

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - PEOPLE** held on Wednesday, 4 May 2022 at County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AG.

PRESENT

Councillor T Kemp (in the Chair)

Councillors C Dale, R George, S Burfoot, A Griffiths and J Woolley.

Also in attendance was Carol Cammiss, Executive Director – Children’s Services and Alison Noble, Director (Early Help and Safeguarding).

Apologies for absence were submitted for Councillor J Wharmby and D Taylor.

9/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

10/22 MINUTES

RESOLVED – to confirm the non-exempt minutes of the meeting of the Improvement & Scrutiny – People held on 9 March 2022.

11/22 PUBLIC QUESTIONS (30 MINUTE MAXIMUM IN TOTAL)

There were no public questions.

12/22 THE EARLY HELP TRANSITION TEAM - FUTURE MODEL OF DELIVERY WORK PROGRAMME

Carol Cammiss gave an update on the progress towards developing an Early Intervention and Prevention Strategy, and short-term implications for the Transitions Team and Early Help Development Service.

The current model had delivered some significant success however, due to the COVID pandemic and the Team’s deployment to supporting partners, acute delivery and addressing its effects, it was recognised that more work was needed to develop a sustainable partnership model. It also enabled continuity of support to strategic partners, provision of statutory support to Employment, Education and Training, Early Help advisers to model Team Around the Child meetings and Community Directory Development to strengthen services.

The Team had generated income, through the Supporting Family

Programme with £3.7m in reserve, some of which would be drawn down to support the extension of the Transitions Team to July 2024. The next steps included delivery of the new model and development of the Strategy over the next 12-18 months. Opportunities to explore further as the Strategy developed were effective, aligned, strategic partnership approaches to early help and early help assessments, working with schools and developing information, advice and guidance.

Committee members asked a number of questions regarding the work already done, particularly around work with schools and youth work. There was a more joined-up approach with partners and improvements in the understanding and response of the Police to domestic abuse and exploitation issues. Cllr Julie Patten informed members that robust mechanisms were in place to challenge police accountability. Work is taking place with the safeguarding board to identify what families need and to predict demand across the partnership.

Committee members were invited to meet with officers away from the meeting to discuss what advice and support was available to families experiencing difficulties in accessing the help they needed.

RESOLVED – that the Executive Director of children Services return to update the Committee in February 2023.

13/22 DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23

The Chair introduced the report, which was circulated in advance of the meeting, informing Members of the proposed work programme for the Committee. A draft work programme for 2022/23 was given at Appendix two.

RESOLVED to agree the 2022/23 work programme and note that it was a flexible document that additional issues could be added throughout the year.

The meeting finished at 3.16 pm