

Blackpool Council

31 May 2016

To: Councillors Benson, Critchley, Mrs Henderson MBE, Humphreys, O'Hara, Scott, Singleton, Stansfield and L Taylor

The above members are requested to attend the:

RESILIENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 9 June 2016 at 6.00 pm
in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Blackpool

A G E N D A

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests in the items under consideration and in doing so state:

- (1) the type of interest concerned; and
- (2) the nature of the interest concerned

If any member requires advice on declarations of interests, they are advised to contact the Head of Democratic Governance in advance of the meeting.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 12 MAY 2016 (Pages 1 - 8)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 12 May 2016 as a true and correct record.

3 APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTEEES (Pages 9 - 12)

To consider the appointment of Mr Fred Kershaw as a diocesan co-opted member to the Committee and Ms Frances McErlane as a parent governor co-opted member of the Committee.

4 PUBLIC SPEAKING (Pages 13 - 16)

To consider any applications from members of the public to speak at the meeting.

5 EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS (Pages 17 - 22)

To consider the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions within the remit of the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee.

6 FORWARD PLAN (Pages 23 - 32)

To consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan, June 2016 – September 2016, relating to the portfolio of the Cabinet Secretary.

7 SCRUTINY WORKPLAN (Pages 33 - 48)

The Committee to consider the Workplan, together with any suggestions that Members may wish to make for scrutiny review.

8 CHILDREN'S AND ADULTS SERVICES REPORT (Pages 49 - 70)

To inform Scrutiny Committee of the work undertaken by Children's and Adult Services on a day to day basis and to update on the progress and implementation of developments within the areas in order to ensure effective scrutiny of services.

9 INTRODUCING INFUSION (Pages 71 - 76)

To provide an overview of the Infusion research and consultation service now based at Blackpool Council.

10 PUPIL REFERRAL UNIT SCRUTINY REVIEW ACTION PLAN (Pages 77 - 82)

To consider the Action Plan of the Pupil Referral Unit Scrutiny Review Panel in order to review progress made against recommendations.

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date and time of the next meeting of the Committee as Thursday 14 July 2016, commencing at 6pm.

Venue information:

First floor meeting room (lift available), accessible toilets (ground floor), no-smoking building.

Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager, Tel: 01253 477213, e-mail sharon.davis@blackpool.gov.uk

Copies of agendas and minutes of Council and committee meetings are available on the Council's website at www.blackpool.gov.uk.

MINUTES OF RESILIENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 12 MAY 2016

Present:

Councillor Benson (in the Chair)

Councillors

Critchley	Scott	Stansfield
Humphreys	Singleton	L Taylor

Frances McErlane, Co-opted Member

In Attendance:

Mrs Del Curtis, Director of People

Ms Amanda Hatton, Deputy Director of People (Early Help and Social Care)

Ms Karen Smith, Deputy Director of People (Adult Services)

Mrs Merle Davies, Director, Centre for Early Child Development

Mrs Sharon Mather, Development Manager, Centre for Early Child Development

Mrs Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager

Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary for Resilient Communities

Councillor Amy Cross, Cabinet Member for Health Inequalities and Adult Safeguarding

Councillor Maria Kirkland, Cabinet Member for Third Sector Engagement and Development

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS HELD ON 17 MARCH 2016, 6 APRIL 2016 AND 14 APRIL 2016

The minutes of the previous meetings held on 17 March 2016, 6 April 2016 and 14 April 2016 were signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Committee noted that there were no applications for public speaking on this occasion.

4 EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

The Committee considered the Executive Decisions taken since the last meeting of the Committee and asked a number of questions regarding PH26/2016 'Adult Social Care – Care at Home Fee Rates 2016/2017'. In response, Ms Karen Smith, Deputy Director of People advised that a full cost of care exercise had been undertaken in order to determine the fee rate proposals. Councillor Cain, Cabinet Secretary added that the ambition was that all

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providers would pay the Joseph Rowntree Living Wage within the next two years, but that currently the Government's new living wage was being implemented, resulting in employees under the age of 25 receiving a lower wage.

Members noted the large increase in the rate for sleep-in shifts from an average amount of £4.50 per hour to £8.00 per hour and requested more information regarding when the sleep-in rate was paid. Ms Smith advised that the rate was paid for sleeping only and that a different rate was applicable when awake, which was in line with case law. In response to a further question, she added that sleeping shifts varied in length and duties were dependent on the nature of the person's needs.

5 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the items contained within the Forward Plan, May 2016 – August 2016 within the portfolio of the Cabinet Secretary and requested an update on the 'Headstart Round Three Funding Bid Result and Future Action'. Mrs Del Curtis, Director of People advised that the bid was being formally presented in the next few weeks and an outcome was expected by the end of June 2016.

Members discussed the 'School Place Planning Next Steps' and were advised by Mrs Curtis that the Council had a statutory responsibility to ensure there were enough school places for children within Blackpool. She added that there was a predicted shortage in secondary school places and that a free school bid was currently being considered by the Department for Education, which would create the required number of places.

In response to questions, Mrs Curtis reported that child refugees were expected in Blackpool and that the whole school system was being considered in order to work through potential pressures. She also advised that academies set their own admissions criteria, but that all applications for school places, including to academies, were processed by the local authority's Admissions Team.

The Committee agreed to receive a detailed paper on School Place Planning once a decision had been made by the Department for Education on the free school application.

6 SCRUTINY WORKPLAN

Mrs Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager advised that should the establishment of a Health Scrutiny Committee be approved at Annual Council on 16 May 2016, a review of the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee Workplan would be undertaken to ensure that the workplan reflected the new terms of reference of the Committee.

The Committee discussed the Implementation of Recommendations table and noted the previous request to receive training on how Adults Social Care Services were regulated by the Care Quality Commission and the Council. The Chairman requested that a briefing paper be provided instead of a training session.

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Members also noted the response received from Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust regarding the use of the pharmacist on the Blackpool Victoria Hospital site and requested that the Trust be asked to investigate whether changes could be made to the contract of Lloyds pharmacy, to allow the pharmacy to dispense normal prescriptions in addition to hospital scripts.

The Committee agreed:

1. To review the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee Workplan following Annual Council.
2. To request a briefing paper rather than a training session on regulation of Adult Social Care Services.
3. To request that Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust investigate whether changes could be made to the contract of Lloyds pharmacy to allow the pharmacy to dispense normal prescriptions.

7 BETTER START

Mrs Merle Davies, Director, Centre for Early Child Development (CECD), gave a presentation to the Committee about the work undertaken by Better Start to date. She advised that Better Start was focussed on three key outcomes: Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Diet and Nutrition and that a large number of initiatives and programmes had been put in place to achieve the three key outcomes. She added that Better Start was also focussed on providing sustainability and continuing beyond the funded pilot stage.

The Chairman invited questions from the Committee and a question was raised regarding the ability of Better Start to measure the outcomes from the first 18 months. In response, Mrs Davies advised that many initiatives were still being established and that work was currently being undertaken to identify the performance indicators to be measured. In response to a further question, Mrs Davies reported that the Big Lottery was undertaking six monthly reviews of Better Start and had reported that good progress was being made. In addition, the Big Lottery attended all Better Start Executive Board meetings.

Members noted that a key piece of work related to volunteers and queried if links had been established to the Volunteer Strategy being developed by the Council. Councillor Maria Kirkland, Cabinet Member for Third Sector Engagement and Development, advised that a joined up approach was being taken.

In response to questioning, Mrs Davies advised that the £1.6 million funding for Parks and Open Spaces was not split evenly between the three parks and that the Park Rangers were working across the whole provision. Furthermore, the improvement and renovations were wheelchair friendly and provision had been made for other disabilities.

The Committee discussed the Head Start initiative, which was also being funded by the Big Lottery and Mrs Davies advised that there were strong links between the two organisations.

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8 ADULT SERVICES OVERVIEW REPORT

Ms Karen Smith, Deputy Director of People (Adult Services), presented the Adult Services Overview Report and the Chairman invited questions from the Committee.

The Committee commended the excellent work of Links Lodge in achieving an 'Outstanding' Care Quality Commission (CQC) judgement and queried if the best practice could be shared across providers in Blackpool. Ms Smith advised that all CQC reports were published online, which providers were encouraged to read. She added that there was a provider forum in Blackpool where best practice was shared.

Members noted that there was one Residential Care and Nursing Home rated as inadequate and queried if the home was making sufficient progress. In response, Ms Smith advised that the Council was working closely with the home and was confident that progress was being made. She added that all homes requiring improvement received enhanced monitoring or were subject to suspension until adequate progress was made.

Members also noted that two small residential homes had had their contracts terminated and queried the reasons behind the decisions. Ms Smith reported that the issues at the homes had ranged from maintaining records accurately to undertaking safety checks and that a contract would only be terminated with a provider if it was clear that sufficient improvement could not be made. Councillor Cross, Cabinet Member for Adult Safeguarding and Health Inequalities added that care homes were offered high levels of support in order to prevent issues occurring and receipt of poor inspection reports.

The Committee asked a number of questions around the recruitment and retention of care home staff and was advised by Ms Smith that 'inadequate staffing levels' were a sector wide regional problem and that Healthier Lancashire was taking the strategic lead in addressing the problem.

In response to a question, Ms Smith advised that she had not received any complaints regarding the availability of respite services and that there appeared to be satisfactory availability.

The Committee commended the 'good' inspection outcome of the Council's Coopers Way Respite Service and noted the good leadership at the facility.

The Committee went on to consider the recent changes to Intermediate Care and requested that a detailed update be provided in approximately six months to report on how the service was working.

The Committee agreed to receive a detailed update in approximately six months on Intermediate Care.

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9 HEALTHWATCH - DOMICILIARY CARE PUBLICATION RESPONSE

Mr Stephen Garner, Manager, Healthwatch presented the Healthwatch report into Domiciliary Care Services in Blackpool. He highlighted that the survey had been undertaken as it had been identified as a priority by Healthwatch in April 2015. Mr Garner reported that 750 surveys had been circulated with 98 returned, which was a response rate of 13%. The survey asked key questions around the choice of time for service users and whether the service had met their needs and had provided a largely favourable response.

Mr Garner added that the main issues identified through the survey were a lack of choice relating to the time when carers arrived, carers often arriving late and not staying the full length of time. He reported that the survey report had been forwarded to the Council for response and would also be presented to the Providers' Forum as many of the recommendations related directly to providers.

The Committee questioned the response rate and whether more could be done to improve the number of responses. Mr Garner advised that the survey had been distributed in an easy read format and had been made as simple as possible to encourage responses. In response to a further question, Ms Smith advised that the response rate of 13% was broadly consistent with response rates to Adult Social Care surveys.

In response to a question, Mr Garner advised that there was no breakdown of the client group available, only the age range and gender/ethnicity of those that had responded. He added that some responses had been submitted by carers on behalf of service users.

The Committee noted that the survey responses had been received from service users who commissioned their own care, in addition to service users whose care was commissioned by the Council. Ms Smith advised that it was unlikely that carers would always arrive on time due to the need for flexibility in their roles but that a service user should receive the full allocation of time whether the carer arrived on time or not.

Members commented that should Healthwatch undertake a similar survey in the future then a question pertaining to being treated with dignity and respect during visits should be asked.

