

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of **the IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – PEOPLE** held at County Hall, Matlock on 14 May 2014.

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs D Charles (in the Chair)

Councillors Mrs G Birkin, S Freeborn, B Lewis, R Mihaly, D Walton and B Wright.

Ms C Tattersfield.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor J Frudd and Mr D Channon.

13/14 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 5 March 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

14/14 **UPDATE ON OFSTED REPORT ON INSPECTION OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN IN NEED OF HELP AND PROTECTION, CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER AND CARE LEAVERS** Councillor K Gillott, Cabinet member for Children and Young People, and Mr I Johnson and Ms J Brooks, Children and Younger Adults Department gave an oral update on the progress that had been made in response to the November/December 2013 Ofsted report.

The Committee was reminded of the outcome of the report, which found the services to be “Good”. There were some areas for improvement and an action plan had been developed which would be submitted to Ofsted shortly.

An assessment of the effectiveness of the Local Safeguarding Children Board had found that there was need for improvement and an action plan for this was being prepared.

The Committee’s Safeguarding Sub Group had been established to monitor progress and the Action Plans would be reviewed by the Sub Group. Mr Johnson welcomed and encouraged the front line visits undertaken by Members.

15/14 **SAFEGUARDING PERFORMANCE AND SERVICE PRIORITIES** Statistics were presented on safeguarding services within the Children and Younger Adults Department as at April 2014 for the 10 Service Priorities in respect of Safeguarding and Disability Services.

Mr Johnson referred particularly to the number of children on Child Protection Plans which caused concern and where steps were being taken to address the situation.

RESOLVED to receive performance report.

16/14 **HEALTHWATCH DERBYSHIRE** Ms T Wright
presented a progress report on the work of Healthwatch Derbyshire.

The report provided information on information sharing, an analysis of topics and themes, Care Home Enter and View visits, and domiciliary care engagement.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

17/14 **UPDATE FROM SUB GROUPS** The Vice Chair gave an update on the work undertaken by the Equality and Diversity/Recruitment and Selection Sub Group. Draft reports were anticipated for the July meeting of the Committee.

The Safeguarding Sub Group's progress was outlined by the Chair and meetings were now monthly. All members of the Committee were encouraged to undertake basic training that was provided by the Safeguarding Board. Member visits to front line staff/children homes/Children's Centres and MATs were on-going.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

18/14 **TERMS OF REFERENCE AND WORK PROGRAMME OF THE SAFEGUARDING SUB GROUP** Terms of Reference for the safeguarding Sub Group were set out in order to ensure that lines of enquiry were structured around the business plans of the Council's work on safeguarding and wider priorities of the Council Plan.

The proposed work programme for the Sub Group had been drafted to ensure that the Authority was delivering against the following priorities as set out in the Council Plan –

- Thriving children, young people and families
- Independent and supported older people
- Adults with physical and learning disabilities leading independent and fulfilled lives.

The work programme would focus on the key action plan of the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board and the developing priorities of the Derbyshire

Safeguarding Adult Board. Additional items may also be included in the safeguarding working groups' work programme as they arise.

RESOLVED that the terms of reference and proposed work programme be noted.

19/14 REVIEW PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee was asked to consider the proposed scrutiny reviews as allocated by the Scrutiny Management Committee.

The reviews proposed took account of realistic outcomes and to ensure that duplication of work (between service departments and the scrutiny function) was avoided.

The report detailed those review proposals which had been allocated to this Committee for further consideration and prioritisation in the work programme.

In submitting suggestions for scrutiny reviews, Members and Officers were asked to indicate how they considered each review would contribute to the Council Plan. This information was shown for each review in the report.

Those review proposals which had not been included in the current list were retained for further consideration in the future as appropriate. Additional reviews may also be included in the work programme as they arose.

The proposed reviews were –

	Title/Subject
1	How prepared are our school leavers in readiness for joining an apprenticeship scheme? What are the educational attainments of children in care in Derbyshire and what is the Council doing to improve their outcomes and transition to adult life?
2	Adaptations for Elderly/Disabled people – how does the process in Derbyshire compare to other Authorities around the country? Can we streamline our own processes – with local Districts/Boroughs?
3	Monitoring the impact of changes to the thresholds which will affect people moving from High-Moderate to Substantial Category for Adult Care services. I & S People Committee would keep an overview of the process by which the Adult Social Care Department manages the process and how people can be supported alternatively.
4	Scrutinise the Assessment Process in Social Care and Health to review the opportunity to do joint assessments between professionals from DCC and partner service providers. Investigate the Sheffield Model, as well as others. Include the financial assessment process (assessing people's ability to

	pay for services)
5	How is the School Improvement Service supporting schools in Derbyshire? What is their impact on outcomes for children? What are the costs associated with the service and its impact on school take up?

RESOLVED that the proposed reviews be included in the work programme and, at the next meeting, a scoping report for the review monitoring the impact of changes to the thresholds which will affect people moving from High-Moderate to Substantial Category for Adult Care services be presented with a view to this review commencing in September.