

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of **the IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – PEOPLE** held on 23 September 2021

PRESENT

Councillor T Kemp (in the Chair)

Councillors S Burfoot, A Dale, C Dale, R George, A Griffiths, J Patten, P Rose, S Swann, and J Woolley.

Also in attendance – A Noble, J Parfremment, and S Stevens.

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors D Taylor, and J Wharmby.

13/21 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 21 July 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.

14/21 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** There were no public questions.

15/21 **BETTER LIVES PROGRAMME** A presentation had been given to the Committee by S Stevens to give a programme overview.

There were five key workstreams with their own aims and metrics. Short term services provided extra support to help people live happy lives at home. P & P provided support planning for independent lives. Discharge supported to get people home from hospital. Working-age adults maximised independence for those with disabilities. Then Data Dock used data to help improve practice and services.

The key achievements had been outlined within the presentation. Due to the work done on long term residential placements, more people were staying in their own homes. This reduced the percentage of people referred to ASC who entered long term residential care, despite rising numbers of referrals. This meant fewer people would move to Long Term Residential Placements each year.

Further work had been done to move residents to more independent settings. The impact so far for people with a learning disability and /or who are autistic had been great. 27 people had moved to a more independent setting. The work done on day opportunities had allowed 318 people to have an outcome focused support plan. Embedding a progression model within supported living settings gave the opportunity to maximise independence for those with a learning disability and / or who were autistic. A new tool for

practitioners had been rolled out with 24/7 grid reviews now being completed with people in supported living using this approach.

Success stories from individuals impacted by the services had been shared within the presentation. One example had been 'A used to access one of our day centres 4 days a week with community transport. Following engagements with the Better Lives programme review it was suggested that A could access a specific gardening progression model where clear learning and skills steps were introduced over 12 weeks. This resulted in a growth in confidence and skills and now A is accessing a free allotment project in the community, alongside a friend they met. The allotment has large polytunnel so it is accessible through the winter too.'

16/21 **CORPORATE PARENTING** A presentation had been given by J Parfremont. Corporate parenting referred to the shared responsibility across the council to ensure that children and young people under the care of Derbyshire or leaving care were supported to thrive. A good corporate parent should have the same aspirations for a child in care or care leaver, as a good parent would have for their child.

The role of Corporate Parenting Board included the pledge to children, multiagency commitment, and an assurance role. Providing challenge as a pushy parent would. It was Based on the experiences of those in care, leaving care and providing care and it was Elected member chaired.

Key Statutory Elements:

- Providing a place for a child to live and be cared for
- Supporting their relationships
- Ensuring learning needs were met
- Ensuring physical and mental health needs were met
- Preparing and supporting the move into and in early adulthood

Budget:

- CiC placements cost (LA) £45m in 2020-21 (more than 1/3rd of total CS department budget)
- Projected to increase by £5-10m in 21-22
- In addition approx. £0.8m placement costs funded by UASC grant and £4m was funded by the DSG HNB
- Virtual school costs £1.2m
- Other support for CiC (for example contact, transport and therapy) approx. £1.6m
- Social work – Circa £3m spend on teams specifically supporting CiC
- Support for care leavers cost the LA budget £3.1m with an additional £0.7m of support for former UASC funded by grant
- Direct costs alone totaled £65-£70m - excluding: management, back office support, IROs & QA, legal services and court costs, costs of

adoption and other education support outside of virtual school and joint funded placements

Quality Assurance had been provided at every level of the service and by different functions. The Children in Care and Care Leaver Performance had been outlined within the presentation.