

Membership

Councillors

● absent

- Fiona Asbury
- Barrie Cooper
- Jon Creamer
- Bob Cross
- Vincent Dobson
- Tom Pettengell
- Mel Shepherd
- Keith Walker
- Chris Winterton

Officers

Paul Davies – Governance Officer
Helen Lee – Scrutiny Officer
Ashley Jackson – Researcher
Michelle Lee - Aftercare Services Manager, Children and Young People's Department
Carol Pattinson - Service Head, Children and Young People's Department

1. Appointment of Chair

The appointment of Councillor Asbury as Chair was noted.

2. Election of Vice-Chair

Councillor Chris Winterton was elected Vice-Chair of the Review Group.

3. Membership

The membership of the Review Group, as set out above, was noted.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Pettengell and Walker.

5. Declarations of interest

None.

6. Introduction to Review of the Transition from Care to Independence for Looked After Children

Michelle Lee introduced the report on the Aftercare Service in Children and Young People's Department. She drew particular attention to the allocation of a personal advisor, how care leavers start living independently at a younger age than average, the challenge of finding employment, health and emotional support, and the increasing number of looked after children. Carol Pattinson observed that a proportion of young people would leave care before the age of 18. Members questioned Ms Lee and Ms Pattinson on matters which could be explored in more detail during the course of the review, including:

- Accommodation for care leavers
- Use of the Supporting People budget and personal budgets
- Help and advice for young people on financial matters
- Educational achievement
- Preparation for leaving care
- Support and contact provided by the Aftercare Service

Members then considered the draft scoping document. They felt it would be helpful to compare current performance with previous years. Officers indicated that only a snapshot at age 19 could be provided, drawing on information provided for key performance indicators. The possibility of meeting some care leavers, at a venue outside County Hall, was discussed.

The scoping document, with some minor changes, was agreed. It was also agreed that the review group would meet at 2.00 pm on 1 November, 6 December, 17 January and 28 February.

The meeting closed at 3.15 pm.

CHAIR

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