

EDUCATION, CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY PANEL

Minutes of the meeting of the Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel held on Tuesday, 29 March 2016 at 7.00 pm at the Civic Offices, Portsmouth

Present

Councillor Will Purvis (in the Chair)
Hannah Hockaday
Ryan Brent
Suzy Horton

40. Apologies for absence (AI 1)

There were no apologies for absence.

41. Declarations of Interest (AI 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

42. Minutes of the Previous Meeting - 2 March 2016 (AI 3)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Education, Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel held on 2 March 2016 be confirmed as a correct record.

43. New topic for review - Child Sexual Exploitation (AI 4)

Sarah Newman and Alison Jeffery gave a brief summary of the background documents which had been circulated to the panel. Sarah advised that the Missing Exploited and Trafficked (MET) Strategy is in the process of being updated and the latest version of this would be circulated to members prior to the panel meeting again in the new municipal year.

Officers advised that work on a draft scoping document had started and shared this with the panel.

The panel made the following comments on the draft scoping document:

Objectives

- Reword the second objective to make this broader. The new objective would be 'To understand and evaluate how effectively young people in Portsmouth at risk of sexual exploitation are identified'.
- Objective five should look beyond children's social care and be reworded to 'To consider how effectively the risks of exploitation are being minimised both by both the Council and other partners on an individual basis and across the city, and what evidence supports this taking into account experience in other areas of the country.'

Witnesses for the review

Following a discussion it was suggested that the following be added to the list of witnesses:

- A representative from the Portsmouth abuse and Rape Counselling (PARCS) service.
- An education representative from MASH
- An appropriate member of staff from a secondary school (eg from the pastoral staff)
- A representative from the Council's licensing team
- The Safeguarding Board Manager
- A youth worker who works with the housing team

Officers would amend the draft scoping document. It was agreed that the first panel meeting of the new municipal year would formally agree the scoping document and receive its first evidence from Sarah Newman who will provide the panel with a broad overview policy context and details of the local setup. The panel will then discuss how the review should progress.

The meeting concluded at 7.25 pm.

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Councillor Will Purvis
Chair