

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

| Meeting      | item                                                  | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Status    |
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| 15 July 2019 | Corporate Parenting Annual Update – 2018/2019         | <p>RESOLVED: That:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A briefing note is provided concerning the multiagency panel relating to looked after children mental health services;</li> <li>• A briefing note is provided on the introduction of the care leavers covenant;</li> <li>• A response is provided to the question relating to the implications of the national funding changes on A Levels undertaken by looked after children;</li> <li>• A letter is sent to Herefordshire clinical commissioning group to seek clarification regarding the resourcing of the looked after children health team; and</li> <li>• A briefing note is provided on SHYPP referral levels.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circulated on 3 October 2019</li> <li>• Circulated on 3 October 2019</li> <li>• Response circulated on 31 July 2019</li> <li>• Letter sent to CCG on 31 July 2019</li> <li>• Circulated on 3 October 2019</li> </ul> | Completed |
|              | Fostering and adoption service annual reports 2018/19 | <p>RESOLVED: That:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The achievements in the adoption annual report and the compliments in the fostering report are recognised and the officers working in those</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Completed |

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|                   |                                                      | <p>teams and carers of the council's looked after children are commended;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A briefing note on proposals to increase the retention of foster carers and details of the training provided be provided;</li> <li>• A letter is sent to the Wye Valley Trust (WVT) to request details of the provision of occupational therapists in Herefordshire; and</li> <li>• A session is organised to look at case samples of how appropriate forms of care are determined for looked after children.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foster carers training programme circulated on 31 July.</li> <li>• Letter sent to WVT on 31 July.</li> <li>• Included in safeguarding training delivered to members of the Council.</li> </ul> |           |
| 16 September 2019 | Accommodation based support service for care leavers | <p>RESOLVED: That the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supports the introduction of the accommodation based support service for care leavers;</li> <li>• supports an ongoing review of the service to determine its effectiveness and possible replication in future; and</li> <li>• requests that a site visit to the facility is arranged once completed.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                   | Approved at cabinet on 26 September                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Completed |
|                   | Youth Justice Plan 2019-2020                         | <p>RESOLVED: That the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorses the Youth Justice Plan for presentation to full Council; and</li> <li>• Asks that an addendum is added to the report, in forthcoming years, providing up-to-date statistics.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Approved at full Council on 11 October                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Completed |

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| 25 November 2019 | Review of budget and corporate plan proposals for 2020/21 relating to the remit of the children and young people scrutiny committee | <p>RESOLVED: That the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports the planned investments for looked after children, edge of care and improving social care services and requests further information is submitted to the committee regarding proposals for these services; and</li> <li>• Asks that a report concerning the dental health initiatives is provided to the committee setting out key performance indicators for the proposals.</li> </ul> |                                                           | Completed |
|                  | Update on reducing the number of looked after children                                                                              | <p>RESOLVED: That the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognises the work that has been undertaken and the progress made in implementing systems to reduce the numbers of looked after children; and</li> <li>• Asks that a report is submitted to a meeting in 12 months times which provides a breakdown of the progress made in regard of the 49 children identified for SGOs or reunification.</li> </ul>                                         | Added to work programme for committee on 1 December 2020. | Completed |
|                  | Review of performance and progress against the safeguarding and family support improvement plan                                     | RESOLVED: That the committee notes the report and the improvements made since the previous quarter.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                           | Completed |

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|                 | 2019 / 2020                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                 |           |
| 14 January 2020 | Review of budget and corporate plan proposals for 2020/21 relating to the remit of the children and young people scrutiny committee | <p>RESOLVED: That the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports the additional areas of investment identified in the budget;</li> <li>• Writes to the local MPs to request details of actions to lobby central government to improve oral health in Herefordshire; and</li> <li>• Requests a report to a forthcoming meeting of the committee containing the high-level action plan for improving oral health in Herefordshire and details of any progress against the recommendations in the oral health needs assessment.</li> </ul> | <p>Correspondence sent on 30 January 2020.</p> <p>Added to work programme for committee on 2 December 2020.</p> | Completed |
|                 | Spotlight review – outcomes and recommendations                                                                                     | RESOLVED: That the committee agrees the recommendations and outcomes of the peer on peer abuse in schools spotlight review (appendix b) for submission to the executive, subject to the amendments to recommendations outlined above and evaluation of appropriate factual corrections.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Executive response reported to the committee meeting on 2 June 2020                                             | Completed |
| 16 March 2020   | School Examination Performance                                                                                                      | <p>RESOLVED: That the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notes the report and the good results in key</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                 | Completed |

