

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP
Wednesday, 16th July, 2014

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair); Councillors Roche and Rushforth; Joyce Thacker, Rachel Nicholls, Clair Pyper, Karen Etheridge, Chief Superintendent Jason Harwin, Julie Mott, Tracy Guest and Janet Wheatley.

Together with officers:- Paul Theaker, Sue Wilson RMBC), Emma Royle and Daniel C?? (Clinical Commissioning Group).

Mr. D. Pickering (member of the public).

Apologies for absence were received from Steve Ashley, Martin Kimber, Shona MacFarlane, Dr. John Radford, Sarah Whittle and from Dorothy Smith.

280. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 21ST MAY, 2014

Agreed:- That the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 21st May, 2014, be approved as a correct record.

281. ISSUES AND CONCERNS

(1) Elective Home Education

It was noted that the Council will shortly introduce a revised policy relating to the Elective Home Education of pupils. The cases of the two children now mentioned will be investigated by Children and Young People's Services.

(2) Foundation Years' Service for Young Children

It was noted that a report on this issue will be submitted to the next meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership, to be held on 24th September 2014.

(3) Looked After Children's Council – Update

Consideration was given to a report, presented by Lisa Du-Valle (Integrated Youth Support Service), describing the participation of the Looked After Children's Council in Voice and Influence training and development sessions. The activities included:-

: sessions on team building, self-awareness and self-esteem;

: open evening with foster carers;

: residential event in Portugal and subsequent presentation to the Corporate Parenting Panel;

: training day with the Rotherham Youth Cabinet and the UK Youth

Parliament;

: various celebrations at Easter;

: Youth Voice Vehicle Training Day;

: Looked After Children's Council open evening event;

: annual Looked After Children's Council peer consultation and feedback;

: Youth Voice Vehicle – overnight residential at Habershon House on 23rd and 24th July, 2014.

(4) Rotherham Youth Cabinet – Launch of Manifesto

The Rotherham Youth Cabinet manifesto is to be launched at a meeting to be held on Thursday, 16th October, 2014, at the Town Hall.

Agreed:- That the report be received and the information noted.

282. CSE UPDATE

Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director, Children's and Young Peoples Services, informed the meeting of the following update:-

: a report on the progress of the review of the response to Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham will be submitted to the meeting of this Council's Cabinet to be held on Wednesday, 6th August, 2014;

: a training session about Child Sexual Exploitation will be held on 28th July 2014 for the recently elected Borough Councillors, as part of their induction to the Council;

: training about Child Sexual Exploitation for head teachers of secondary schools and special schools has taken place recently;

: during September 2014, there will be a training session on Child Sexual Exploitation for primary school head teachers.

In addition, the South Yorkshire Police monthly report (June 2014) on Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham was distributed and its contents discussed.

Agreed:- That the information be noted.

283. MULTI AGENCY THRESHOLDS

Clair Pyper, Interim Director of Safeguarding Children and Families, presented a report about the child sexual exploitation risk indicators. The

report stated that the indicators are a guide for all professionals to assist them in determining the level of risk of child sexual exploitation in a consistent manner. The assessment then allows the appropriate referral pathways to be progressed. This model is based on the Continuum of Need, but does not replace the wider safeguarding children multi-agency threshold descriptions.

Discussion took place on the application of the risk indicators, which will be very useful in respect of:-

: assisting staff involved in the multi-agency safeguarding hub co-location of services, scheduled to take place during the Autumn 2014; and

: enabling the Council's partner agencies to progress referrals of cases appropriately.

Agreed:- (1) That the information about the child sexual exploitation risk indicators, now submitted, be noted.

(2) That the following issues be considered at the next meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership to be held on 24th September 2014:-

(a) examples of the application of the risk indicators to individual case studies; and

(b) the up-to-date protocol applicable to the use of the risk indicators.

