

Minutes of the meeting of the CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE held on WEDNESDAY 4 JULY at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillor Bradburn (Chair)
Councillors Alexander, Barney, Miles, Small, Wales, Webb and Zealley and Mr S Pritchard

Officers: M Bracey (Assistant Director [Education, Effectiveness and Participation]), M Hancock (Assistant Director [Joint Commissioning]), N Rayner (Assistant Director [Social Care]), P Powers (Finance Manager [Children and Families]), E Richardson (Overview and Scrutiny Officer),

Also Present: Councillor Dransfield

Apologies: Councillor McLean

CYP03 MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the Committee meetings held on 15 February 2012 and 30 May 2012 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

CYP04 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed Members and officers to the meeting.

The Committee received a short introductory presentation on the work of the Children and Families Service Group by the Assistant Director (Education, Effectiveness and Participation).

CYP05 DRAFT HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY AND CONSULTATION PAPER

The Committee received a presentation on the progress towards establishing a Health and Wellbeing Board in Milton Keynes by April 2013.

The role of the new Health and Wellbeing Boards was to bring together local commissioners of healthcare and social care, public health, councillors, Healthwatch (LINK) and the voluntary sector. The Boards would have two main statutory functions; the production of a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the development of a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS). Both of these documents must be published. The presentation outlined the headline content of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and gave a timeline for completion of the development process.

A public consultation on the draft Strategy had started on 24 May and would run for 90 days until 23 August 2012.

In answer to questions, the Committee noted that:

- Although primarily designed for completion on-line, hard copies of the consultation document had been distributed to GPs' surgeries and other stakeholders around Milton Keynes. Although the return of responses so far from both sources was about equal the Committee recommended that consideration be given to widening the distribution of hard copies.
- The plans of the Milton Keynes Clinical Commissioning Group (MK CCG) had to be aligned with the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Work being done by the MK CCG would take into account the capacity of the hospital to deal with the needs of a rapidly expanding (but also aging) population.
- The draft Strategy included plans to reduce the injury rate from falls in the over 65s which was welcomed by the Committee. Although the majority of such falls were in the home, the Committee felt that the Strategy needed to take account of factors in the external environment which were unique to Milton Keynes such as the extensive network of redways and footpaths as it was agreed that locally these also contributed to falls in this age group.
- The draft strategy had 3 major Strategic Priorities made up of a total of 9 objectives which were seen as the immediate priorities. However a lot of routine work, although not itemised in the Strategy, would continue to be dealt with by a 'business as usual' approach.
- Once approved the Strategy would be monitored and updated as required and the continued relevance of any item assessed and changed if necessary.
- The Committee expressed concern at the number of priorities in the draft Strategy and felt that the list needed refining.
- Members also expressed concern at the lack of an action / delivery plan. The Strategy appeared to be a statement of intent but there was no indication of how it would be achieved. However, it was explained that the Health and Wellbeing Board would develop an implementation plan once the Strategy had been approved by Cabinet. A list of measures and outcomes was ready but they had not yet been included in the draft strategy as they may well change once the results of the consultation were analysed.
- Although the various age groups used in the Strategy were the standard public health age groups the Committee considered that

these could be refined to include the over-75s and premature babies as distinct groups.

- The Committee also suggested that service personnel and their specific health needs, particularly in mental health should be identified as a distinct group needing special care in the Strategy. The Committee was advised that the needs of service personnel were already a priority for the NHS and that the local Strategy was trying not to duplicate work that was already being done elsewhere in the system.

RESOLVED –

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee be requested to establish, in conjunction with the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee, a Review Group which would meet in early October to scrutinise any changes to the Strategy resulting from the current consultation.
2. That the membership of the Review Group be drawn from both the Children and Young People Select Committee and the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee.

CYP06 SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM – A NEW DIRECTION

The Committee received a presentation on changes to the way schools are funded. The presentation raised awareness of the issue so that the Committee could challenge the proposed changes before a formal consultation began.

From April 2013 the Department of Education would be introducing ways to simplify how schools were funded, leading to a national funding formula from 2015/16 onwards. This could have a detrimental effect on school funding in Milton Keynes given the current funding levels.

Local authorities had to consult on these changes during the summer and into the early autumn. In Milton Keynes a full consultation would be carried out with documentation currently being finalised.

The major changes involved moving the census date from January to October and dividing the Dedicated Schools Grant into three blocks: Schools Block, Early Years Block and High Needs Block.

The presentation also included a brief introduction to the Pupil Premium. This was an additional sum to the main school funding designed to address underlying inequalities between children eligible for free school meals and their peers by ensuring that funding to tackle disadvantage reached the pupils who needed it most.

For the 2012/13 academic year the Premium would be increasing from £488 to £600 per pupil. However, as accountability arrangements had not yet been confirmed or introduced the Committee agreed that this

was an issue they would like to look at in more detail to ensure that schools were spending the money appropriately.

RESOLVED –

That appropriate school representatives be invited to attend the next meeting of the Select Committee to describe how the Pupil Premium is being spent, share good practice and celebrate successes.

CYP07 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

The Committee received the Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Panel and thanked the Panel for its work during 2011-12.

It was suggested that future reports should be produced in booklet form rather than a A4 document format.

RESOLVED –

That the report be welcomed and noted.

CYP08 REVIEW GROUP ON PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES

The Committee received the minutes from the Review Group on Primary School Places and thanked the Review Group for its work.

The Cabinet Member for Children and Learning confirmed that following the work of the Review Groups on School Places, only those schools with an OFSTED rating of outstanding or good would be considered for expansion.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

CYP09 CABINET UPDATE

The Committee noted the responses from Cabinet on previous work items.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 10.00 PM