

Children and Families Scrutiny Panel

Scrutiny Monitoring – 7 November 2019

Date	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status
25/07/19	Children and Families Performance	1) That the analysis undertaken to identify where service demand is coming from is presented to the 26 September meeting of the Panel.	The analysis is scheduled to be presented to the 7 November meeting of the Panel.	
25/07/19	Education, Health and Care (EHC) Assessments – Performance	1) That, to aid understanding of the issues, anonymised case studies showing examples of completed EHC assessments are circulated to the Panel.	To be circulated to the Panel prior to the 7 November meeting.	
26/09/19	Educational Attainment	1) That the Panel are provided with ‘off-rolling’ figures for Southampton schools.	Briefing paper on off-rolling circulated to the Panel on 17/10/19	Completed
		2) That, reflecting concerns about the number of children that are entering primary school without being ‘school ready’, the Panel are provided with an overview of the actions that are being taken, or are planned, to ensure that children requiring additional support are targeted and supported to access good early years education.	<p>The proposed model of early years SEND provision will include an Early Years Panel which will have oversight of the assessment, planning, provision and outcomes of children aged 0-5, and will include problem solving, support and challenge, as well as allocating the early years SEND funding.</p> <p>It is expected that this panel will ensure that children’s needs are identified at an early age and will help coordinate the support offered by various agencies.</p> <p>The proposed model also includes plans for 3 integrated early years settings across the city which will provide early education and childcare for children who present with challenging behaviour, significant communication disorders and autism who as a result are experiencing discontinuous early years placements, or where early years placements are breaking down due to the complexity of the child’s needs and/or lack of sufficient funding. It is expected that these integrated settings will provide support and advice to the parents and that there will be access to on-</p>	

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			<p>site health and education professionals. Referrals to these settings will be via the Early Years Panel.</p> <p>Alongside this, Public Health are currently looking into why the proportion of children with challenging behaviours and autism in early years is increasing.</p> <p>The Early Years Advisory Teachers will be delivering the level 3 SENDCo training to SENDCos within early years group settings, which will increase understanding of needs of children with SEND and how better to support them.</p> <p>However the Nursery Education Funding rate has remained static over the past 2 ½ years, and whilst the Spending Review included a £66 million increase across the country this equates to only 1.8 percent. Our providers are really struggling to cover costs, with the increase in business rates, the introduction of pensions for all staff, the minimum/living wage increase, cost of living rises, and recruitment issues. Offering a place to a child with SEND is very costly and the funding does not cover the costs by any means.</p>	
26/09/19	Children and Families Performance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That a breakdown of Looked After Children that are not placed with in-house foster carers or independent fostering agencies is circulated to the Panel. 2) That the 23 January 2020 agenda includes consideration of the issue of child exploitation in Southampton. 	<p>To be circulated to the Panel prior to 7 November meeting.</p> <p>This item is on the provisional agenda for 23rd January 2020 meeting of the Panel.</p>	