284. NEGLECT - PREPARATION FOR SEPTEMBER PEER REVIEW

Consideration was given to a report, presented by Sue Wilson, Performance and Quality Manager (CYPS), concerning the proposed peer review due to take place during the week beginning Monday 8th September 2014, about the impact of childhood neglect in the Borough area. The report also described the current profile of childhood neglect cases in Rotherham. The peer review will be led by the Director of Children's Services, Doncaster, alongside social care professionals from North Lincolnshire and from York.

The focus of this peer review will be childhood neglect, the impact that it has on the lives of children and on what is happening in the Rotherham Borough area to combat childhood neglect. It is anticipated that the peer review will investigate the way in which the Council's partner organisations respond to this issue, as well as the role of schools.

Members of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership would have the opportunity to participate in the peer review, including attendance at focus group meetings. In addition, members were encouraged to study the Ofsted report entitled "In the Child's Time : professional responses to neglect" (March 2014).

Discussion took place on some aspects of the way in which neglect may affect children, eg: brain development, educational attainment, diet, behavioural issues, deprivation of basic needs. There was also the impact on the family of low income and reliance upon benefit payments.

Agreed:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the arrangements for the forthcoming peer review of the impact of childhood neglect in Rotherham, as now reported, be noted.

285. REVIEW OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACTION PLAN 2013 - 2016

Further to Minute No. 251 of the meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership held on 15h January, 2014, Sue Wilson, Performance and Quality Manager (CYPS) presented a report concerning the review of the Children and Young People's Action Plan 2013 – 2016. This Action Plan underpins the Plan on a Page, which was developed around six joint key priorities and is linked into the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

Currently there were 40 actions ranked on green, 103 on amber, 16 on red and none on blue.

An explanation was given for each of the red actions.

A further report was distributed describing Priority 7 "With parents and young people, we will transform how education, care and health partners ensure that children and young people with special educational needs or a disability are identified early and supported to achieve the best possible outcomes in adult life. We will focus on making the transition between different services as seamless as possible."

It was noted that the Action Plan is monitored each month by the Commissioning Group and that updates will continue to be submitted to meetings of this Partnerships as intervals of six months.

Agreed:- (1) That the update of the Children and Young People's Action Plan 2013 – 2016, as now submitted, be noted.

(2) That a further update of the Action Plan be submitted to the January, 2015, meeting of this Partnership.

(3) That a report on the progress of the Plan on a Page be submitted to the next meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership.

286. MULTI AGENCY INSPECTION

Consideration was given to the joint consultation document on proposals

for the integrated inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers and the joint inspections of Local Safeguarding Children Boards. This consultation document had been jointly published by, amongst others, the Care Quality Commission and the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted).

The document stated that the consultation on the multi-agency arrangements for the protection of children focused on local authority and partnership arrangements for children and young people who are being harmed or who may be at risk of harm, including the provision and effectiveness of early help. In respect of the services for children and young people looked after and care leavers, Ofsted proposed to replace three separate inspection frameworks with a single inspection to focus on local authority performance of its statutory responsibilities for children looked after and care leavers. This was planned as a joint inspection with the Care Quality Commission.

The closing date for submission of responses to this consultation document was Friday 12th September, 2014.

Agreed:- That the contents of the consultation document be noted and members of this Partnership be provided with the template for responses to be submitted to Ofsted.

287. SEND

As part of items numbered 286 and 287 above, Sue Wilson, Performance and Quality Manager (CYPS) reported on issues concerning the Council's provision of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) services.

288. YOUTH CABINET

The contents of the minutes of the meetings of the Rotherham Youth Cabinet held on (a) 15th May, 2014 and (b) 8th July, 2014, were noted. The Rotherham Youth Cabinet manifesto is to be launched at a meeting to be held on Thursday, 16th October, 2014, at the Town Hall.

289. ROTHERHAM LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

The contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board held on 5th June, 2014, were noted.

290. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Copies of the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2014/2015 were distributed and members were invited to submit their comments to Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services.

291. DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership be held on Wednesday, 24th September, 2014, commencing at 2.00 p.m., at the Town Hall, Rotherham