The Committee considered the Council response to the report and noted the proposal to raise the issue of wearing identification badges at contract review meetings and questioned the timescale for undertaking the action. Ms Smith advised that the issue would be raised at the Provider's Forum, however, the Council could only reach providers from whom it commissioned services.

In response to a further question, Ms Smith confirmed that the Council did not commission 15 minute visits and expected to be told by a provider if not enough time had been allocated for any visit in order that it could be reviewed and the amount of allocated time increased where appropriate.

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Members queried if there was a timeline for the implementation of the recommendations and were advised by Mr Garner that one had not been developed, but that Healthwatch would monitor progress against the actions on a regular basis.

The Committee agreed to support the recommendations and the proposed action to be taken by the Council.

10 CHILDREN'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENT REPORT

Mrs Del Curtis, Director of People, presented the Children's Services Improvement Report and the Chairman invited questions from the Committee.

The Committee discussed the significant increase in work being experienced by Children's Services and queried how staff were coping with the additional pressure and if any reasons or trends for the increase had been identified. In response, Mrs Curtis advised that the number and complexity of cases had been increasing since December 2015. She advised that all data and information was being considered in order to redesign services, where appropriate and to alleviate pressure on services and staff. She also advised that Accident and Emergency Services and the Police were experiencing similar increases in volumes of work in Blackpool, but that the same increases were not being experienced across the whole of the North West region.

Members queried the success of the recent foster carer recruitment drive and were advised by Ms Amanda Hatton, Deputy Director of People (Early Help and Social Care) that there had been a lot of initial interest but a limited conversions. It was requested that the number and percentage of conversions be included in the next report to Committee. In response to further questions, Ms Hatton advised that Blackpool Council remunerated foster carers in line with the national pay framework, with additional payments made for carers with key skills supporting more complex cases and that a large amount of support was provided to carers, including a good training offer. Councillor Cain added that provision of incentives to foster carers had not been considered to date and that celebration events were held to commend the work of foster carers.

Members went on to discuss the application process to become a foster carer and queried the impact of the process on the number of conversions. Ms Hatton reported that many applicants found the process helpful as it demonstrated the complexities of the role and allowed applicants to consider if it was right for them to become a foster carer.

It was noted that 11 foster carers currently had exemption certificates to allow them to look after more than three children in care. Ms Hatton advised that exemption certificates would only be signed by Senior Managers within Children's Social Care, following consultation with the children already being looked after by the foster carer and if there was a specific need for the exemption, for example a large sibling group.

The Committee requested that further details of the consultation event to be held regarding

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the review of Speech, Language and Communication across Blackpool and the strategic group established to implement the transformational plan for Autism Spectrum Disorder, be circulated to Members following the meeting.

Members commended the recent 'Outstanding' Ofsted inspection result at St Nicholas Church of England Primary School and queried the reason for the significant improvement from the previous rating of 'Requires Improvement'. In response, Mrs Curtis advised that the new leadership at the school had been responsible for the significant improvement and that the good practice was being shared across all primary schools through improvement clusters.

The Committee discussed Pupil Premium uptake by early years settings and requested that the data be drilled down further to demonstrate uptake at settings attached to Children's Centres in comparison to other settings.

Members went on to discuss the Restorative Justice programme whereby a young offender was introduced to their victim in order to apologise and noted that there was no specific cost attached to the scheme. The Committee considered that a large number of improvements had been made to the Youth Offending Team and requested that a thematic discussion be held on Youth Offending and Restorative Justice at a future meeting of the Committee.

In response to a question, Mrs Curtis advised that once a child had been removed from mainstream education in order to home educate it was unlikely that they would be returned to mainstream education at a later date. She advised that the number of children being educated at home was a concern, but that there was a national drive to ensure parents were aware of the choice. She added that the introduction of an online learning platform was being considered in addition to an education pack designed for young people receiving an education at home.

The Committee agreed:

1. To receive additional data regarding the convergence of foster carers at the next meeting.
2. To receive further details of the consultation event to be held regarding the review of Speech, Language and Communication across Blackpool and the strategic group established to implement the transformational plan for Autism Spectrum Disorder following the meeting.
3. To receive a comparison of the uptake of Pupil Premium by early years settings attached to Children's Centres and settings unattached.
4. To hold a thematic discussion on Youth Offending including Restorative Justice at a future meeting of the Committee.

11 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee noted the date and time of the next meeting as Thursday 9 June 2016 commencing at 6pm in the Council Chamber, subject to confirmation at Annual Council.

**MINUTES OF RESILIENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 12
MAY 2016**

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 8.03 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:

Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager

Tel: 01253 477213

E-mail: sharon.davis@blackpool.gov.uk

Report to:	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	9 June 2016

APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTees

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 The Committee to consider the appointment of Mr Fred Kershaw as a diocesan co-opted member to the Committee and Ms Frances McErlane as a parent governor co-opted member of the Committee.

2.0 Recommendations:

- 2.1 To approve the appointment of Mr Fred Kershaw as a diocesan co-opted member to the Committee.
- 2.2 To approve the appointment of Ms Frances McErlane as a parent governor co-opted member of the Committee.
- 2.3 To note the remaining Parent Governor and diocesan co-opted member vacancies.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To ensure the scrutiny process continues to be fully accountable and an important part of the democratic process.
- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No
- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A
- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:
None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 requires the Council to have Parent Governor Representatives on the relevant Overview and Scrutiny body dealing wholly or partly with education functions. The representatives are entitled to participate in discussions on any issue but are only able to vote on any question which relates to the education functions of the Council.

5.2 The School Standards and Framework Act 1998, and the Education Act 1996 require the Council to have Church representatives on the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee which considers education matters. Like the Parent Governor representatives, they are entitled to participate in discussions on any issue, but only able to vote on any question which relates to the education functions of the Council.

5.3 The Council's Constitution allows for membership of the following representatives in order to comply with the statutory requirements:

- One Church of England diocese representative
- One Roman Catholic diocese representative
- Two Parent Governor representatives; and
- such other representatives of other faiths or denominations as may be agreed

5.4 At the meeting of full Council on 16 May 2016, it was agreed that the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee should appoint two diocesan co-opted representatives and two governor co-opted representatives.

5.5 The Scrutiny Manager is continuing to seek appointments to the remaining statutory positions.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

None

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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Report to:	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	9 June 2016

PUBLIC SPEAKING

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider any applications from members of the public to speak at the meeting.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider and respond to representations made to the Committee by members of the public.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To encourage public involvement in the scrutiny process.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

5.1 At the meeting of full Council on 29 June 2011, a formal scheme was agreed in relation to public speaking at Council meetings. Listed below are the criteria in relation to meetings of the Scrutiny Committee.

5.2 **General**

- 5.2.1 Subject as follows, members of the public may make representations at ordinary meetings of the Council, the Planning Committee and Scrutiny Committees.

With regard to Council, Scrutiny Committee meetings not more than five people may speak at any one meeting and no persons may speak for longer than five minutes. These meetings can also consider petitions submitted in accordance with the Council's approved scheme, but will not receive representations, petitions or questions during the period between the calling of and the holding of any election or referendum.

5.3 **Request to Participate at a Scrutiny Committee Meeting**

- 5.3.1 A person wishing to make representations or otherwise wish to speak at a Scrutiny Committee must submit such a request in writing to the Head of Democratic Services, for consideration.

The deadline for applications will be 5pm on the day prior to the dispatch of the agenda for the meeting at which their representations, requests or questions will be received. (The Chairman in exceptional circumstances may allow a speaker to speak on a specific agenda item for a Scrutiny Committee, no later than noon, one working day prior to the meeting).

Those submitting representations, requests or questions will be given a response at the meeting from the Chairman of the Committee, or other person acting as Chairman for the meeting.

5.4 **Reason for Refusing a Request to Participate at a Scrutiny Committee Meeting**

- 5.4.1
- 1) if it is illegal, defamatory, scurrilous, frivolous or offensive;
 - 2) if it is factually inaccurate;
 - 3) if the issues to be raised would be considered 'exempt' information under the Council's Access to Information Procedure rules;
 - 4) if it refers to legal proceedings in which the Council is involved or is in contemplation;
 - 5) if it relates directly to the provision of a service to an individual where the use of the Council's complaints procedure would be relevant; and
 - 6) if the deputation has a financial or commercial interest in the issue.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

None.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 To ensure that the opportunity to speak at Scrutiny Committee meetings is open to all members of the public.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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Report to:	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	9 June 2016

EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions within the remit of the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee.

2.0 Recommendation:

2.1 Members will have the opportunity to question the Cabinet Secretary or the relevant Cabinet Member in relation to the decisions taken.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure that the opportunity is given for all Executive and Cabinet Member decisions to be scrutinised and held to account.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is 'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.'

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Attached at the appendix to this report is a summary of the decisions taken, which have been circulated to Members previously.

5.2 This report is presented to ensure Members are provided with a timely update on the decisions taken by the Executive and Cabinet Members. It provides a process where the Committee can raise questions and a response be provided.

5.3 Members are encouraged to seek updates on decisions and will have the opportunity to raise any issues.

5.4 Witnesses/representatives

5.4.1 The following Cabinet Members are responsible for the decisions taken in this report and have been invited to attend the meeting:

- Councillor Cain, Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities)

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 5(a): Summary of Executive and Cabinet Member decisions taken.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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DECISION / OUTCOME	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	CABINET MEMBER
<p>GRASS CUTTING PRIORITISATION The Cabinet Secretary agreed the recommendation to agree the grass cutting priorities used to manage green open spaces, in the following priority order across Blackpool:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cemeteries • Stanley Park/Promenade • Sports pitches – football, bowling, rugby and cricket areas • Community Parks • Grass verges • General amenity grass. 	<p>To consider the grass cutting priorities in relation to the management of parks and open spaces, in light of the Council’s budgetary position and understand the implications.</p>	<p>PH39/2016</p>	<p>4/05/16</p>	<p>Cllr Cain</p>
<p>CHILDREN’S SOCIAL CARE AND EARLY HELP The Cabinet Secretary agreed the recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To agree that in order to meet the level of demand and progress the Strategic Transformation Programme additional resource and structural change was required. 2. To agree the increase in Social Worker posts by six full-time equivalents to reduce current caseload sizes. 3. To agree a dedicated resource to work through specific anti-social activity behaviour/trends across the town and note that this resource will be separate and different from the anti-social behaviour process in Enforcement and Community Safety. 4. To agree an increase in resources to support reunification home and effective case management of Children Looked After. 	<p>To consider and agree the additional resource required by Children’s Services in order to meet current demand and transformation requirements.</p>	<p>PH43/2016</p>	<p>23/05/16</p>	<p>Cllr Cain</p>

<p>CHILDREN'S SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016-2018 The Cabinet Secretary agreed the recommendations: 1. To agree to the Children's Services Capital Programme and the agreement to the allocation of capital budget. 2. In addition to the above, agree to the internal purchase for up to £200,000 and transfer of either part or whole of land occupied by the former Whitegate Family Centre, for the future provision of Special Education Needs.</p>	<p>To agree works to be undertaken as outlined in the attached Capital Programme for Children's Services, with particular reference to Local Authority maintained schools and special school provision.</p>	<p>PH44/2016</p>	<p>23/05/16</p>	<p>Cllr Cain</p>
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Report to:	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	9 June 2016

FORWARD PLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan, June 2016 – September 2016, relating to the portfolio of the Cabinet Secretary.

