

CHILDREN'S SERVICES POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

MEETING 16TH JULY, 2018

Present – Councillors Kellett (Chairman), C. Wild (Vice-Chairman), Bagnall, Cunliffe, Dean, Flitcroft, Gibbon, Kirk-Robinson, Murray, Shaikh, Warren and Watters.

Also in Attendance

Mr. G. Rowney	- Interim Director of People
Ms. R. Tanner	- Assistant Director of People – Adult Operations
Ms. B. Brown	- Assistant Director of People – Staying Safe
Mrs S. Bailey	- Principal Democratic Services Officer

Councillor Kellett in the Chair

1. YOUNG PEOPLE – TRANSITION TO ADULT HEALTH AND CARE SERVICE

The Interim Director of People gave a presentation which outlined the current arrangements in place for the transition of children to adult health and care and put forward proposals for its future development.

The presentation went on to outline the main drivers for change which included:

- amended legislation to align children's and adults services;
- feedback from children, young people and families;
- services improvements; and
- Ofsted feedback.

The presentation gave an overview of the children currently receiving services who would soon be transitioning to adult services. They included children who were on the Children Disability pathway and the Leaving Care pathway, young people in residential/residential education and young people in foster care and young people with complex needs due to autism, vulnerability and/or self-harm behaviours.

Examples of some of the aspirations of children who were about to transition into adult services were provided in terms of the processes involved.

A number of principles and outcomes had been formulated as a result and included:

- explaining the situation once;
- a seamless experience;
- reducing demand and high costs;
- supporting aspirations;
- protect and empower;
- building resilience in families and communities;
- listening to the voice of the young person;
- assess well;
- continuous review;
- person centred;
- multi-disciplinary approaches;
- right support/right time; and
- coordinated planning and just enough care.

In this regard, the report went on to outline the proposed process for transition to adulthood and the associated priorities and timescales, as follows:

- the development of a new Transition Strategy 2018/21:
 - o engagement of young people and families with lived experience; 1:1 interviews, groups, workshops (September, 2108)
 - o analysis of legislation, policy and guidance
- pilots for a new integrated service model:
 - o consider options and test new service design models;
 - o Transition Lead and 2 adult social workers appointed for interim Lead to support new ways of working – now in place
- Clear pathways in place which reflected service model:
 - o Revise information available for young people and families (January-April 2019);
- Best use of resources:
 - o Funding arrangements to be reviewed – consideration of pooled budgets in SCF development – April, 2019
 - o Demand into Adult Social care managed effectively – young people who are hidden identified and offered support where needed;

- Sufficiency:
 - o Develop intelligence available on young people in receipt of services
 - o Engage market and providers to build relationships and market shaping including the review of two in-house short break homes;
 - o Sufficiency Strategy considers the needs of young people and families through their transition.

Following the presentation, members discussed the issues and made a number of comments/observations:

- the importance of retaining respite centres;
- reviewing eligibility criteria to ensure those in need were receiving the services they required;
- examining the issues of out of Borough placements;
- making use of the Authority's links to the voluntary sector and increased partnership working;
- the involvement of young people in the development of plans; and
- reducing the need for young people to outline issues more than once.

Members felt that there was a need for further information in relation to the existing policy, current provision, sufficiency and financial situation.

It was agreed that further information be provided to the next meeting on the basis now detailed.

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 6.50pm)