

## **EDUCATION, CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY PANEL**

Minutes of the meeting of the Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel held on Wednesday, 2 March 2016 at 7.00 pm at the Civic Offices, Portsmouth

### **Present**

Councillors Will Purvis (in the Chair)  
Hannah Hockaday  
Paul Godier  
Suzy Horton

#### **35. Apologies for absence (AI 1)**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ryan Brent.

#### **36. Declarations of Members' Interests (AI 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **37. Minutes of previous meeting - 18 November 2015 (AI 3)**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Education, Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel held on 18 November 2015 be confirmed as a correct record.

#### **38. Review into Home to School Transport and Access to Primary School Places (AI 4)**

Members of the panel had received a draft copy of the report for discussion before the final sign-off. Councillor Purvis as chair introduced the report and advised that since completing the report some of the sufficiency programme schemes had commenced. The panel had no further amendments or comments to make to the report and were happy for this to be signed off by the chair.

Alison Jeffery added that 87.5% of secondary school pupils got their first choice of school this year compared to 86.2% last year, which was very positive.

Councillor Purvis advised that the panel's report and the Director of Children's Services response report would be considered by Cabinet in June.

**RESOLVED** that the panel officially sign-off their report for submission to Cabinet in June 2016.

**39. To discuss the viability of the Panel undertaking a further scrutiny review during March. (AI 5)**

Alison Jeffery, Director of Children's Services was in attendance to give the panel some background information on child sexual exploitation (CSE), which was the agreed next topic for review for the panel, and provided advice on a proposed way forward for the next review. She explained that this would be a very topical review and officers would welcome the panel carrying out a review into CSE.

The Chair asked whether there was a specific area within CSE the panel should focus on. Alison advised that CSE links with children missing exploited and trafficked so CSE would be a good subset to focus on. The Chair mentioned that the panel had completed a review into Looked After Children a few years ago where there had been concerns about the working relationship with the police and said he hoped that this had improved. Alison advised that the operational group has been strengthened and this now had a much higher profile.

Alison explained that officers would shortly be completing a mock Ofsted inspection internally and would be able to share the results of this with the panel in June which could form part of the evidence for the review.

The panel agreed to hold a meeting later in March to start scoping the review. The date was agreed as Tuesday 29 March at 7:00pm. It was agreed that Sarah Newman and Alison Jeffery would attend this meeting to assist the panel with scoping the review. Officers would then complete some background work for the panel so that when the panel meetings resume after the elections, evidence gathering meetings can be arranged.

The meeting concluded at 7.20 pm.

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Councillor Will Purvis  
Chair