format of planning documents resulting from audit activity to a format which facilitates SMART Planning, with a particular emphasis on more specificity of actions and success measures and more precise timescales. | Audit documentation and activity will be developed to reflect Signs of Safety principles. This work will be completed by 31 March 2018. | A |

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Author: Nik Flavell, Senior Manager for Quality Assurance | Date: 09 January 2018 |
|---|-----------------------|

Meeting: Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee

Date: 22 January 2018

Title: Work Programme 2017/18 update

Author: Elizabeth Kerr, Democratic Services Tel: (0191) 643 5322

Service: Law and Governance

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with an update on the work programme since its meeting on 20 November 2017.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The sub-committee is recommended to note the information provided in the report and endorse the proposed changes to the work programme 2017/18 set out below and in Appendix 1.

3. Information

- 3.1 At its meeting on 20 November 2017 the sub-committee was provided with an update on its work programme and the progress of its in-depth investigation into the transition process for children with disabilities to adult services (previous minute CES39/11/17).
- 3.2 The report of the Transition Sub Group had been expected to be submitted to the 22 January 2018 meeting of the sub-committee but after a meeting of the sub group held on 8 January 2018 it was agreed that it would be more appropriate to submit the report to the February meeting to allow the members of the public who had contributed to the work of the sub group time to read the report and make any comments.
- 3.3 Also on the work programme for the meeting on the 22 January 2018 was an update on the work of the Dyslexia Service after the presentation made to the sub-committee in January 2017.
- 3.4 Since the presentation in January 2017 the team had continued to provide a high quality service to schools, parents/carers, children and young people, this was confirmed by the service users' feedback evaluations which are collated each year.
- 3.5 Current team priorities included:
- a) Presentation of North Tyneside's Policy for Literacy Difficulties and Dyslexia on January 11th, which has been jointly written with the Educational Psychology

Service and has been co-produced with contributions from Sencos, parents/carers, children and young people.

- b) Preparation for the Peer Assisted Review next week (15th - 17th January) in preparation for the Local Area Inspection.
- c) Collation and analysis of data from 2016-17 and 2017-18 to provide more in-depth information regarding the impact of the team's work on pupil outcomes.

- 3.6 As each of these three areas was currently underway, the Team Leader at the North Tyneside Dyslexia Team would be able to provide more information about the progress being made at a presentation in a year's time; a presentation to the sub-committee every 2-3 years would be a more effective way to update the sub-committee regarding the Dyslexia Team's work, as much of the work from year to year is ongoing. New initiatives such as those outlined above could then be presented once more information to evaluate their impact was available and discuss implications for the team's future priorities.
- 3.7 After consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the sub-committee, it was agreed that due to the nature of the work undertaken by the service it would be a more appropriate use of the sub-committee's time to defer the full report on the work of the team until January 2019.
- 3.8 During discussion on the next subject for an in-depth investigation it was proposed that an examination into how schools used their Pupil Premium funding and how the spending and the impact of the spending was recorded would be a suitable topic. Another proposal was to examine how permanently excluded pupils were educated and how their progress was monitored.
- 3.9 The sub-committee decided that an initial scoping exercise of a sub group to investigate how schools used Pupil Premium funding be undertaken and presented to the January 2018 meeting and that the Chair and Deputy Chair of the sub-committee discuss with appropriate officers the best way for the sub-committee to examine how permanently excluded pupils were educated and how their progress was monitored.
- 3.10 The Chair and Deputy Chair met with the Assistant Director for Education, Learning and Skills and the Assistant Director for Prevention and Early Help on 18 December 2017 to discuss the agenda for the 22 January 2018 meeting of the sub-committee.
- 3.11 As a consequence of these discussions changes to the work programme were agreed it principal by the Chair and Deputy Chair of the sub-committee and are detailed below.
- 3.12 The proposed revised work programme for the remainder of the 2017/18 municipal year is attached as appendix 1.

4. Pupil Premium

- 4.1 The Assistant Director for Education, Learning and Skills informed the Chair and Deputy Chair that a new workstream called Narrowing the Gap had been initiated for her department and a key part of this work would be how Pupil Premium was being used and what impact this was having on the attainment of children who qualified for the payment.

- 4.2 The use and success of Pupil Premium funded projects was a worthwhile topic for scrutiny and welcomed but because the topic was very large with many divergent aspects, it was suggested that it might be more effective to allow the Narrowing the Gap workstream to begin its work and identify issues and areas which would benefit more than others from a scrutiny exercise. A report on the whole topic would then be submitted to the 19 March 2018 meeting for the sub-committee to consider.
- 4.3 The Chair and Deputy Chair agreed that it would be more appropriate to consider what aspects of Pupil Premium a sub group would investigate when the initial work of the Narrowing the Gap workstream had been undertaken to ensure the work of the sub group delivered the greatest value in terms of policy development.
- 4.4 It is proposed by the Chair and Deputy Chair that a report on the Narrowing the Gap workstream, to include information on Pupil Premium allocation, spend and monitoring be added to the work programme and submitted to the 19 March 2018 meeting. The topic of Pupil Premium to then be submitted as a topic for in-depth investigation in the work programme to be agreed by the new membership of the sub-committee at its first meeting of the 2018/19 municipal year in summer 2018.