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|             | 2019                                                                                                    | <p>stage 1 and key stage 2; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request that in future the presentation of the results is set against performance in earlier years.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |
|             | Review of performance and progress against the safeguarding and family support improvement plan 2019/20 | <p>RESOLVED: That the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>requests that in future details of the changes that the directorate was trying to accomplish be presented in a one page briefing document including details of the intention of a project, who was responsible for it and how change would be measured.</li> <li>requests a briefing note on the mind of my own (MOMO) app.</li> <li>proposes that all members of the children and young people scrutiny committee be invited to the performance challenge session.</li> <li>agrees that meetings are scheduled four weeks after the release of the quarterly report concerning the safeguarding and family support improvement plan.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This suggestion is being looked into and future reports of progress against the improvement plan will outline how the recommendation could be taken forward.</li> <li>Circulated on 15 April 2020.</li> <li>Arrangements are being looked into.</li> <li>The scheduling of meetings is being looked into.</li> </ul> |  |
| 2 June 2020 | Review of peer on peer abuse cases                                                                      | RESOLVED - That the committee agrees the deferral of the report to the next meeting on 28 July to allow for the inclusion of the 2017 review and risk assessment pro forma and clarification of gaps identified in the information provided.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | It is proposed that the report is considered at the meeting of the committee on 15 September 2020.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
|             | Review of performance and                                                                               | RESOLVED: The committee agrees that:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |

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|              | progress against the safeguarding and family support improvement plan 2019/20 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consideration is given to how future versions of the report could provide details of the prioritisation of actions in the improvement plan;</li> <li>• consideration is given to how third sector organisations could be resourced to support actions in the improvement plan;</li> <li>• the children and families directorate works with the adults wellbeing directorate to undertake joint work on establishing a clear transition pathway for vulnerable young people;</li> <li>• all members of the committee should be invited to attend performance challenge sessions; and</li> <li>• the outcomes of the audit of the reduction in child protection plans to be made available to the committee.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invitations to Council members of the committee have been circulated.</li> <li>• added to the committee's work programming.</li> </ul> |  |
| 28 July 2020 | Schools update                                                                | <p>RESOLVED – That:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The committee recommends that a further survey is undertaken concerning children's mental health and schooling arrangements during the pandemic;</li> <li>• A briefing note is circulated providing details of the number of private nurseries that have opened in September 2020 and stayed open in October and November;</li> <li>• An update is provided regarding the national catch-up programme;</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | An update briefing on the recommendations relating to the schools update will be circulated.                                                                                    |  |

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|                   |                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The work on children's mental health is prioritised by the committee and includes a review of school pastoral support and a mental health pathway for looked after children;</li> <li>• Further detailed examination of the outcomes of the survey is undertaken to determine how the provision and effectiveness of mental health services were impacted during the lockdown;</li> <li>• An update is provided regarding the attendance rates after the return to school in September.</li> </ul>                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
|                   | Corporate parenting strategy 2020-2023               | <p>RESOLVED - That:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The wording of the bullet point in the care leavers covenant concerning commissioning and procurement required clarification;</li> <li>• A role for members of the council in respect of assisting looked after children could include the signposting of children in care and care leavers to local organisations offering work experience and apprenticeship opportunities; and</li> <li>• Priority 5 of the corporate parenting strategy should include mention of market towns, the involvement of local communities and the youth games.</li> </ul> | <p>Detail from the cabinet report – 24 September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This has been reworded to provide clarity</li> <li>• This is to be considered by councillors.</li> <li>• Priority 5 applies across the County and consideration of children and young people taking part in the youth games can be considered as part of the feasibility assessment.</li> </ul> |  |
| 15 September 2020 | Accommodation and support framework for care leavers | <p>RESOLVED: That the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcomes and supports the proposal for the accommodation and support framework for care</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Update from Ewen Archibald – 7 November                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |

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|  |                                                                                                           | <p>leavers; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommends that the timetable for the introduction of the framework is reviewed and a view reached if it is too ambitious or realistic and achievable.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflecting on the timescales required to establish the proposed framework effectively, cabinet members have determined that there will be a change to the timetable for mobilising. The decision to be considered by Cabinet retains the original timetable for procurement. However, when the framework is launched in early April, it is now proposed that it operates in shadow form for three months with other purchasing arrangements continuing in parallel. This will allow time to test some elements and phase in controls and features. The framework will be fully operational from July 2021.</li> </ul> |  |
|  | Review of performance and progress against the safeguarding and family support improvement plan 2020/2021 | <p>RESOLVED: That the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommends that the executive considers the possibility of a working group to examine the issue of recruitment in Herefordshire, to include a focus on the recruitment of social workers and to engage with projects currently in progress; and</li> <li>• Requires that meeting dates are reviewed to ensure more up to date performance data is presented to meetings of the committee.</li> </ul> | <p>There is a Children's social worker recruitment and retention working group which meets regularly to address this matter. It is chaired by Andy Gill and includes attendees from the directorate as well as Recruitment and Organisation Development. Examples of its recent work include updating and promoting the 'core offer' for social workers and developing service workforce development strategy to ensure that recruitment, retention and service needs are addressed holistically.</p>                                                                                                                                                          |  |
|  | Review of peer on peer abuse                                                                              | That the committee:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Executive response to scrutiny recommendations agreed at the meeting of                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |



