

Schedule of Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee recommendations made and actions in response

Meeting	item	Recommendations	Action	Status
5 July 2017	Corporate Parenting Strategy 2017 – 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The committee welcomes the strategy, supports the priorities identified and agrees to provide a summary of comments and recommendations to the cabinet member; - The committee requests annual performance reports relating to the action plan in the strategy; - The committee provides a forum, where appropriate, for children and young people in care and care leavers to hold their Corporate Parents to account; - The members of the committee facilitate training, with officers, on corporate parenting to all members of Herefordshire Council; - The committee recommends that the cabinet member reviews the measures for success and outcomes sought in the action plan on a regular basis to see whether any measures need to be strengthened; - The committee recommends that procedures are introduced to ensure that significant decisions of the council take account formally of likely implications for looked after children; - The committee recommends that members undertake a mentoring role, where 	<p>Response of executive:</p> <p>The draft strategy was discussed at the children’s scrutiny committee on 5 July 2017; they are supportive of the strategy and associated action plan and have requested that an annual update on its implementation is presented to the committee. The recommendations have been considered by the cabinet member young people and children’s wellbeing and as a consequence children’s scrutiny is referred to in the action plan:</p> <p>Corporate Parenting Action Plan 2017-20</p>	Action plan implementation update to be scheduled for 16 July 2018.

		<p>appropriate, for looked after children to share skills and experience to help enhance personal development and there is consideration of how this is best facilitated and publicised; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The committee recommends that methods and strategies are investigated to engage partners and businesses in corporate parenting. 		
	Annual reports for the fostering and adoption services	<p>Resolved – that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the committee notes the annual reports from the adoption and fostering services and agrees to feedback comments to the cabinet member; and b) the adoption and fostering reports are considered as separate agenda items in future years. 	Adoption service and Fostering service annual reports allocated to the draft work programme 2018/19 for committee on 16 July 2016.	Completed
2 October 2017	Commissioning intentions for universal and early help services for children, young people and families	<p>Resolved - That the committee:</p> <p>supports the extension of the family befriending services contracts with the existing providers to the end of March 2018;</p> <p>has significant concerns about the commissioning exercise proposed. The cabinet members for health and wellbeing and young people and children’s wellbeing are asked to have regard to the committee’s concerns, particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - i) The reported lack of consultation concerning safeguarding arrangements and engagement 	<p>Response of executive:</p> <p>i) The intention to re-procure health visiting and school nursing services has been in the public domain since August 2016. CCG colleagues have been involved in steps taken thereafter to inform future commissioning intentions. There has been an opportunity to raise any issues or questions regarding procurement, during this time.</p> <p>A generalised concern regarding safeguarding arrangements had been</p>	Completed. Committee may wish to request an update report on the implementation of the contract.

		<p>with the Herefordshire Safeguarding Children's Board;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ii) The provision of services in rural areas; - iii) The requirement for additional detail in the report, in particular the contract specification ; and - iv) A reported lack of communication with the CCG. <p>requests that, before a decision is taken on the proposal, the cabinet members share additional information with the committee, including the contract specification.</p>	<p>raised by the CCG very recently prior to the scrutiny committee meeting and reassurances were provided to the CCG that discussions to understand the detail would be welcome and these have since been initiated.</p> <p>Issues relating to <i>safeguarding</i> commissioning responsibilities are resolvable through further discussion.</p> <p>There is no requirement to present the commissioning proposal to the Herefordshire Safeguarding Children's Board, because the service will be required to adhere to all national and local policies, guidance, standards and procedures.</p> <p>Further discussion and an agreed way forward have been made with the Chair of the Children's Safeguarding Board, including a request to include reference to safeguarding within this paper (see para 7).</p> <p>ii) It is recognised that there are challenges in delivering timely and accessible services across a rural county and this has been reflected in the draft specification. To respond to those challenges, the provider will be required to ensure that access is available via drop-in sessions (which could be held in any community facility or venue), clinics, home visits, telephone contact, texting and other formats appropriate for the families and community. Broadband</p>	
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			<p>in November 2016;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stakeholder engagement events To which GP and CCG representatives were invited were held during December 2016 through to end of January 2017; • feedback events were held in February 2017; • an early years review/scoping workshop held in May 2017; • Soft market testing was undertaken June/July 2017; • Updates have been provided to a Joint Commissioning Board which includes representatives of the CCG and reports to the CCG Board in August/September 2017; • Engagement/information session with GPs on key principles to be incorporated into the specification, was held in October 2017.and ongoing engagement agreed re implementation arrangements. 	
	Herefordshire safeguarding	Resolved – that:	Update from Chair of HSCB containing <i>Model Initial Parish Action Plan for</i>	Completed

	children's board (HSCB) annual report 2016/17 and business plan 2017/19	a) The annual report and effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangements for children and young people in Herefordshire as assessed by the Board are noted; and b) The strategic priorities identified by the Board are noted.	<i>Promoting a Safer Church</i> and latest detail with reference to work on the role of Parish Councils in safeguarding children.	
	Outcomes of casework peer review	Resolved – that the committee notes the report and offers congratulations to the teams involved in the review for the positive feedback received.		Completed
	Children's Wellbeing self-assessment	Resolved – that the committee notes the draft self-assessment document for the Children's Wellbeing Directorate.		Completed
4 December 2017	Children and Young People Mental Health Partnership	That the committee: supports the response of the CCG to the task and finish group recommendations; supports the objectives of the Herefordshire Children and Young People Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Transformation Plan 2015 – 2020; and requests an update report on the implementation of the plan in 2018.	To determine the timing an update on the implementation of the plan in 2018.	Ongoing
	Children's Wellbeing self-assessment – update	That the Committee: endorses the self-assessment in its current form; and agrees that the comments raised by the committee are circulated to the cabinet member.	Excerpt of minutes detailing the discussion sent to the cabinet member for Children and Young People.	Ongoing

5 February 2018	School Examination Performance	<p>Resolved – that the committee:</p> <p>Recognises positive attainment in a number of areas of school examination performance but in particular in the field of phonics;</p> <p>Requests a briefing note on the current level of NEETs, the new data recording system and a breakdown of statistics to include indicators around rural/urban/market towns/gender/traveller community;</p> <p>Requests a briefing note on the role of the Regional Schools Commissioner and a focus on areas of overlap with the Council; and</p> <p>Agrees to write to government to express concern regarding the lack of regulation and monitoring in respect of home schooling. The correspondence should include reference to the potential impacts of home schooling upon the educational achievements of children and safeguarding responsibilities of the Council.</p>	Correspondence sent to Nadhim Zahawi MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families. Copied to Jesse Norman MP and Bill Wiggin MP.	
	Children and Young Peoples Plan	<p>Resolved - that the committee:</p> <p>Supports the inclusion of: obesity; dental health; mental health and wellbeing; transport; and youth facilities as key areas of focus for the plan;</p> <p>Supports the implementation of a robust monitoring framework for the new version of the Plan; and</p> <p>Asks for the draft Plan to be presented to the</p>	Allocated to the committee's draft work	Completed

		committee ahead of consideration at Cabinet and full Council.	programme 2018/19 for committee on 16 July 2018.	
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