

# minutes

Meeting CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE

Date 21 June 2021 (commencing at 10.30am)

## Membership

Persons absent are marked with an 'A'

## COUNCILLORS

Tracey Taylor (Chairman)  
Sinead Anderson (Vice-Chairman)  
Sam Smith (Vice-Chairman)

Matt Barney  
Anne Callaghan  
Samantha Deakin  
Jim Creamer

Roger Jackson  
Johno Lee  
Andy Meakin  
Michelle Welsh

## CO-OPTED MEMBERS (NON-VOTING)

4 Vacancies

## OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Colin Pettigrew	Corporate Director, Children and Families Services
Marion Clay	Service Director, Children and Families Services
Steve Edwards	Service Director, Children and Families Services
Laurence Jones	Service Director, Children and Families Services
Irene Kakoullis	Group Manager, Children and Families Services

Martin Gately Democratic Services Officer, Chief Executive's

1. TO NOTE THE APPOINTMENT BY FULL COUNCIL ON 27 MAY 2021 OF COUNCILLOR TRACEY TAYLOR AS CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2021-22 MUNICIPAL YEAR AND COUNCILLORS SINEAD ANDERSON AND SAM SMITH AS VICE-CHAIRS

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE AND MEMBERSHIP

**RESOLVED 2021/038**

That:

- 1) The Committee membership and terms of reference be noted.

### **3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 19 APRIL 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2021 having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and have been signed by the Chairman.

### **4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Creamer substituted for Councillor Henry for this meeting.

### **5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

None.

### **6. INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE – ACTION PLAN**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

#### **RESOLVED 2021/039**

That:

- 1) The update on progress made in response to the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) recommendation for Nottinghamshire County Council in its report 'Children in the Care of Nottinghamshire Councils' be noted.
- 2) Action 12 of the action plan has been completed and the Committee will not require future updates in relation to this action.

### **7. THANK YOU TO FOSTER CARERS**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

#### **RESOLVED 2021/040**

That:

- 1) Approval be given for a one-off payment to be made to the Council's approved foster carers in recognition of their commitment to caring for some of the most vulnerable children during the pandemic.
- 2) Foster carers be notified of the one-off payment by letter from the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee.

## **8. FOSTERING SERVICE REPORT FOR APRIL 2019 TO MARCH 2021 AND NATIONAL MINIMUM FOSTERING ALLOWANCES FOR FOSTER CARERS 2021/22**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

### **RESOLVED 2021/041**

That:

- 1) No further actions were required in relation to the information on the activity and performance of the Fostering Service from April 2019 to March 2021.
- 2) A further report be received on the activity and performance of the Fostering Service in 12 months and that this be included in the work programme.
- 3) Approval be given for Nottinghamshire County Council to continue to pay foster carers a weekly fostering allowance, as detailed in paragraph 26, at the national minimum rates as prescribed by the Department for Education.

## **9. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER (IRO) SERVICE: APRIL 2020 – MARCH 2021**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

### **RESOLVED 2021/042**

That:

- 1) No further actions were required in relation to the information contained in the report.

## **10. CHANGE TO STAFFING ESTABLISHMENT AT ADOPTION EAST MIDLANDS – ADOPTION SUPPORT WORKER POSTS**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

### **RESOLVED 2021/043**

That:

- 1) The following changes to the Adoption East Midlands staffing establishment be approved:
  - the disestablishment of 2 FTE Social Work (Band B) posts
  - the establishment of 2.5 FTE Adoption Support Worker (Grade 5) posts.

## **11. PROVISION, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS OF THE CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL AND PARTICIPATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE LOOKED AFTER 2020/21**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

### **RESOLVED 2021/044**

That:

- 1) No further action was required in relation to the information required in the report
- 2) A further update be received on the work of the Young People Looked After Youth Work Team in 12 months and that this be included in the work programme.

