

19 March 2018

Agenda Item: 17

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND SOCIAL WORK

CHILD EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS FORTNIGHT - APRIL 2018

Purpose of the Report

1. This report seeks approval to run a Child Employment Awareness Campaign during April 2018, to coincide with the National Campaign, Child Employment Awareness Month.

Information

2. Children and young people of school age (between 13-16 years) can work provided they have a valid work permit which it is the responsibility of local authorities to issue. There are laws and byelaws governing child employment to ensure children are protected from harm or exploitation and to ensure that their education does not suffer.
3. Not all employers are aware of the legislation in respect of employing a young person. The National Network Child Employment and Entertainment (NNCEE), of which Nottinghamshire is a member, undertakes a national awareness campaign every year throughout the month of April seeking to inform employers, schools, parents and young people of the child employment laws and byelaws.
4. It is proposed that the Council joins with colleagues from the NNCEE to raise awareness of the issues across Nottinghamshire employees who wish to employ young people.
5. The campaign will consist of:
 - Facebook adverts
 - Press release
 - Tweets from Council accounts
 - Poster campaign in schools and libraries
 - Employer visits
 - Letters to schools.
6. The objectives of the campaign will be to:
 - raise awareness of what child employment is
 - raise awareness with employers of their legal obligation regarding employing school aged children
 - raise awareness that parents and employers are legally obliged to notify the Local Authority when a child under the age of 16 years is being employed

- ensure the safety and wellbeing of children working in Nottinghamshire.
7. The aim of the campaign will be to increase applications for child employment permits across Nottinghamshire, and to increase the usage of the Local Authority Child Employment website.

Other Options Considered

8. No other options have been considered.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

9. To promote key messages about the law surrounding employment of children to ensure young people employed across Nottinghamshire do so safely, and under a valid permit.

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

11. This is a low cost campaign because the activity will be undertaken by staff dedicated to this area of work and any other costs are minimal. Staffing and any other costs will be met from the Early Help Service budget.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the proposal to run a Child Employment Awareness Campaign during April 2018 be approved.

Steve Edwards
Service Director, Youth, Families and Social Work

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Rachel Miller
Interim Group Manager, Early Help Service
T: 0115 993 4371
E: rachel.miller@nottsc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (SLB 21/02/18)

12. Children and Young People's Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments (SAS 23/02/18)

13. The financial implications of the report are contained within paragraph 11 above.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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