

Meeting	CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE
Date	Monday 12 September 2016 (commencing at 2.00 pm)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with an 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Liz Plant (Chairman)

Maureen Dobson
Boyd Elliott
Kate Foale
Colleen Harwood

Philip Owen
Sue Saddington
Andy Sissons
Jacky Williams

Foster Carer

Sarah Maiden

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Julie Brailsford	-	Democratic Services Officer, Resources
Amanda Collinson	-	Group Manager, Childrens' Disability Services
Yvonne Cottingham	-	CAMHS, Children Looked After
Sarah Maiden	-	Foster Carer
Shelagh Mitchell	-	Group Manager, Access to Resources
Vonny Senogles	-	Service Manager, Residential Services & CAMHS
Naomi Sills	-	Fostering Service Manager
Thirza Smith	-	Manager, Clayfields House
Georgina Staveley	-	Business Support Assistant, Children, Families & Cultural Services.
Kathryn Higgins	-	Designated Nurse, Children in Care County CCGS

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th June 2016, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE CARE OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

The report provided an update to the committee from the designated professionals for Nottingham Clinical Commissioning Groups on the health organisations' contributions to improving health outcomes for children and young people in the care of the Local Authority during 2015/16.

Kathryn Higgins the designated nurse for Looked After children answered questions from the committee on the report.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- The children leaving care at the age of 18 were helped through the transition period jointly by their named social worker, the GP and the LA nurse. The Health Information Pack given to care leavers during their final assessment had been designed jointly with the young people to include information about their individual and family health history as appropriate.
- The designated LA nurse post had only recently moved in to the Clinical Commission Groups (CCG's). Work on a website was currently being undertaken to include a range of safeguarding information for the CCG's and GP's.
- There was on-going work to ensure that the immunisation programme targeted the hard to reach groups. In the future data would be collected on who had been offered immunisation and who had received it.
- The challenge of trying to get data on how many children were registered with a dentist and how many were actually seen by the dentist was ongoing.

RESOLVED 2016/021

To note the content of the report.

PERFORMANCE REPORTING (QUARTER 1 2016-17) – SERVICES FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS

This report provided the committee with a summary of the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers between 1 April and 30 June 2016.

It was noted that the number of Looked After Children (LAC) has dropped monthly since January 2016 and quarterly since quarter 2 2015-16. The LAC rate per 10,000 of 49.1 remains significantly lower than the rates for our statistical neighbours and the England average. This was in part due to the right number of children placed in

to care being fostered or adopted and a number of children exiting care each quarter.

RESOLVED 2016/022

To note the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers during the period 1 April to 30 June 2016.

COUNTY CAMHS LOOKED AFTER AND ADOPTION TEAM – SERVICE PROVISION AND DEVELOPMENTS 2015/16

The report was presented by Yvonne Cottingham and Vonny Senogles from the County Child & Adolescent Mental Health team (CAMS). It provided an update on the work and service developments of the CAMS Services, Children Looked After (CLA) and Adoption Team. The team was a multi-disciplinary, multi-agency team and was commissioned to specifically work with children and young people who were looked after and living away from their birth parents, in the care of Nottinghamshire Children's Services.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- The 'fostering attachments' 10 week therapeutic group for foster carers and main stream residential groups had proved to be a very positive valuable training experience. Consideration was being given to charging independent foster agencies for this service.
- The service had much improved and nationally was now targeting the right people and this was beginning to show in Nottinghamshire.

RESOLVED 2016/023

To note the report.

ADOPTION SERVICE UPDATE – MARCH TO AUGUST 2016

Shelagh Mitchell, Group Manager, Children's Social Care presented the report on the six-monthly update on activity in the adoption service from March to August 2016 and future plans for the service.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- Feedback from the regional adoption meeting was that the National Adoption Leadership Board had not been embraced by lead members and concern was expressed regarding how this was going to help the adoption service.
- Adoption support continues to be an area of development for the Government. The Council had been reviewing and submitting applications for funding on behalf of adopters to purchase support packages.

RESOLVED 2016/024

That the six-monthly update on activity in the adoption service from March to August 2016 be noted.

CLAYFIELDS HOUSE RE-BUILD

Thirza Smith, a manager from Clayfields House presented the report on the Clayfields House Rebuild Project. The Scarlet Unit was the oldest part of the Clayfields site and was now suffering defects to the point where the unit was now subsiding and required a new rebuild that was now underway. The Unit was not originally constructed in the 1980's to cope with the complex needs of the young people that now resided there. The new unit would also have additional facilities to assist in observations of young people who may be at risk of harming themselves and also to become a two bedded 'step down' unit for those transitioning back in to the community.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- That good communication with local residents was essential. Regular update meetings, personal visits (when necessary) and news drops were all part of the communication process.
- Some local residents wanted the trees surrounding the site to be removed and some wanted them to stay. The Local Liason Group were concerned that some of the trees were protected and were part of the planning condition.
- There had been a huge increase in self-harming behaviours. The two 'versatile beds' would have two way mirrors for observation purposes and to screen them from the other young people in the unit. The 'versatile beds' could also be used for young people transitioning back in to the community and would allow them to have their own 'front door' and build their confidence in accessing the community.
- Youngsters who had access to the vocational unit, recently opened at Clayfields House, had to be progressing well and trustworthy.

RESOLVED 2016/025

That the information on the Clayfields House Rebuild Project be noted.

WORK PROGRAMME

The updated work programme was discussed and considered by Members.

RESOLVED 2016/026

That the Committee's work programme be noted.

FOSTER CARERS ITEMS

There were no items for discussion from foster carers.

The meeting closed at 2.35pm.

CHAIRMAN

12 September 2016