5. Education of permanently excluded pupils

- 5.1 The Chair and Deputy Chair then considered the best way for the sub-committee to examine how permanently excluded pupils were educated and how their progress was monitored, which was the second topic suggested at the 20 November 2017 meeting.
- 5.2 The Assistant Director for Education, Learning and Skills informed the Chair and Deputy Chair that another workstream for 2018 was Keeping Children and Young People in School, this was a key priority as part of the 'Be ready for work and life' objective in the Our People section of the Our North Tyneside Plan. It also tied in with the Narrowing the Gap workstream as a disrupted education impacted on attainment.
- 5.3 The Chair and Deputy Chair were reminded that at the meeting on 19 September 2017, the sub-committee received a report on the implementation and delivery of the Council's work to transform children's services, improve outcomes and offer value for money. The report provided a brief description of all the workstreams involved in the project with the suggestion that future reports to the sub-committee look at one of the five workstreams in more detail each time. It was agreed that the Chair and Deputy Chair would determine which projects the next update report, planned for February 2018, would focus on nearer the time (minute CES22/09/17 refers).
- 5.4 In light of this it was suggested that the most appropriate course of action would be that the Keeping Children and Young People in School workstream be the one focused on in the 19 February 2018 meeting which would provide the sub-committee with information about what the process is for children at risk of exclusion or for non-attendance and provide the sub-committee with an overview of the scope of the workstream and its purpose.
- 5.5 The update report on Transforming Children's Services would still be submitted to the February meeting but would be a brief update in the form of a RAG report to allow members to see at a glance which projects were on track and which might benefit from more detailed attention from the sub-committee in the future. This would allow time at the meeting to examine the Keeping Children and Young People at School workstream.

- 5.6 The Chair and Deputy Chair agreed that this would be the most appropriate way at this stage of the municipal year to consider the issues around the education of permanently excluded children.
- 5.7 It is proposed by the Chair and Deputy Chair that a report on the Keeping Children and Young People in School be added to the work programme and submitted to the 19 February 2018 meeting.

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 - The Children, Education and Skills Work Programme 2017/18 for the remaining months of the current municipal year.

7. Background Information

The following documents have been used in the compilation of this report and may be inspected at the offices of the author.

- Minutes of the meeting of Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee held on 20 November 2017.
- Minutes of the meeting of Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee held on 19 September 2017.
- Children, Education and Skills Work programme for 2017/18.

Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee: Remaining Work Programme for 2017/18

| Agenda Item | Report | Officer | External representatives |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 22 January 2018 | | | |
| Children and Young People's Plan 2014-18 | Monitoring the delivery of the Plan. The Sub-committee receive a bi-annual performance report on the delivery of the Children and Young People's Plan 2014-18. An end of year summary is to be submitted to the June meeting with a mid year progress summary provided in December. | Craig Anderson | |
| Eating Disorders | To receive a report on the support and advice available to young people and their families in North Tyneside who have an eating disorder. | | |
| Ofsted Inspection – 6 month Action Plan | To receive an update report on the Action Plan produced in response to the Ofsted Inspection of Children's Services. | Jacqui Old | |
| Work programme update | To provide an update on changes made to the work programme and the next Sub Group since the November meeting. | Elizabeth Kerr | |
| 19 February 2018 | | | |
| Attainment on LAC | To provide the committee with information on how the authority is supporting the attainment of LAC. | Jane Pickthall – Virtual Head teacher | |
| Transforming Children's Services | To receive a brief update on information on the work to improve outcomes for families and children with new ways of working. | Jill Baker | |
| Keeping Children and Young People In School | To receive a report on the workstream <i>Keeping Children and Young People in School</i> . | Angela James | |
| Education Funding | To provide information on government proposals relating to education funding and/or other education reforms since the | Angela James | |

| Agenda Item | Report | Officer | External representatives |
|--|--|-------------------|--------------------------|
| | briefing on <i>Education Excellence Everywhere</i> White Paper in June 2016. | | |
| School Nurses | To receive information on how the transfer of responsibilities for school nurses from the NHS to the Council's Public Health team has been implemented. | Wendy Burke | |
| Transition from Children to Adult Services Sub Group Report (moved from November 06.10.11) | To receive the report of the sub group examining the processes undertaken by both Adult Services and Children Services when a disabled young person transfers to Adult Services. | Elizabeth Kerr | |
| 19 March 2018 | | | |
| Child Sexual Exploitation update | To monitor the situation in North Tyneside regarding CSE and the progress made against the CSE sub groups recommendations. | Majella Tallack | |
| Early Help and Integrated Locality Teams | To receive an update on the work of the Early Help Offer and the Troubled Families Programme 2015-2020. | Jill Baker | |
| Corporate Parenting Plan | Update report on progress – to include information on outcome measures for children leaving care. | Jodie Henderson | |
| EHE Sub Group Recommendations Update | To receive a report informing the sub-committee of the progress made against implementing the recommendations of the Elective Home Education Sub Group. | Barbara Patterson | |
| Seaton Burn Community College – update | An update as to what has happened so far and plans for the future – to include the info on what benefit acadamisisation brings to a school. | Angela James | |
| Narrowing the Gap | To receive a report on the <i>Narrowing the Gap</i> workstream, to include information on Pupil Premium allocation, spend and monitoring. | Angela James | |