2.0 Recommendations:

2.1 Members will have the opportunity to question the relevant Cabinet Member in relation to items contained within the Forward Plan within the portfolio of the Cabinet Secretary.

2.2 Members will have the opportunity to consider whether any of the items should be subjected to pre-decision scrutiny. In so doing, account should be taken of any requests or observations made by the relevant Cabinet Member.

3.0 Reasons for recommendations:

3.1 To enable the opportunity for pre-decision scrutiny of the Forward Plan items.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is 'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.'

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Forward Plan is prepared by the Leader of the Council to cover a period of four months and has effect from the first working day of any month. It is updated on a monthly basis and subsequent plans cover a period beginning with the first working day of the second month covered in the preceding plan.

5.2 The Forward Plan contains matters which the Leader has reason to believe will be subject of a key decision to be taken either by the Executive, a Committee of the Executive, individual Cabinet Members, or Officers.

5.3 Attached at Appendix 6 (a) is a list of items contained in the current Forward Plan. Further details appertaining to each item contained in the Forward Plan has previously been forwarded to all members separately.

5.6 Witnesses/representatives

5.6.1 The following Cabinet Member is responsible for the Forward Plan items in this report and has been invited to attend the meeting:

- Councillor Cain, Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities)

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 6(a) – Summary of items contained within Forward Plan
June 2016 – September 2016.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - SUMMARY OF KEY DECISIONS**(JUNE 2016 to SEPTEMBER 2016)***** Denotes New Item**

Page N°	Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
2	June 2016	Adult Social Care Charging Policy	12/2015	Executive	Cllr Cain
4	July 2016	Headstart Round Three Funding Bid Result and Future Action	7/2016	Executive	Cllr Cain
7	June 2016	School Place Planning Next Steps	11/2016	Executive	Cllr Cain
8	July 2016	Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2019	12/2016	Council	Cllr Cain
9	July 2016	Youth Justice Plan	13/2016	Executive	Cllr Collett

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision Ref N^o 12/2015	To consider and approve the revised charging policy for Adult Social Care services. Blackpool's Fairer Contributions Policy has been revised and updated to reflect the requirements of the Care Act 2014. The new Adult Social Care Charging Policy will cover the charging arrangements for both residential and non-residential services.
Decision making Individual or Body	Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities)
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	June 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Service users directly affected by the changes resulting from the implementation of the revised Policy.• Local third sector organisations with a specific interest in adult social care. Consultation will be conducted by post, through the website and through stakeholder events.
How representations are to be made and by what date	Representations must be made in writing (either by letter, e-mail or the on-line survey) to the responsible officer. The dates of the consultation are subject to confirmation.
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Report The Adult Social Care Charging Policy The Equality Analysis A Report on the outcome of the Consultation Exercise
Name and address of responsible officer	Karen Smith Deputy Director of People (Adult Services) e-mail: karen.smith@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 476803

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision Ref N ^o 7/2016	Headstart Round Three Funding Bid Result and Future Action
Decision making Individual or Body	Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities)
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	July 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	N/A
How representations are to be made and by what date	In writing to the responsible officer, at the address shown below, by 1 June 2016.
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Report
Name and address of responsible officer	Neil Jack, Chief Executive e-mail: neil.jack@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 47 7006

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision Ref N° 11/2016	School Place Planning Next Steps. Following the publication of the School Organisation Pupil Place Plan 2015-2020 to agree what actions need to be taken to ensure delivery of sufficient school places over the next decade.
Decision making Individual or Body	Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities)
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	June 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	Once the preferred option is selected a full consultation exercise will be undertaken.
How representations are to be made and by what date	Not applicable
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Report to be submitted
Name and address of responsible officer	Delyth Curtis, Director of People e-mail: Delyth.curtis@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 47 65 58

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision Ref N ^o 12/2016	To approve the 2016-19 Health and Wellbeing Strategy
Decision making Individual or Body	Council
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities)
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	July 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	Health and Wellbeing Board – presentation and discussion Public Health Scrutiny Panel – presentation and discussion General Public (in collaboration with HealthWatch) – promotion, circulation, engagement activity, feedback forms Partner organisations – circulation and brief survey.
How representations are to be made and by what date	Through the above methods in time for the July meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Covering report – to approve the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-19 Appendix: Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-19
Name and address of responsible officer	Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health e-mail: arif.rajpura@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 476367

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision Ref N ^o 13/2016	To approve the annual Youth Justice Plan
Decision making Individual or Body	Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Eddie Collett, Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding and School Improvement
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	July 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	Members of the Youth Offending Team Partnership Management Board, through the established cycle of meetings and/or activity specifically for the purpose of producing the plan.
How representations are to be made and by what date	Not Applicable
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Covering Report Plan
Name and address of responsible officer	Delyth Curtis, Director of People e-mail: Delyth.curtis@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 47 65 58

Report to:	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	9 June 2016

SCRUTINY WORKPLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the Workplan, together with any suggestions that Members may wish to make for scrutiny review.

2.0 Recommendations:

2.1 To approve the Committee Workplan, taking into account any suggestions for amendment or addition.

2.2 To monitor the implementation of the Committee's recommendations/actions.

3.0 Reasons for recommendations:

3.1 To ensure the Workplan is up to date and is an accurate representation of the Committee's work.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is 'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.'

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Scrutiny Workplan

5.1.1 The Scrutiny Committee Workplan is attached at Appendix 7 (a). The Workplan is a flexible document that sets out the work that the Committee will undertake over the course of the year.

5.1.2 Committee Members are invited, either now or in the future, to suggest topics that might be suitable for scrutiny in order that they be added to the Workplan.

5.2 Scrutiny Review Checklist

5.2.1 The Scrutiny Review Checklist is attached at Appendix 7 (b). The checklist forms part of the mandatory scrutiny procedure for establishing review panels and must therefore be completed and submitted for consideration by the Committee, prior to a topic being approved for scrutiny.

5.3 Implementation of Recommendations/Actions

5.3.1 The table attached to Appendix 7 (c) has been developed to assist the Committee to effectively ensure that the recommendations made by the Committee are acted upon. The table will be regularly updated and submitted to each Committee meeting.

5.3.2 Members are requested to consider the updates provided in the table and ask questions as appropriate.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 7 (a), Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee Workplan
Appendix 7 (b), Scrutiny Review Checklist
Appendix 7 (c), Implementation of Recommendations/Actions

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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RESILIENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2015/2016	
9 June 2016	Children's and Adults Overview Report PRU Scrutiny update Introducing Infusion
14 July 2016	Council Plan – End of Year Performance Monitoring - Communities Children's and Adults Overview Report
1 September 2016	Children's and Adults Overview Report Thematic Discussion: Youth Justice System Council Plan – Q1 Performance Monitoring - Communities
13 October 2016	Children's and Adults Overview Report Thematic Discussion: Transforming Care for Adults with Learning Disabilities (Winterbourne View)
8 December 2016	Children's and Adults Overview Report Update on Volunteer Strategy Council Plan – Q2 Performance Monitoring - Communities
26 January 2017	Children's and Adults Overview Report
9 March 2017	Children's and Adults Overview Report Council Plan – Q3 Performance Monitoring - Communities
27 April 2017	Children's and Adults Overview Report

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SCRUTINY SELECTION CHECKLIST

Title of proposed Scrutiny:

The list is intended to assist the relevant scrutiny committee in deciding whether or not to approve a topic that has been suggested for scrutiny.

Whilst no minimum or maximum number of 'yes' answers are formally required, the relevant scrutiny committee is recommended to place higher priority on topics related to the performance and priorities of the Council.

Please expand on how the proposal will meet each criteria you have answered 'yes' to.

	Yes/No
The review will add value to the Council and/or its partners overall performance:	
The review is in relation to one or more of the Council's priorities:	
The Council or its partners are not performing well in this area:	
It is an area where a number of complaints (or bad press) have been received:	
The issue is strategic and significant:	
There is evidence of public interest in the topic:	
The issue has potential impact for one or more sections of the community:	
Service or policy changes are planned and scrutiny could have a positive input:	
Adequate resources (both members and officers) are available to carry out the scrutiny:	

Please give any further details on the proposed review:

Completed by:

Date:

MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

DATE OF REC	RECOMMENDATION	TARGET DATE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	UPDATE	RAG RATING
02.07.15	Summary of all Ofsted inspection reports within the Children's Services Improvement Report and to receive full Ofsted inspection reports outside of the Committee meeting as and when they are published.	Ongoing	Del Curtis/Sharon Davis	A summary of Ofsted Inspection reports is included in every Children's Improvement report. Full inspection report links to be circulated via the Chairman.	Green
10.09.15	To request that the potential use of a similar test to the NHS friends and family test for appropriate services be investigated.	17 March 2016	Hilary Shaw	<p>The ability to rate and comment on residential homes and care at home providers is already available through the NHS Choices website. Members of the public can search CQC registered providers in a given area, see ratings given by other people, and leave their own comments. The questions asked are: "Recommend to Friends and Family?", "Your review", and "When did you visit this care provider". The results are shown by way of an overall user rating out of 5 stars. The care homes information also indicates which providers have a registered manager in post, levels of staff turnover, food hygiene rating, and size of the home. For homecare, shared lives and supported living, the public can see whether the provider is accepting new clients alongside the star rating.</p> <p>The facility is currently not being accessed by a large number of people, so the Adult Services Department is exploring ways to promote feedback through Social Care staff and providers.</p>	Amber

10.09.15	More detail be provided in the commentary regarding incident type in future Complaints Annual Reports.	September 2016	Hilary Shaw	To be included in the 2016 Annual Reports.	Not yet due
10.09.15	Training session on how both the Council and the CQC regulate services.	31 March 2016	Sharon Davis/ Karen Smith	Action superseded by briefing paper request at 12 April 2016 meeting.	Green
05.11.15	To monitor the developments made in relation to a central database for volunteers, a policy for recruitment and a potential corporate celebration event.	November 2016	Councillor Kirkland	To be received 12 months after date of meeting.	Not yet due
05.11.15	All Councillors be requested to attend dementia awareness training.	31 May 2016	Sharon Davis	Update on attendance: 27 Nov 2015 – Cllrs Maycock, Cain, Mitchell 13 Jan 2016 – Cllrs Cross, Ryan, O'Hara, G Coleman, Benson, L Taylor, Galley 28 Jan 2016 – Cllrs Hutton, D Coleman, Campbell 2 Feb 2016 – Cllrs Kirkland, Smith 12 April 2016 – Cllr Hunter = total 16 Members	Amber
10.12.15	To receive an update on the progress to meet the national waiting list target for Psychiatric Therapies in approx six months.	30 June 2016	Helen Lammond-Smith	Update to be sought in June 2016. To be transferred to Health Committee.	Not yet due
10.12.15	To receive the results of the additional piece of work regarding feedback from service users from Healthwatch Blackpool and LCFT in due course.	30 June 2016	Steve Winterson	Timescales currently unknown. Feedback will be sought in due course. To be transferred to Health Committee.	Not yet due
10.12.15	To receive performance reports from Blackpool CCG biannually commencing in approx six months.	Ongoing	Roy Fisher/David Bonson	First report due 9 th June 2016. To be transferred to Health Committee.	Not yet due
10.12.15	To request that inspection results for all regulated services be	Ongoing	Karen Smith	Included in Adult Services Overview Report.	Green