## **12. REVIEW OF MEMBER OVERSIGHT OF CHILDREN IN LOCAL AUTHORITY CARE**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

### **RESOLVED 2021/045**

- 1) the current Children's Homes Governance Board be reconfigured to provide an oversight of all places where our children who are looked after live and with a focus on safety and those aspects of children's wellbeing that have a direct impact on their safety. The Board would continue to report back to Children and Young People's Committee with recommendations at least every six months
- 2) the proposed 'Children Looked After Governance Board' have Elected Member representation from all parties represented on the Children and Young People's Committee
- 3) the proposed 'Children Looked After Governance Board' develop a strong relationship with the Foster Carers Liaison Group (FLAG)
- 4) all Elected Members on the Children and Young People's Committee visit a children's home setting annually and Members on the proposed 'Children Looked After Governance Board' should visit quarterly
- 5) all Elected Members receive training or another formal input regarding the importance of their corporate parenting role within four months of their election or as soon as practicable thereafter and that this should be repeated annually. This Committee therefore provides the Monitoring Officer with the authority to make any additions to the Councillor Induction and Development Programme to incorporate this recommendation as she considers necessary to ensure the delivery of good governance.

- 6) an annual report of the Children and Families Commissioning and Contracts Board be presented to Children and Young People's Committee.

### **13. REVIEW OF MEMBER OVERSIGHT OF CHILDREN IN LOCAL AUTHORITY CARE**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

#### **RESOLVED 2021/046**

That:

- 1) The following changes to the staffing establishment in the Early Childhood Services be approved:
  - disestablish 1 fte Early Childhood Services Contracts and Performance Officer (Band B) post with effect from 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021
  - establish a new 1 fte Early Years Senior Technical Specialist (Band A) post with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021
- 2) The following changes to the staffing establishment in the Looked After Children Placement:
  - establish a new 1 fte Commissioning Officer (Band C) post with effect from 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021
  - establish a new 1 fte Payments Assistant (Grade 3) post with effect from 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

### **14. CHILD POVERTY UPDATE**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

#### **RESOLVED 2021/047**

That:

- 1) the latest children in low income families data be noted and further work with other local authorities be supported in order to help better understand the impact of Covid-19 on child poverty levels in the absence of published data covering the period from March 2020
- 2) the progress to date of the 2020-2022 Improving Life Chances for Children and Families Action Plan be considered and annual progress reports be received.

### **15. PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS ON OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE USE OF NORTH CLIFTON PRIMARY SCHOOL AND THE ALTERNATIVE USE OF THE MANNERS SUTTON**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

**RESOLVED 2021/048**

That:

- 1) Approval be given to undertake an initial statutory consultation in order to explore options for North Clifton Primary School, Newark, including possible closure.
- 2) Approval be given for Council officers to investigate options for the future use of the Manners Sutton Primary School site and undertake a statutory consultation on proposals

**16. ESTABLISHMENT OF PLACEMENT STABILITY YOUTH WORK TEAM**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

**RESOLVED 2021/049**

That:

- 1) The establishment of a 12-month pilot for a youth work placement stability team, promoting placement stability for Children Looked After in Nottinghamshire County Council's Care be approved.

**17. HOLIDAY ACTIVITY AND FOOD (HAF) PROGRAMME – ESTABLISHMENT OF HAF DELIVERY COORDINATOR POST**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

**RESOLVED 2021/050**

That:

- 1) The establishment of 1 fte Youth Worker post to coordinate the Holiday Activity and Food Programme on a fixed term basis for the duration of the programme be approved.

**18. CLOSURE OF THE RESIDENTIAL UNIT AT FOUNTAINDALE SPECIAL SCHOOL – RESPONSE TO PETITION**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

**RESOLVED 2021/051**

That:

- 1) the contents of this report be noted, underlining that due process was followed and the original decision was appropriate.
- 2) the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.
- 3) the outcome of the committee's consideration be reported to Full Council

#### 19. **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

#### **RESOLVED 2021/052**

That:

- 1) no further amendments were required to the work programme.

The meeting closed at 12:20 pm.

CHAIRMAN