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|  | cases | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calls on the executive to consider the recommendations of the committee during its finalisation of the Peer on Peer Review Herefordshire MASH 2017 - 2019 report;</li> <li>• Recommends that the report is strengthened to provide an explanation as to why the CSO report of April 2017 was not circulated to schools prior to the commencement of the summer term in 2017 together with the risk assessment template. An explanation as to why it was not shared or mentioned at the peer on peer abuse in schools spotlight review is also required. The use of the term 'unhelpful', to describe the decision to not share the report, should be reconsidered and a stronger term adopted;</li> <li>• Recognises that risk posed to victims of peer on peer abuse is not merely physical but also emotional and psychological. In light of the handling of some cases detailed in the review report the committee recommends that there is a reassessment of the finding in the review that no children were put or left at risk;</li> <li>• Retains a watching brief, through the quarterly performance report, on the reporting rates of peer on peer abuse and the performance of the council in response to reported cases. This progress will be monitored at meetings of the children and families performance challenge. Any concerns with reporting rates or the performance of the council will prompt a report to the following meeting of the committee to</li> </ul> | Cabinet on 26 November 2020. |  |
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|  |  | <p>explain concerning trends;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommends that the <i>Response to Reports</i> flowchart for Herefordshire schools (appendix 1 of the review report) is enhanced with yes and no actions and is regularly scenario-tested with schools by the council. The flowchart should incorporate details of individuals accountable for actions and timelines for the completion of actions;</li> <li>• Recommends that schools that do not implement the model policy are held to account for the decision not to implement. Schools should be encouraged to share any policy which they feel supersedes or is superior to the model policy produced by the council;</li> <li>• Recommends that when consideration is given to the process of reconciliation there should be an assessment of long and short term processes to provide a variable response tailored to needs of children and families affected by peer on peer abuse. A longer term process would provide for comprehensive engagement with children and families who required and requested this level of reconciliation. A shorter term process would provide for those children and families who did not want or did not need to engage with the longer term approach</li> <li>• Recommends that a comprehensive plan of help and support for victims of peer on peer abuse and their families is developed by the</li> </ul> |  |  |
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|                 |                                                              | <p>council. This should include detail of what ongoing mental health support for children and families would be available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommends that clarification is provided in the report around the distinction between policy and guidance. There should be an explanation of who was responsible for: providing peer on peer abuse policies for use in Herefordshire schools; the adoption of such policies; the production of guidance; and the sharing of new guidance.</li> <li>• Recommends that the timelines in the recommendations in the review report should be finalised and include the title of those officers responsible for actions.</li> <li>• Recommends that a summary is provided at the foot of the review report detailing the scrutiny committee's recommendations and providing a recognition that the report was the start of a process to understand and address peer on peer abuse in Herefordshire. The summary should explain that not all elements of peer on peer abuse were understood and that improved data gathering, new guidance and new processes were being developed to attempt to come to terms with and address the issue.</li> </ul> |                                                                            |  |
| 1 December 2020 | Update on reducing the number of children looked after (CLA) | <p>RESOLVED: That the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommends that the children's and families directorate continue the monitoring of the number of children diverted from care by the edge of care service;</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Recommendations relating to Children and Families are being taken forward. |  |

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|  |                                                                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintains an oversight of plans and initiatives to reduce the numbers of children looked after; and</li> <li>• Recommends that the executive investigates the cost benefit of the construction and operation of a council-owned residential unit for children looked after.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                            |  |
|  | Review of performance and progress against the safeguarding and family support improvement plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommends that the dates of forthcoming meetings of the committee are timed to coincide more closely with the production of the improvement plan report;</li> <li>• Recommends that future versions of the improvement plan report contain more information on the improvements to Mosaic and the use of technology to enable better social work practice;</li> <li>• Agreed that a letter would be sent to the executive to explain that the committee would use the improvement plan quarterly report to monitor record keeping for safeguarding cases; and</li> <li>• Recommends that in future the improvement plan contain detail of the recording of feedback from young people and the use of the mind of my own (MOMO) app.</li> </ul> | Recommendations relating to Children and Families are being taken forward. |  |