	included in future Adult Services Overview Reports.				
10.12.15	To receive further information on the review of the Emergency Duty Team at a future meeting of the Committee.	30 June 2016	Del Curtis	Included in Children's and Adults Services Report.	Green
10.12.15	That the overview of complaints and compliments as provided to the Corporate Parent Panel be circulated to Members of the Committee outside of meetings.	Ongoing	Sharon Davis	First paper circulated.	Green
04.02.16	To receive an update on the uptake of milk with fluoride in approximately six months.	September 2016	Councillor Cross	An update will be sought in due course.	Not yet due
04.02.16	Future performance reports include clearer target information to allow Members to measure progress more effectively.	July 2016	Sally Shaw	To be improved for the next report to Committee due in July 2016.	Not yet due
04.02.16	A report in approximately six months detailing the progress the Trust has made in relation to the ambition targets and work plans.	September 2016	Tim Bennett	Update to be sought in September 2016. To be transferred to Health Committee.	Not yet due
04.02.16	That further data be circulated relating to the performance in the Families in Need Service.	31 March 2016	Amanda Hatton	Awaiting response.	Red
04.02.16	To receive any action plans developed from the Serious Case Reviews and the details of lessons learnt for detailed consideration.	September 2016	Del Curtis	To be received at a future meeting.	Not yet due
04.02.16	To receive an update in approximately six months regarding the review of social care	September 2016	Del Curtis	Update to be sought in September 2016.	Not yet due

	placements.				
04.02.16	To receive regular updates regarding the Pilot Scheme for Respite Provision including occupancy rates and how the results of the pilot would inform future respite provision.	May 2016	Karen Smith	To receive regular updates, first one scheduled for May 2016 and included in report.	Green
17.03.16	The Committee agreed to receive a CSE update report once the Ofsted inspection had been undertaken.	Following inspection	Philippa Holmes	Date for update to be received once inspection has been undertaken.	Not yet due
17.03.16	To receive a comparison of costs of the new approach to providing equipment versus the equipment store approach following the meeting.	31 May 2016	David Bonson	Update to be circulated outside of Committee. Awaiting response. Action to be chased.	Red
17.03.16	That the CCG provide an update report to a meeting of the Committee in approximately six months.	September 2016	David Bonson/Roy Fisher	To be included in workplan. To be transferred to Health Committee.	Not yet due
17.03.16	The Committee agreed to receive the Annual Blackpool Safeguarding Board Report at a future meeting.	September 2016	David Sanders	To be added to workplan.	Not yet due
17.03.16	The Committee agreed to invite relevant NHS organisations to a future meeting in order to discuss discharges that had been delayed as a result of the NHS.	Tbc	Blackpool Hospitals Trust/Blackpool CCG	To be transferred to Health Committee.	Not yet due
17.03.16	The Committee agreed to receive the analysis of contacts received from the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub.	Tbc	Josie Lee	Date to be confirmed once timescale for analysis is identified.	Not yet due

06.04.16	The draft domestic abuse strategy be considered at a future meeting of the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee, once it was available.	Tbc	Amanda Hatton	To be added to workplan when date for completion is known.	Not yet due
06.04.16	That the strategy and action plan for preventing and dealing with homelessness be presented to the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee, once it had been drafted.	Tbc	Andy Foot	To be added to workplan when date for completion is known.	Not yet due
06.04.16	To receive a report containing further information regarding health issues for homeless people, with a particular focus on their access to healthcare.	31 July 2016	Andy Foot/Arif Rajpura	Further report to be requested.	Not yet due
14.04.16	To receive an update from LCFT on The Harbour in approximately 6 months.	October 2016	Lisa Moorhouse	To be added to workplan. To be transferred to Health Committee.	Not yet due
14.04.16	To receive a full response to the questions regarding the incident on Byron Ward from a clinician following the meeting.	October 2016	Lisa Moorhouse	It has been agreed that the response will be provided in person by a clinician at the next meeting. To be transferred to Health Committee.	Not yet due
14.04.16	To receive the Terms of Reference and a list of attendees of the Board established to monitor the action plan developed following the CQC inspection.	3 June 2016	Lisa Moorhouse	Information circulated to Committee Members.	Green
12.05.16	To review the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee Workplan following Annual Council.	Ongoing	Sharon Davis	Health work to be transferred to Health Committee with agreement of the Chairman.	Green

12.05.16	To request a briefing paper rather than a training session on regulation of Adult Social Care Service.	30 June 2016	Karen Smith	Briefing paper requested at meeting.	Not yet due
12.05.16	To request that Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust investigate whether changes could be made to the contract of Lloyds pharmacy to allow the pharmacy to dispense normal prescriptions.	30 June 2016	Dr Mark Johnston	Request forwarded to Dr Johnston.	Not yet due
12.05.16	The Committee agreed to receive a detailed update in approximately six months on Intermediate Care.	November 2016	Karen Smith	To be added to workplan.	Not yet due.
12.05.16	To receive additional data regarding the convergence of foster carers at the next meeting.	9 June 2016	Del Curtis	To be included in report.	
12.05.16	To receive further details of the consultation event to be held regarding the review of Speech, Language and Communication across Blackpool and the strategic group established to implement the transformational plan for Autism Spectrum Disorder following the meeting.	30 June 2016	Del Curtis	Information to be circulated.	Not yet due
12.05.16	To receive a comparison of the uptake of Pupil Premium by early years settings attached to Children's Centres and settings unattached.	30 June 2016	Del Curtis	Information to be circulated.	Not yet due

12.05.16	To hold a thematic discussion on Youth Offending including Restorative Justice at a future meeting of the Committee.	Tbc	Sharon Davis	To be included in workplan.	Not yet due
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Report to:	RESILENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	9 June 2016

CHILDREN’S AND ADULT SERVICES REPORT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To inform Scrutiny Committee of the work undertaken by Children’s and Adult Services on a day to day basis and to update on the progress and implementation of developments within the areas in order to ensure effective scrutiny of services.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the contents of the report and to ensure that current work continues to meet statutory obligations and that work to prepare for external inspections continues.

2.2 To continue to meet statutory monitoring, challenge and support obligations.

2.3 To work with schools to support improvement and preparation for external scrutiny and support the work of the Blackpool Challenge Board in order to improve the progress and attainment of Blackpool Children especially at KS3 and KS4.

2.4 To identify any further information and actions required.

3.0 Reasons for recommendations:

3.1 For Members of the Scrutiny Committee to be fully informed as to the day to day work of the Children’s and Adults Services Directorate and have assurance that Blackpool is continuing to meet its statutory obligations for future inspection requirements. The Local Authority retains a statutory responsibility to monitor all schools in order to support improvement and raise the attainment and progress for all children in the Local Authority Area.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council’s approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options considered:

Services are subject to national and statutory frameworks.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is 'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.'

5.0 Background Information

Children's Social Care Continuous Improvement Programme of Work/Ofsted regulatory framework changes:

5.1 Review of Emergency Duty Team (EDT)

The Review is being undertaken to consider the current performance of the service and to identify options for a more effective and efficient service to those customers that require support outside office hours (both adults and children's services). It is considering :-

- Resources – staffing and financial.
- Pathways and referrals.
- Performance including Key Performance Indicators, Outcomes, Practice and Quality Assurance.
- Systems Analysis.
- Integration with key partners.
- Risk .

The first presentation of the review shall take place on 7 June 2016 with a final update to Scrutiny scheduled for July 2016. Consultation along with a challenge session by partners will also form part of the process.

Work undertaken to date includes the following;

- A SWOT analysis on the data system/processes.
- Data analysis on categories and areas of increase/decrease of the work stream.
- Data analysis for the month of March 2016, taken from individual log sheets in order to provide more detail on; rotas, staffing, volume of contacts, appropriateness of contacts, time pressures etc.
- An analysis of the significant increase in work since 2015 – especially for mental health assessments.
- Recruitment challenges – due to a national move to increased specialisation into adult and children's services social work training and employment from an early stage in careers, it is virtually impossible to recruit people that are able to take on the dual role of undertaking Mental Health Act Assessments and child protection assessments.
- Possibilities of working more closely together with other agencies and sharing resources.

5.2 **HeadStart Delivery and Framework**

HeadStart is a big lottery funded programme that aims to increase the resilience of young people aged 10-16 in order to reduce the number that go on to develop mental health conditions. Blackpool is one of 12 areas that are currently delivering a two year pilot and waiting to hear if they have been successful in the Phase 3 application, that will see up to £10million invested in the town over the next five years.

- 5.2.1 The vision for HeadStart Blackpool is that each of the 10,937 10-16 year olds living in the town will benefit from the investment, by working alongside schools to develop resilience promoting environments for their pupils and working in the community with both statutory, Voluntary and Community Services and small community groups (such as scouts, guides, sports groups etc) to build capacity and expertise to ensure there are opportunities for our young people to learn about resilience and get the right help, at the right time in the right place.
- 5.2.2 Some young people will need more support than others to build their resilience and be able to cope with life's challenges, so HeadStart Blackpool will target more resources to young people who self harm, young people looked after by the local authority and young people in year 6 and 7, in transition from primary to secondary school with low resilience.
- 5.2.3 The review of EDT and the delivery of the HeadStart Programme link directly into supporting our community and young people to become more resilient whilst improving the support services to enable this.

5.3 **Neighbourhood development and new models of care**

The term new models of care refers to the schemes being developed in order to provide care closer to people, at home and in their community. The aim is to try and prevent unnecessary hospital admissions, and the attendant risks of hospital admission in terms of hospital acquired infections. Further outcomes are predicted to be a reduction in non-elective admissions, and reduction in pressure on Accident and Emergency attendance and services.

- 5.3.1 The new models are being funded on a “pump-prime” basis through the Vanguard programme, with an expectation that the future long term funding for these new services will be possible through the savings on hospital based services due to the reductions in hospital capacity needed as indicated above.
- 5.3.2 Blackpool is in the process of developing six neighbourhood health teams based on the alignment of GP practices into neighbourhoods, creating a model of enhanced primary care. These are not geographical entities, but based on the population of the people registered with the respective neighbourhood GPs. Each neighbourhood will have a team of clinical and allied health professionals working with the practices in their area, in order to deliver this service closer to or in the home, and in so doing

reduce some of the burden in GP practices. It will focus on those people needing episodic care, and also aim to contribute to reducing social isolation and increasing community engagement.

- 5.3.3 Adult Social Care staff are attending the monthly meetings, where these are taking place, although they are in the early stages of development. As part of the Vanguard funding application for this year we have requested finance to recruit a dedicated Social Worker for each neighbourhood being co-located with and working as part of the team, together with management support. At the time of writing this the actual allocation is unknown, although early indications suggest that only approximately 40 – 50% of the requested funding will be allocated, which will impact on dedicated Adult Social Care staffing recruitment and funding availability.
- 5.3.4 A further development as part of the New Models of Care changes is the Extensive Care Service. The plan is to have three teams working across the whole of Blackpool, each team working with up to 500 people over the age of 65 who have two or more from a designated list of chronic health conditions. The aim of the service is to enable people to better manage their health through input from the team over a 6-9 month period, and thereby reduce admissions to acute hospital settings. One team in North Blackpool has been established for almost a year, a second covering South Blackpool started in April 2016, and the aim is to have a third covering central practices by September this year. A Social Worker was seconded to the North team for the initial 12 months, funded by the first year of Vanguard funding, but will be leaving the service at the end of June due to no extension of the funding. The new models of care programme focuses on access to an integrated local offer and also has a key part to play in reducing social isolation.

