

FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2024

Present: Councillor Jill Green (Chair)

Councillors P Burns (Vice-Chair), L Caffrey, B Clelland, P Craig, R Mullen, K Henderson, H Kelly, K McCartney, E McMaster, J Mohammed, L Moir, A Ord, M Ord, I Patterson, D Robson and D Weatherley

143 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence are received by Alison Routledge.

144 Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20th June 2024 are approved as an accurate record.

145 Declarations of Interest

No declarations received.

146 Gateshead's Children and Young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing local transformation plan – A report by Angela Kumar

The Committee gave consideration to the report presented and acknowledged that a formal report is due to follow.

In addition to the report, the Committee discussed issues surrounding mental health support for young carers as one of the key areas needing to be addressed.

The determination of need was discussed with acknowledgement that by measuring the impact of the service, need can be assessed more accurately.

Framework is to be emplaced to collect data to determine the effectiveness of support. Ongoing work within the Young Women's Outreach Project looks to address underrepresented groups of women. Not all communities are reached, although relationship building with organisations looks to address this. All staff are to be contacted to progress these endeavours.

Regarding mental health training within schools, the Committee learned that 60% of schools within the borough of Gateshead have received access to training provided by the Department of Education. Although training is not compulsory, it is of course highly recommended.

RESOLVED:

- i. The Committee noted the report.

147 Children's Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report – A report by Heather Pearson

The Committee gave consideration to the report presented, learning of the Children's Safeguarding Partnership structure, the priorities set for 2024/25 and the new model for working.

The Committee discussed the inclusion of the partnership's framework within the Council, the partnership's remit in relation to young people experiencing the justice system, the preventative steps taken to prevent violence, and safeguarding in relation to minority groups.

RESOLVED:

- i. The Committee noted the report.

148 Progress Update on delivery of SEND Strategy – A report by Suzanne Dunn

Consideration was given to the report which aims to share information with the Committee of the progress made towards the four priority areas of the SEND Strategy, share data in relation to Tribunals and information in relation to pathways into Education, Employment and Training for young people in Gateshead with special educational needs.

RESOLVED:

- i. The Committee noted the report.

149 Social Services Annual Report on Complaints and Representations – Children – A report by Alison Routledge

Consideration was given to the presentation given to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

- i. The Committee noted the report.

150 Work Programme

RESOLVED:

- i. The Committee noted the Work Programme.

151 Any other business

No further business was discussed.

152 Date of the next meeting

The next Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be held on Thursday 17th October 2024, 17:00 in the Bridges room.