

EDUCATION, CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY PANEL

Minutes of the meeting of the Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel held on Monday 17 June 2019 at 11am in the Executive Meeting Room, third floor, the Guildhall

Present

Councillors Frank Jonas (in the Chair)
Ben Dowling
Jason Fazackarley

Officers Alison Jeffery, Director of Children, Families & Education

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Tom Coles, Hannah Hockaday and Will Purvis.

2. Declarations of Members' Interests

Councillor Dowling advised he was the director of a company which works with young people and that he would declare any interests if they became apparent during the review.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting - 7 December 2018

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Education, Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel held on 7 December 2018 be noted as a correct record.

4. Review into Children with Disabilities to focus particularly on out of city placements and the use of Beechside

Members noted that the Scrutiny Management Panel had approved the proposed topic below at its meeting on 28 January 2019 for allocation to the Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel.

Review into Children with Disabilities to focus particularly on out of city placements and the use of Beechside

- Out of city placements - how effective are our commissioning arrangements, are we getting the right provision and good value, and are the contributions from education, social care and health appropriate?
- Use of Beechside - how responsive is the short breaks respite care provision and how helpful is it to parents of children with disabilities?

Alison Jeffery, Director of Children, Families and Education suggested the review could have a broader scope. She noted there were very few placements outside the city. The panel could perhaps look at how the council considers respite and invite families to have their say on how respite is provided. The way families receive money to purchase placements and packages of care could also be considered.

In response to questions from members, Ms Jeffrey noted the suggestion made at the previous ECYP meeting that the provision of education for disabled children was not so much about school education and special educational needs but rather the provision for children at home. She suggested the review could expand its remit to include health services as children's services and health are becoming more integrated. The panel could hear parents' views on health provision. Other support such as clubs and non-residential support could also be considered.

It was agreed that:

1. A scoping document would be drafted by officers and circulated to members.
2. The scoping document would be agreed at the next meeting and the review start.

5. Timings of meetings

Members agreed to hold meetings on Mondays and towards the end of the day so as to be more convenient for members with work commitments.

6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 15 July at 4pm.

The meeting concluded at 11.20am.

Councillor Frank Jonas
Chair