5.4 **Better Start System Change and Transformation**

Better Start's Community Development strand delivers a range of community action projects across our 7 target wards with many adopting a full town approach. This currently involves support and development for all Community Voice volunteers through our appointed host provider The Volunteer Centre, volunteers will receive significant support to identify their volunteer pathway and how they can continue to use their skills and knowledge to represent our local families.

- 5.4.1 Our Primary Indicator Diet and Nutrition is being supported through two Outdoor Activities Programme: Sport Blackpool develop the skills of volunteers by offering a pathway to sports leadership qualifications and BFC Community Trust delivers weekly physical activity session leading to a 5 week Fit2Go Healthy Lifestyle Programme.
- 5.4.2 Matching Nature's Colours is our eighth Activity Card from our series of 12 which promotes development under our Language and Communication indicator.
- 5.4.3 Baby Rover is now receiving and distributing donations of baby clothing and forward planning how best it can maximise its reach across the town as well as working alongside the Volunteer Centre to developing further our volunteer pathway

opportunities.

5.4.4 The Engagement of Dads Programme is currently focusing on a reading zone enhancement initiative in partnership with Lightworks and Libraries, all target ward libraries will each receive bespoke furniture and artwork/illustration designed and made by Dads from across the town that aims to promote the importance of brain development activities like reading for all young children. Re-energising libraries as a community resource to our local families is paramount, the first installation will be unveiled at Palatine Library on 17 June 2016. This will lead onto a FRED (fathers read every day) programme later in the year.

5.4.5 Through our Parks and Open Spaces Programme 2, new installation in Revoe Park and George Bancroft will be revealed in August 2016. Both Mereside and Claremont Park are entering their consultation phase with smaller scale enhancement already taking place in Grange Park Children's Centre, with further locations being identified our parks initiative can look forward to another busy year.

5.4.6 The views of parents continued to be listened to and to date over 50 individual activities have been supported and funded through our Children's Centre Engagement and Activity Programme including sport programmes, reading events, arts and crafts, baby yoga and many more. New proposals will be considered at the next Community Voice Panel due to sit on 23 June 2016.

5.4.7 Our Community Development team continues to build resilience through the above programmes and through a rolling programme of training and knowledge sharing workshops including the 'brain game' sessions, Big Dance celebration and the Winter Advocacy Event. The community development work of Better Start has also created six new posts; two Engagement Officers, two Park Rangers, two physical activity coaches and one Creative Engagement Officer, we will continue to create opportunities as and when needed to secure the outcomes we aim to achieve.

5.4.8 The Better Start Programme is directly involved in developing community cohesiveness and engagement. It focuses on empowering local delivery through co-production models.

5.5 **Education – changing landscape and the White Paper policy changes/free schools/academies/SEN and Ofsted Framework**

5.5.1 For 16-18 year olds, planning is at an advanced stage for the Connexions Service/Blackpool and the Fylde College Summer Ventures Programme 2016 (short engagement programmes for young people at risk of Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) and NEET). A recruitment target of 100 learners with 49 enrolled to date is significantly ahead of this time last year. Project NEET 71 – a "lessons learned" project is almost complete on the 71 young people who left school in 2015 and were NEET at 31 December 2015. Partners involved include the Connexions Service, Aspire Academy, Blackpool and The Fylde College, Blackpool Sixth Form College and the Wish (Sexual Health) team. The findings will identify potential ideas

for action to increase the number of school leavers who access and remain in learning in the first 12 months after leaving school.

5.5.2 Updates on Inspection Outcomes:

Bispham C of E Primary School received a full inspection on 5 May 2016 and moved from a category of Requires Improvement to Good. The school was judged as 'Good' across all criteria. This increases the amount of places for pupils in Blackpool schools that are Good.

5.5.3 Montgomery Academy received a full inspection on 30 April 2016 and moved from Serious Weaknesses to Requires Improvement.

5.5.4 Structural Changes

- Waterloo Academy has now formed a Multi Academy Trust which is called ZEST.
- Mereside governors voted on 19 May 2016 to become an academy and will join Fylde Coast Academy Trust in the autumn term.

5.5.5 White Paper

The Regional School Commissioner (RSC), Vicky Beer, will meet a group of Head Teachers and School Improvement representatives on 13 June 2016 to review discussions regarding a School Led System that is in line with the White Paper. This will precede a meeting in July, also led by the RSC, that will involve all Head Teachers and Chairs of Governors to consider the landscape in the light of the White Paper.

5.5.6 Governing Body for the Virtual School

Following the decision to establish a governing body for the Virtual School, the membership has now been agreed. The meeting will be chaired by the Director of Children's Services and members include an elected member, local authority representation, a head teacher, designated teachers from a primary and a high school as well as health representation. The first meeting will take place on 23 June 2016 and the focus will be on strengthening the work of the Virtual School.

5.5.7 Special Education Needs (SEN) and Ofsted Framework

The final CQC/ OFSTED inspection framework, on the inspection of local areas' effectiveness in identifying and meeting the needs of children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, was published on the 25 April 2016. The first inspections are from May. The initial North West local area to be inspected is Bolton for the week commencing 23 May 2016. The inspections cover work to support 0-25 year olds with SEN and/or a disability and their families. They will inspect the local *area*, not being limited to health services or the local authority. Therefore schools, colleges, health services, care services will all be part of the inspection, in terms of their contributions to the agenda. The scope of the inspection has been widened to include all contributions of health services and social care.

The Chief Executive of the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Director of Children Services will receive a telephone call five working days prior to the

inspection and the local area SEND lead will have a more in depth conversation to set up meetings, focus groups, setting visits and pass on any requested documents and data. Other information, from inspections (for instance schools or medical services), data and information (for instance that on the local offer site) will be viewed prior to the visit. A team of three inspectors (one health, one HMI, one from another local area) will visit for five days. They will speak to children/young people and parents to gain their views at many points during the week.

The criteria will look at the effectiveness of the local area in:

- identifying children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- assessing and meeting the needs of children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- improving outcomes for children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

In the inspection framework each of the above has been broken into further discrete areas. Following the inspection a written statement will be required if any illegal practice, failure to implement the SEND aspects of the Children and Families Act or safeguarding issues are noted. Other than this, there will be a letter, with actions to be implemented, these supported by the Department for Education (DFE) or health bodies. If these are significant re-inspection, sooner than the current 5 year cycle, will occur. An annual report to central government will also occur on the progress against the actions.

5.5.8 Preparation work for an inspection in the Blackpool local area:

Blackpool did much work across all agencies and with parents to prepare for the national changes in the SEN and disability systems, implemented from September 2014. This will all feed into the inspection. Our data on converting Statements of SEN to Education, Health and Care Plans and keeping to statutory time scales is some of the best nationally. Blackpool has asked by the DFE to present at regional events on the work done.

5.5.9 In preparation for the inspection the service is briefing, or are planning a brief for various bodies, including school SENCOs.

- Have completed a self-evaluation schedule, based on the draft criteria, updated when the final criteria came out. This was done with health. We have plans around areas that we have deemed to be weak.
- Written 22 storyboards for the main areas of reform/ need. These are two to three sides of A4 saying the area we worked on, why we needed this work, the completed tasks, impact, future work planned and areas still to be worked on.
- Drafted a new SEND vision, with all partners and groups of parents, which will go through the various management structures in organisations shortly.
- Re-designed various working groups/ boards, following lessons learnt over the past 19 months, since the Children and Families Act came into operation.
- Are setting up a children and young people's board (one of the areas we

highlighted as lacking in the SEF).

- Are gathering all relevant data in one location.
- Have planned for the visit in terms of logistics.

5.5.10 Reporting mechanisms are via the various management structures of each organisation and annually from the Health and Wellbeing Board. Because the inspection framework covers more than education, it is recommended that reporting occurs via the current heading, but it covers more than numbers attending a good or outstanding school. This is because the focus of the inspection will not be on a school grading (when visiting they explicitly will not inspect the setting, other than their contribution to the SEND agenda).

5.6 **Integration of Health & Social Care/Healthier Lancashire Strategy/Vanguard and Social Care Transformation**

5.6.1 **Intermediate Care**

In 2015/16, Health and Social Care Commissioners worked together to review the Intermediate Care Support available across Blackpool. The aim of the review was to ensure that local intermediate care effectively contributes to timely hospital discharges and seeks to prevent avoidable hospital admissions (in accordance with national drivers) by providing support in the most appropriate setting. With effect from 01 April 2016 intermediate care functions commissioned by NHS Blackpool CCG and Blackpool Council to deliver health and social care services including bed based or at home provision will become one integrated team.

The ARC is now delivering a new, integrated model of Intermediate Care providing up to 10 Clinically Enhanced Beds with staffing from Blackpool Teaching Hospital alongside 23 residential intermediate care beds. With a strong focus on therapeutic rehabilitation and a short burst of intensive support before a supportive transition home, the model is evolving and the team are “learning as they go” with what is working well and where there are challenges to delivering truly integrated health and social care. Communication and information sharing is a key issue and one which the service is focussed on resolving positively. There have been 51 admissions since the 1 April 2016, 70% from hospitals. Of the people who have been supported by the service of therapy led interventions (some of whom were already resident when the new model was introduced) 60% have returned home. Over time, this percentage may increase as there has been a high number of unavoidable admissions to residential care which were as a result of some early admissions to the service.

The average length of stay is showing a positive reduction as the service develops, and in the past week alone there have been 8 admissions and 11 discharges, up from an average of 4-5 admissions and discharges per week in the previous model. The delayed discharge report is checked weekly to ensure that there are no patients awaiting assessments, decisions or transfers and the flow through the system is now working well.

5.6.2 **Rapid Response Plus**

This service provides advanced assessment, nursing care, rehabilitation, and advice on self-care. Early Supported Discharge Team - provide rapid access to intense therapy and domiciliary support (default position being to the individuals' home setting) reducing length of hospital / residential stay, reducing inpatient times, maximising the individuals' potential for independence. Reablement at Home – provision of a programme of short term intensive domiciliary rehabilitation to enable people to regain their independence or help them accommodate their illness or disability by learning or relearning the skills necessary for daily living. Bridging care – provides temporary short term care at home to support hospital discharges / prevent hospital admissions while longer term support is put in place.

- The new intermediate care pathway will be underpinned by a jointly commissioned NHS and Social Care management and governance structure which will include an overall service manager.
- The new service model will deliver a more flexible intermediate care pathway and workforce delivering a continuum of intermediate care services across Blackpool.
- The overall level of bed based support for Blackpool has been reduced in line with occupancy rates and as more people are supported at home during their recovery. The length of stay in these beds will be reduced to a minimum required, with people progressing home much sooner in their rehabilitation journey, where they can regain their skills in their own familiar home environment.
- Early environmental/ home visits will identify potential barriers to returning home so that issues may identified and addressed more quickly through a problem solving approach potentially reducing a person's requirement for support.

