

Report to:	CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Victoria Gent, Director of Children's Services.
Date of Meeting:	22 June 2023

CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To receive an overview of the journey of Children's Social Care, current key issues and areas of focus.

2.0 Recommendations:

2.1 To consider the presentation provided at the meeting, identifying areas for question and challenge on the journey and work of Children's Social Care.

3.0 Reasons for recommendations:

3.1 To ensure the Committee has an overview of Children's Social Care and can provide a challenge to service provision.

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

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 None.

5.0 Council Priority:

5.1 The relevant Council Priority is:

- Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.

6.0 Background Information

Children's Social Care was reinspected between the 5 and 16 December 2022 following an Inadequate rating in November 2018. Following re-inspection Services

were re-graded as an overall Requires Improvement, with Good For Children in Care, Requires Improvement for Children in need of help and protection and Management and Leadership.

This presentation sets out key activity since January including-

- The revised Improvement Plan
- Focus of work with the DfE Improvement Advisor
- The three key strategic workstreams currently in progress
- The overall vision moving forward and culture change required

6.1 **Children’s Social Care Update**

Vicky Gent, Director of Children’s Services will provide a presentation (appendix 6(c)) to the Committee at the meeting along with Chris Coyle, Assistant Director, Children’s Social Care.

Attached is the Blackpool Children Social Improvement Care Plan April 2023 to Oct 2024 for Members’ consideration and a short audit and performance briefing from June 2023.

6.2 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.0 **List of Appendices:**

- 7.1 Appendix 6(a): Blackpool Children Social Improvement Care Plan April 2023 to Oct 2024
Appendix 6(b): Audit and Performance 7 Minute Briefing, June 2023
Appendix 6(c): Presentation

8.0 **Financial considerations:**

8.1 To be advised during the presentation.

9.0 **Legal considerations:**

9.1 None.

10.0 **Risk management considerations:**

10.1 None.

11.0 **Equalities considerations:**

11.1 None.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 None.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.