5.6.3 **Care At Home**

The Commissioning Team held a meeting (April 2016) with Care at Home Providers to better understand causes of some of the most commonly reported concerns, complaints and safeguarding issues with regard to care at home. Key themes emerging from conversations with care providers and our analysis of available data suggest the key causes are around: communication, late/missed visits and medication. The Contract and Commissioning Team is developing an action plan with providers, which will take a problem solving approach to developing and improving local care at home services to ensure they are fit for purpose. The plan will be used to drive a programme of work across a range of areas including: National Living Wage, recruitment and retention of carers, travelling time, skills and training, Care Plans and information sharing, medication, contract monitoring and contingency planning around provider failure.

5.6.4 **Respite Services**

The respite pilot is reviewed on a monthly basis by the Commissioning and Contracts

Team. A meeting schedule is in place for the year and visits are conducted in each home. Key performance indicators (KPI) are submitted prior to the visit and discussed in detail at each meeting. Additional reporting is produced by the Business Intelligence Team which sits alongside this data which identifies where carers (who had previously used Hoyle@Mansfield) are accessing respite if they are not using the beds commissioned as part of the pilot. The next monitoring meeting is due to take place on 25 May 2016. KPI data as at April 2016:

A survey will be undertaken over the summer period, aimed at carers who had previously accessed Hoyle@Mansfield to learn more about their views and experiences of accessing respite since the closure of Hoyle, and their perception of how respite is provided to the person they care for. This information will be used to inform the direction of the pilot and determine our commissioning intentions for this type of provision in the future.

The Sustainability Transformation Plan is the key strategy in the Healthier Lancashire developments, as plans are developed to achieve the government intentions to have fully integrated health and social care by 2020. This is seen as a necessity to bridge the potential funding gap for services by this date.

An agreed model of integrated care is not yet in place, and will need to be subject to further consideration and discussion going forward. There may be a combination of models, subject to local determination and conditions.

The Better Care Fund is a key stepping stone to achieving integration, and is subject to a s75 legal agreement between Health (the CCG) and Social Care. This in effect pools both health and social care funding in respect of a number of specific services, detailing the contribution from each respective partner. This integrated model of financial funding creates a greater level of transparency in respect of those services funded in this way.

5.7 **Care Sector and Market/Regulatory Management/Care Act**

5.7.1 With the Healthier Lancashire Programme, it has now been confirmed that the Director of People shall be leading the Regulated Care Sector Workstream on behalf of the CCGs and the three Local Authorities across Lancashire and South Cumbria. This work stream is key to keeping people safe in our communities whether in a residential care setting or in their home. The sector is also instrumental in reducing social isolation. Eight priority areas have been developed as part of a Lancashire and South Cumbria-wide programme of transformation. Specific interventions are being scoped and implemented to address three main gaps:

- The health and wellbeing gap
- The care and quality gap
- The finance and efficiency gap

The Regulated Care Workstream shall be looking at;

- Personalisation
- Access and choice
- Market Stability
- Financial Viability
- Quality
- Digital Solutions
- Workforce

5.7.2 Regulated Services and Quality of Provision

09/052016	Blackpool	Blackpool	National Total	National Total
	Residential	Residential	Residential	Residential
	Number	%	Number	%
Outstanding	1	1.75%	66	0.60%
Good	47	82.46%	7295	66.08%
Requires Improvement	8	14.04%	3342	30.27%
Inadequate	1	1.75%	337	3.05%

The inadequate home is currently suspended to new placements whilst improvement work is undertaken. The provider is working to an action plan, and is receiving support from the Contracts Team to make improvements. The CQC has recently reinspected the service and, whilst their report has yet to be published, initial feedback suggests that the home is improving.

Four Care/Nursing Homes are currently subject to a regime of enhanced monitoring. One of these homes is currently rated as 'Requires Improvement'; the remainder are rated as 'Good'. These providers are each working to an action plan, and are receiving support from the Contracts Team to make improvements.

There is only one Residential Care home that is struggling to meet quality expectations and is likely to be rated as Inadequate as a result of a recent inspection. This home is currently suspended to new placements having previously been on a regime of enhanced monitoring. Once the inspection outcome is known, the Contracts Team will work with the home and the CQC to ensure that improvement is planned and delivered.

5.7.3 Adult Care and Support – Provider Services – Shared Lives CQC Inspection:

Resilient Communities require robust and qualitative providers of care; Blackpool Council's 'Shared Lives Service' was inspected by CQC (Care Quality Commission) on 5 May 2016 – The service was inspected against five domains:

- Is the service **SAFE**
- Is the service **CARING**

- Is the service **RESPONSIVE**
- Is the service **EFFECTIVE**
- Is the service **WELL LED**

Initial feedback from the inspection by the CQC Inspector was very positive. The service is now awaiting the publication of the full report.

5.7.4 **Adult Care and Support – Provider Services – Pending CQC Inspections:**

48-hour notification has been received from CQC (Care Quality Commission) of an inspection of the following services on 24th May 2016:

- Blackpool Reablement, Rapid Response and Primary Night Care Service (Intermediate Care).
- Supported Living Service (Complex Learning Disabilities).
- Extra Support Service (Challenging Learning Disabilities).
- Gloucester Avenue Rehabilitation Service (Mental Health).
- Phoenix Crisis Service (Mental Health).

Each of the services will be inspected against five domains as identified above.

Further updates will be submitted to Scrutiny in due course.

5.8 **Safeguarding – Children and Adults and improvement and performance trends and themes**

5.8.1 **Deprivation of Liberty**

The number of applications for authorisation of a Deprivation of Liberty in 2015/16 amounted to 824 (an average of 16 per week). Since April 1st 2016, application numbers total 125 (an average of 21 per week).

The percentage of new applications versus renewals is 60/40. At this same rate the predicted number of applications for 2016/17 is 1092.

Applications are scrutinised and progressed internally or redirected to the appropriate local authority or funding body. Applications are triaged in terms of priority according to a 'traffic light system' devised by the Association of Adult Social Services

385 individuals in Blackpool are currently subject to an active authorisation of a Deprivation of Liberty, with an additional 60 cases within the authorisation process. The rolling total of active authorisations is subject to daily change due to deaths of frail individuals / moves to new accommodation / hospital admissions etc.

5.8.2 Safeguarding

A summary of the Adult safeguarding figures for 2015/16 compared with those for 2014/15 is as follows:

Outcome	2014/15	2015/16	Change
Not Safeguarding	106	75	-31
Safeguarding Incident	258	354	+96
Safeguarding Procedures	260	258	-2
On-going		2	
Total	624	689	+65

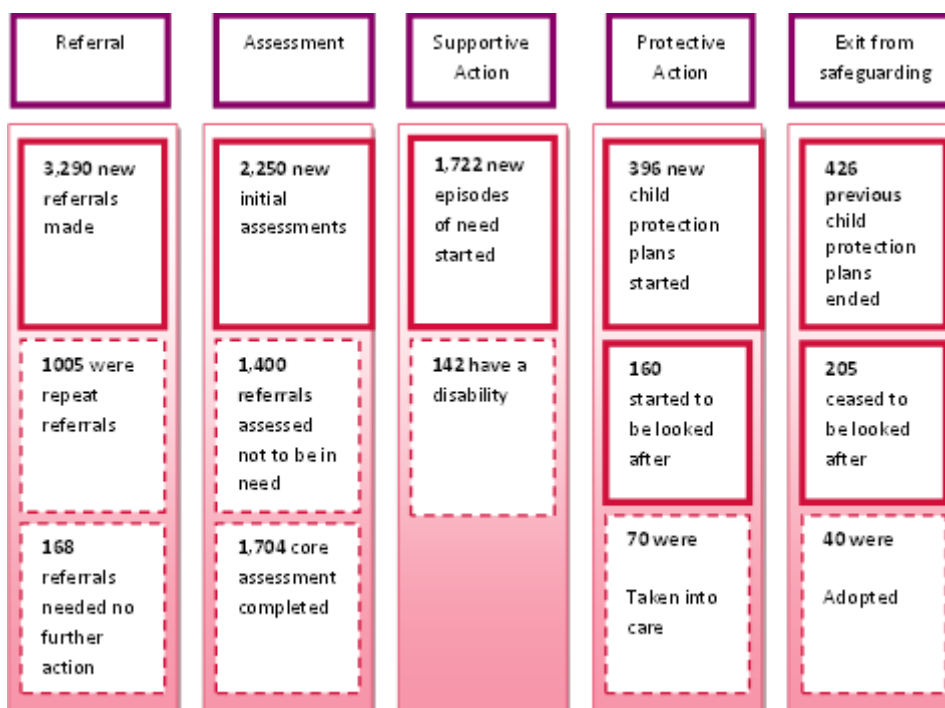
The number of alerts deemed not to be safeguarding has fallen slightly in comparison to 2014/15 and consequentially the number being progressed for further exploration has risen.

A significant number of those deemed to be 'Safeguarding Incidents' are accounted for by the number of alerts from The Harbour - Lancashire Care Foundation Trust (LCFT).

There were 195 alerts received from the Harbour in 2015/16 and 30+ alerts have been received from the Harbour since 1 April 2016 and which are currently recorded as safeguarding incidents by agreement with LCFT.

Small numbers of alerts from the Harbour however will be referred into further enquiry. Work is being undertaken by the Head of Safeguarding and LCFT safeguarding leads, senior managers and clinicians to address the upward trend.

Since December 2015 there has been a significant increase in demand for services with Children in Need, Children in need of protection plans and Looked After (our Children) are all at the highest rate per 10,000 in the country. The following outlines changes in demand compared to 2012 – demand has increased as have better outcomes.



In order to reduce the demand for social care services a report was presented to the Safeguarding Board on the 24th May to re design a multi agency early help strategy which includes:-

- The strengthening of the Children’s Centre offer with increased input from partners to provide a robust response to level 2 need and better awareness of community based services and resources.
- Work with schools to support them to learn from best practice in delivering early support and build resilience in pupils and their families (this will link to HeadStart offer).
- Agree a revised approach to assessment and care pathways across all agencies which is based on a common risk and resilience model.
- The development of a Vulnerable Adolescent Hub to support young people 12 to build their resilience and prevent the need for higher level services.

Engagement with hard to reach and reduction in social isolation

5.9

Adult Learning Service – engaging vulnerable adults in short courses

5.9.1

Performance – at the latest official return date (Feb 16), shows that 1,646 learners had participated in courses compared with 1,466 learners the previous year and the achievement rate (88.4% is also higher than the previous year (84.4%).

The Mental Health Research pilot is currently in the evaluation phase which will determine if Blackpool Councils involvement is extended into a second year. The aim of the pilot is to assess the impact of well being courses on adults with mild to moderate mental health needs in comparison with cognitive behaviour therapy.

Learner comments included:

'I have learnt some points to use in my everyday life to help me'.

'I have thoroughly enjoyed each session and will take away with me everything I have learnt and experienced'

'The course was enjoyed and relaxed with a lovely tutor. Her enthusiasm and positively helped a diverse group of people feel comfortable. '

'I have learnt good breathing techniques to help with stress and anxiety'

The service aims to improve access to activities and learning thus improving resilience and reducing social isolation.

Third Sector Strategy and Market Position Statement

5.10

5.10.1 The statutory sufficiency of placements statement for Our Children has now been completed. As at 31 March 2016, the number of children looked after in Blackpool was 469, on the 20 May , 485. This rate remains significantly higher than both the national average and also that of statistical neighbours. This figure highlights a sharp increase since December 2015 where the number stood at 447.

The majority of placements for children looked after are made into foster care. On 31 March 2016, 70.8% of placements were made into foster care. However, in 2011 this figure was 77.3% and data shows that between 2011 and 2016 the proportion of foster care placements has decreased year on year. Over the same period, placements into residential care settings have seen a similar decrease of 1.5%. This could be explained by sharp proportional increases in children looked after being placed for adoption (2.9%) as well as being placed with parents / someone with parental responsibility (3.3%). Roughly one-third of the local children looked after population is aged 11-15, which is consistent with national trends.

Residential Care

5.10.2

Residential care continues to be a valuable service to provide stable support and provision to the looked after children population. Although the data outlined in table 5.3 shows a decline in the number of children placed in residential care settings (from 10.9% in 2011 to 7.9% in 2016), feedback with young people and providers indicates that residential care is desired by young people and can be the most suitable place for them to thrive and meet their potential.

The residential offer in Blackpool currently includes internal six-bedded children's homes. This provision has evidenced long-term placements, though both homes are currently subject to a commissioning review. The review of these homes may lead to an opportunity to re-design the service to deliver better outcomes for young people.

Externally, residential care is commissioned through a local framework agreement. There is difficulty placing into homes contracted on the framework, which has resulted in placements being made outside Blackpool we have not previously used.

One of the main reasons for not being able to place on the framework is lack of

availability in local provision; and a priority in order for Blackpool Council to meet the sufficiency duty is to engage with the local residential care market to understand how this can be improved.

Market Management (Residential Care)

5.10.3

Between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2016 there were 199 referrals from children's social care for an externally commissioned placement search for a looked after child:

Table 6.2: Placement search requests 1 April 2015-31 March 2016

	Number of referrals
Foster Care (IFA)	90
Residential Care	68
Leaving Care	41

At the beginning of March 2016, Blackpool Council had 29 external residential placements which were costing on average £2,569 per week.

The local market needs to be proactively managed as the current framework agreement is not meeting the Council needs. This is particularly apparent for those difficult to place as an emergency placement (e.g. following placement breakdown), for young people who display very challenging behaviour or present with complex needs.

The latest data available (taken from w/c 16 May 2016) shows there are 28 external residential placements, of which:

- 64% (18) are made into homes on the framework agreement.
- 11 are made into homes located in Blackpool, Poulton or Cleveleys.
- Weekly cost from: £1,895 - £2,700 per week.
- Average weekly cost: £2,945.
- 36% (10) are made into homes outside the framework agreement.
- Weekly cost from: £2,490 - £4,100 per week.
- Average weekly cost: £2,316.

Although the issues identified above are experienced with local authorities across the North West, in Blackpool between 2012 and 2015 the average weekly spend for external residential care increased by 22%:

2015: £2,792 per week
 2014: £2,469 per week
 2013: £2,225 per week
 2012: £2,284 per week

The internal residential provision provided by the two 6-bedded homes have been well occupied. Though these homes are not considered to be suitable for the most

challenging and complex young people. There may be factors attributed to this including the size of the home (6-bedded homes are acknowledged to be too big to accommodate very challenging and complex young people); and not wanting to jeopardise the stability of other young people in the home when considering referrals. Pressures on the local market are exacerbated by the figures for (non-Blackpool) looked after children placed in local residential provision. On 1st January 2016 (the last time this data was collected), there were 42 residential placements in Blackpool for non-Blackpool looked after children.

Foster Care

5.10.4

The capacity for in-house fostering appears to be increasing with the numbers of approved foster care places at its highest level as detailed below:

Table 6.3: Internal foster care placement figures

	Number of approved places	% filled places
31 March 2011	313	90%
31 March 2012	306	90%
31 March 2013	301	95%
31 March 2014	337	76%
31 March 2015	386	72%

The figures available from 31 March 2015 show that 5% of places were unavailable due to the needs of other children in placement. This is a potential area of growth due to the complex needs of young people in the system and will continue to be focus within commissioning. The in-house fostering team has a recruitment and marketing plan to deliver various events and promotions throughout the year to help secure a consistent pool of carers available.

Arrangements for independent foster care (IFA) are undertaken through Placements Northwest and led by Manchester City Council on behalf of 21 local authorities. The regional framework is split into lots according to the age of the child/young person.

Market Management (Foster Care)

5.10.5

Of the 199 referrals between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2016 for an externally commissioned placement, 45% of the requests were made for an IFA placement. Continuing this trend, in the first 6 weeks of the financial year (1 April 2016 to 18 May 2016) there have been 49 external placement search requests made; with 47% (23) made for an IFA placement.

16 + and Leaving Care

5.10.6

A range of provision is commissioned for care leavers and 16+ looked after young

people. There is currently a Framework Agreement in place which will reach a contractual break on August 27th 2016. Some young people are subject to the Staying Put policy and as such remain living within existing foster care arrangements. Other young people are supported to move in to semi-independent unregulated accommodation detailed on the Framework agreement wherever possible although it is sometimes necessary to 'spot purchase' appropriate provision.

Accommodation providers commissioned have all achieved the minimum standard assessment co-ordinated by Placements Northwest in an attempt to monitor quality in this unregulated sector. Providers are expected to support young people to become independent and focus on the skills to enable a successful move on.

In addition to the provision on the Framework Agreement some young people are accommodated in Supported Lodgings provided by our internal 'Shared Lives' Service who recruit, train and support appropriate hosts who provide a family environment within which independence skills are acquired. The placements are Social Care funded.

Breakdown of where young people are living (May 2016)

Provision	Number of young people
Semi-independent accommodation	23
Accommodation with floating support	2
Supported lodgings	5
In custody	
Staying Put	18

Market Management (16+ and Leaving Care)

5.10.7

There is a growing recognition that our framework agreement is not meeting our needs. A recent review of the semi-independent providers has found inconsistency in the sector with some providers providing more comprehensive support than others.

There is an increasing prevalence of high level complex needs in our looked after population and Blackpool is currently paying significant amounts of money for residential care. As these young people reach the age of 16 and therefore become care leavers we need to be planning on how those needs can be met in an appropriate leaving care setting. It is a priority to increase the range of 16+ accommodation and ensure it is fit for purpose, achieving positive outcomes and preparing young people for independent living.

Blackpool is currently piloting a long term, shared accommodation option for care leavers, who are engaged in meaningful activity and have an established level of independent skills, in partnership with Blackpool Coastal Housing (BCH).

A 2-bedded flat has been sourced, furnished and equipped appropriately, in

conjunction with two identified young people. Support is being provided by Blacpool Coastal Housing in partnership with the Personal Adviser and they act as guarantor for the tenancy until the young people are 18 years old.

The young people are encouraged to look upon the accommodation as a potential permanent home. Once they are 18 years old they will be supported to take full responsibility for the tenancy and the support is withdrawn over a period of time as the young people become independent adults. The pilot is in its early stages but will be fully evaluated and will inform future commissioning intentions.

Commissioning Priorities

5.11

Residential Care

5.11.1

There are efficiencies to be gained by re-designing the local pathway and as a Council we intend to work towards the delivery of several commissioning intentions in 2016:

Create local capacity for the most challenging and complex young people who are placed in residential care emergency / crisis.

There is a need to develop the local market for complex children in care who are in crisis and have a range of complex needs that cannot be managed in standard residential and therapeutic settings. This could include for children and young people with mental health issues who do not meet tier 4 criteria; and would aim to avoid the need to place out of the area.

This is an active workstream under the Transformational Plan implementation; and the Council is currently engaged in a sub-regional collaboration with Lancashire and Blackburn with Darwen local authorities to look at taking this work forward.

Divert children and young people from coming into care and maintaining the family unit. Development of respite provision for children and young people on the edge and precipice of care would maintain the family unit and reduce numbers of young people entering the care system. This would replicate similar successful models seen elsewhere across the region e.g. Blackburn and Bolton, where their looked after population has reduced as a result of support being provided through a combination of respite and outreach support.

This could also be supported by a family reunification model.

Refresh of the residential framework agreement

5.11.2

The challenges facing Blackpool are similar to those across the North-West with Local Authorities unable to make their framework agreements work for them.

The current framework will be extended to allow commissioners the opportunity to engage with the local market, shape the specification and learn from models implemented elsewhere.

Foster Care

5.11.3

The commissioned IFA arrangements appear to be working effectively for Blackpool; and combined with the internal residential provision, offer good local capacity which is meeting the needs of young people.

There may be opportunity to further strengthen the local pathway and provide a step-down from residential care for some young people, by developing a different model to deliver an intensive and innovative enhanced foster care service for young people with complex needs.

16 + and Leaving Care

5.11.4

It is a commissioning intention to review all young people's accommodation (16+) through a pooled budget arrangement involving Housing Related Support and Leaving Care accommodation funding. This will allow us to develop housing options and pathways which meet the needs of all young people in the town and support the achievement of positive outcomes. The individual contracts need to be aligned and a tender exercise will be undertaken with a target date of 1 April 2017. A key objective of our accommodation approach will be to ensure that our young people are able to receive good educational, employment and training opportunities and are able to be located in an environment that meets their needs and promotes their wellbeing.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

6.0 List of Appendices:

6.1 None.

7.0 Legal considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Human Resources considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Equalities considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Financial considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Risk management considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Ethical considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 None.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.

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Report to:	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Adam Pearson, Infusion Service Manager.
Date of Meeting	9 June 2016

INTRODUCING INFUSION

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the Infusion research and consultation service now based at Blackpool Council.

2.0 Recommendation:

- 2.1 To consider the new arrangements for Infusion, the work it delivers and its potential for improving the quality of research and consultation in the area.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation:

- 3.1 To ensure Members are aware of the work of Infusion, how it operates and the value it is adding and could add to the organisation in order to undertake effective scrutiny.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered: N/A

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are 'The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool' and 'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.'

Infusion is an income generating service within the Council with the potential to grow its offer over time, to improve local research capacity and quality and to create (or protect) more jobs within the Council.

One of the primary functions of Infusion is to gather the views and perceptions of local people and stakeholders to inform public service delivery and involve them in the Council's decision-making processes.

5.0 Background

5.1 Since 2004 Infusion operated as a local authority research and consultation partnership hosted at Pendle Council, comprising of the East Lancashire district councils and the NHS East Lancashire CCG. These organisations effectively 'subscribed' to research and consultation services through an annual contribution. Blackpool Council joined the partnership in 2013, initially to improve corporate consultation in the organisation at a time of staffing reductions. Since this time, Infusion has been delivering a range of consultation and research projects across Blackpool Council, including:

- Consultation on Public Space Protection Orders in the summer of 2015 with over 1,000 responses (including 750 street interviews)
- Programme of consultation on changes to library opening hours in late 2015, with over 650 responses from library users and the wider public
- Consultation on the Council Plan in 2015 through a combination of online, paper-based and face-to-face methods
- Illuminations visitor survey in 2015 with over 800 street interviews to inform ongoing evaluation of the LightPool project
- Delivery of a research and engagement project into perceptions of Blackpool town centre in 2014, with over 1,000 responses covering a range of methods

5.2 Over recent years Infusion has increasingly focused on undertaking commissions for other Lancashire councils outside of the partnership, in an effort to compensate for reducing subscription levels from the East Lancashire district councils. As a result, Infusion extended its reach in areas of the county including Blackburn with Darwen, Preston, Wyre, Chorley, West Lancashire and Lancaster, with particular success delivering staff surveys, resident surveys and budget consultations.

5.3 In an effort to realise the potential of the service and secure its long-term sustainability, a review was commissioned through the Local Government Association Productivity Expert Programme in 2015. A commercial consultant worked with the service manager and partners and identified expansion opportunities were the service to transfer to a larger organisation. After considering a proposal from Blackpool Council, Infusion partners unanimously agreed to transfer the service to Blackpool from January 2016.

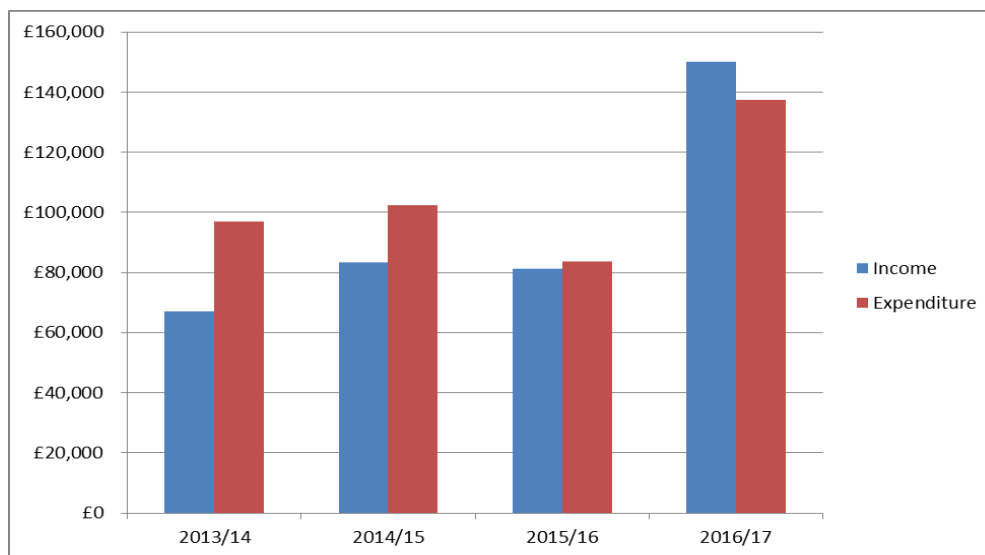
6.0 Infusion at Blackpool

6.1 Infusion continues to offer a range of research and consultation services to Blackpool Council services and other public sector organisations, including:

- Range of surveys including online, postal, face-to-face/ street and telephone for a variety of audiences, both internal and external
- In-house fieldwork resource for primary research in Blackpool and across the Fylde Coast (street interviews)
- Focus groups and other qualitative research
- Consultation and research training

6.2 Operating on an entirely income generating model, Infusion ensures both Blackpool Council departments and other public sector organisations have access to value-for-money, cost effective research services as and when they need them. Since January, demand for Infusion's services has continued to grow. This has included a host of insight and research projects for Blackpool Council's Public Health team, staff surveys and resident surveys for other local authorities, evaluation of Coastal Communities Fund projects across the Fylde Coast and delivery of the Lancashire Combined Authority consultation.

6.3 The chart below shows the growth of Infusion over recent years and the success already evident since the move over to Blackpool. Even in May, income secured for the 2016/17 financial year is close to double that achieved in previous years when the service was hosted in Pendle (with 2016/17 expenditure based on full-year costs).



6.4 Infusion is currently growing the team to meet this demand and to ensure Blackpool Council has the best possible research service at its fingertips with local capacity, extensive knowledge and experience of issues and best practice at a regional level. By balancing the potential to deliver cost-effective primary research and consultation services to other public sector partners with the requirements of Blackpool Council services, Infusion can become more resilient and offer even better value-for-money to the Council.

6.5 Now that the Infusion service has successfully migrated over to Blackpool, a refreshed business plan is in development to map out future opportunities for the service and to establish a longer term vision for Infusion. This includes:

- More awareness and engagement within Blackpool Council to ensure departments are getting best value, quality and reach from any research and consultation with local people
- Developing relationships with partners in the town, such as health and arms-length companies, again with the aim of improving local research
- Working with other local authorities in the region, offering collaborative research opportunities as they present themselves

7.0 Witnesses/representatives

7.1 The following person has been invited to present on this item:

Adam Pearson, Infusion Service Manager, Chief Executive's Department

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.2 List of Appendices:

7.3 None

8.0 Legal considerations:

8.1 Infusion supports the Council's legal duty around consulting on issues such as budgets and savings proposals across departments, ensuring access to a service with skills and experience to deliver consultation to best practice standards.

9.0 Human Resources considerations:

9.1 With the anticipated growth of the Infusion service it is likely that there will be an ongoing recruitment drive to meet demand, including development of the casual fieldwork resource and bringing more researchers into the team.

10.0 Equalities considerations:

10.1 Infusion's experience engaging "seldom heard" groups such as Black and Minority Ethnic communities and young people will ensure that methodologies are used which cover groups with protected characteristics.

11.0 Financial considerations:

11.1 The Infusion operating model differs to the way other council services are run, with it entirely reliant on generating income, whether that is recovering costs for delivering research for other departments or other local authorities commissioning Infusion for their research projects.

12.0 Risk management considerations:

12.1 As a service which relies on generating its own income, the biggest risk is not being able to generate the income necessary to cover running costs. However, Service Level Agreement arrangements have been agreed for the next two years with a number of East Lancashire district councils and the ever-growing demand for Infusion's services suggests that the growth potential outweighs any risk.

13.0 Ethical considerations:

13.1 None

14.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

14.1 Consultation was undertaken with partners of Infusion prior to transferring the service over from Pendle Council.

15.0 Background papers:

15.1 None

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Report to:	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	9 June 2016

PUPIL REFERRAL UNIT SCRUTINY REVIEW ACTION PLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider the Action Plan of the Pupil Referral Unit Scrutiny Review Panel in order to review progress made against recommendations.

2.0 Recommendations:

- 2.1 To scrutinise the update of actions undertaken.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To ensure the scrutiny of review panel recommendations.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is 'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.'

5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 The recommendations of the Pupil Referral Unit Scrutiny Review Panel were

approved by the Executive on 7 March 2016 and, as per the recommendations, were subsequently considered and supported by the Blackpool Challenge Board at its meeting on 21 April 2016.

5.2 The attached action plan contains an update to all the recommendations for consideration by the Committee.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 10(a) PRU Action Plan

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

Pupil Referral Unit Scrutiny Action Plan

Recommendation	Cabinet Member's Comments	Rec Accepted by Executive?	Target Date for Action	Lead Officer	Committee Update Notes
<p>Recommendation One</p> <p>a) That the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee supports the Blackpool Challenge Board in its objective to provide a consistent approach to exclusion across all schools and reduce the number of referrals to the Pupil Referral Unit through the introduction of the Behaviour and Attendance Partnership and Inclusion Board.</p> <p>b) In order to measure performance against this objective, the Committee to receive regular updates on the number of exclusions and admissions to the PRU with a view to making further recommendations if sufficient progress is not demonstrated.</p>	<p>I am happy to take this report and all of its recommendations to the next appropriate Cabinet meeting.</p> <p>The recommendations are wise, carefully considered and wide ranging.</p> <p>They provide a useful contribution towards the single objective of supporting each pupil to achieve their own, full potential.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Ongoing commencing immediately.</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Del Curtis</p>	<p>The Behaviour and Attendance Partnership has been established. The first meeting was held on the 17 November and there have been five meetings in total. The Inclusion Board meets the next day to review decisions and provide strategic oversight. This is currently chaired by Cllr Eddie Collett and meets monthly.</p> <p>Currently 324 on roll (66 over PAN). During this academic year, 29.7% NTA, 20.1% Highfield, 7.6% EHE and 8.9% Unity. The remaining schools average around 5%. Figures feed into the Inclusion Board monthly and are also provided to the Blackpool Challenge Board for wider scrutiny purposes.</p>

<p>Recommendation Two</p> <p>a) That the Blackpool Challenge Board be requested to adopt as an action ‘to assess the feasibility of introducing an appropriate educational diversity module within every school in Blackpool in order to provide consistent early intervention and help address the causes of any behavioural problems before they escalate’.</p> <p>b) That the Blackpool Challenge Board report to the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee regarding the implementation of this recommendation in June 2016.</p>	<p>As above.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Request to be sent immediately to Blackpool Challenge Board.</p> <p>June 2016</p>	<p>Sharon Davis</p> <p>Del Curtis</p>	<p>Following discussions at Blackpool Challenge, a directive was issued for the Headteacher of Educational Diversity to visit each setting and audit support for inclusion. The Headteacher will report back to the Challenge Board on findings. The Behaviour and Attendance Partnership has agreed to establish a cluster group of behaviour leads to enable sharing of good practice, facilitated by Ed Diversity Senior Leadership Team.</p> <p>St Mary’s and Highfield have completed the audit.</p>
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<p>Recommendation Three</p> <p>a) That the Inclusion Board be requested to consider the concerns of the Panel regarding the reintegration of students back into mainstream education from the PRU and consider introducing a mechanism to effectively review the needs of children to be reintegrated and the wraparound of support to prevent future breakdown of reintegration.</p> <p>b) That the Inclusion Board report to the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee regarding the implementation of this recommendation in June 2016.</p>	<p>As above.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Request to be sent immediately to Inclusion Board.</p> <p>June 2016</p>	<p>Sharon Davis</p> <p>Wendy Casson</p>	<p>Students ready for re-integration from the PRU are referred to the Behaviour and Attendance Partnership panel. To date five PRU students have been accepted in mainstream settings with three from Home and Hospital Education Service.</p> <p>Exploring Chrysalis – potential Chrysalis style rooms in mainstream settings to act as reintegration support.</p> <p>Headteacher of Ed Diversity to report back on progress at June meeting.</p>
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<p>Recommendation Four</p> <p>a) That the Panel supports the proposed bid for external funding to the Department for Education Transformational Fund to provide wrap around social care and early help around clusters of schools to help address student behaviour and resilience. If the bid is successful it would result in a social worker being placed to work with a cluster of linked schools.</p> <p>b) If the bid is unsuccessful, the Panel supports the Director of People in her aim to provide a more joined up approach to service provision by introducing improved links between the Family in Need Service and Pupil Welfare Team.</p> <p>c) The Director of People to report to the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee regarding the progress made in relation to the bid in June 2016.</p>	<p>As above.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>June 2016</p>	<p>Del Curtis</p>	<p>A wider piece of work is currently underway and a bid is in the process of being written to support the development of an adolescent hub which shall offer a single point of contact, co-located services and shall also house the HeadStart programme which will run across all schools providing additional services to address student resilience. We shall find out if the HeadStart bid has been successful in June and will be submitting a further transformation bid to the Department for Education in July.</p>
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