

CHILDREN AND LIFELONG LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL

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| DATE | 19 th November 2020 |
| REPORT OF | Director for Communities (Statutory Scrutiny Officer) |
| SUBJECT | Tracking the Recommendations of the Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel |
| STATUS | Open |

CONTRIBUTION TO THE COUNCIL PLAN/STRATEGIC AIMS

The scrutiny panels act as a reviewing mechanism for decisions made relating to the strategic policy, performance and resources required to deliver the ambitions of the Council and its key partnerships. The aim of the scrutiny process is to make sure decision making is robust by providing constructive challenge. This contributes to the Council being effective and efficient, and therefore is integral to the delivery of the Council Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The scrutiny panels have adopted a template in order to track their recommendations.

MATTER(S) FOR CONSIDERATION

Members are asked to look at the progress against the recommendations and agree to sign off any recommendations that have been completed, so that they can be removed from the table.

1. BACKGROUND AND ISSUES

- 1.1 Each scrutiny panel has a standard agenda item so that they can check progress against the recommendations they have previously made.
- 1.2 Members are asked to look at the progress against the recommendations and agree to sign off any recommendations that have been completed, so that they can be removed from the table. It would also be effective to sign off any recommendations that have not been completed but which are no longer considered to be an efficient use of resources, or where priorities have changed.
- 1.3 Appendix A of this report contains the recommendations previously made by the Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel.

2. RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

2.1 Risk assessments will already have been carried out on the reports that these recommendations have come from.

2.2 Any actions which the council may undertake as a result of recommendations made by scrutiny will be the subject of further reports, which will include risk assessment(s) by the author(s) concerned.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

3.1 Not applicable to this report.

4. REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 The panel's tracking report demonstrates that the panel monitors progress on its recommendations and required actions. This report further demonstrates the breadth of matters considered by scrutiny.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 There are no financial considerations included within this report, beyond scrutiny's enhanced role in monitoring delivery of the council's budget and medium term financial plan.

6. MONITORING COMMENTS

6.1 In the opinion of the author, this report does not contain recommended changes to policy or resources (people, finance or physical assets). As a result, no monitoring comments have been sought from the Council's Monitoring Officer (legal), Section 151 Officer (finance) or the Strategic Workforce Lead (human resources).

7. WARD IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Potentially impacts on all wards.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 Minutes from the Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel - <http://www.nelincs.gov.uk/committees/>

9. CONTACT OFFICER

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HELEN ISAACS
Director for Communities (Statutory Scrutiny Officer)

TRACKING OF RECOMMENDATIONS – CHILDREN AND LIFELONG LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL

| DATE | RECOMMENDATION | RESPONSIBLE | PROGRESS/COMMENTS |
|---------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| 30.1.20 | <p><u>SPCLL.48 - SEND INSPECTION WRITTEN STATEMENT OF ACTION – PROGRESS UPDATE</u></p> <p>Regular updates on the SEND inspection written statement of action be submitted to this panel.</p> | Director of Children’s Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update: to be kept on the tracking report as a reminder for updates throughout the year. |
| 30.1.20 | <p><u>SPCLL.49 CALL IN OF THE NEW APPROACH TO THE SUPPORT AND SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS</u></p> <p>An update on progress with the new approach be received at a future meeting of this panel to ensure that outcomes for the children and young people were being met.</p> | Director of Children’s Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update: To be included in the work programme for 2020/21. |

Appendix A

TRACKING OF RECOMMENDATIONS –

Autism Spectrum Conditions Diagnosis Pathway Working Group

| RECOMMENDATION | PROGRESS/COMMENTS |
|--|--|
| | Updated 15th September 2020 |
| Plans for a new proposed single access pathway for ASC from March 2018 continue to be developed, quality assured and implemented | <p>The new approach was to be launched as a pilot from April 2020, however the need for extensive face to face contacts led to the pilot being placed on-hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic, lock down and social distancing requirements. COVID-19 has forced everyone into new ways of working and communicating. This has resulted in improved ways of holding panel meetings and interacting with families, which has overall improved the experience for some families in these challenging and unprecedented times. The current pathway is continuing to implement suggestions made by parents, carers and young people to ensure that their voice is helping to re-shape the pathway.</p> <p>A new Interim Project lead has been appointed, start date to be confirmed, who will work with parent, carers and stakeholders to progress the new approach in line with NICE guidance and taking into account the recommendations made by the SEND Peer Review.</p> |
| Evidence based future scrutiny of provision for support and diagnosis for ASC and other related conditions include SMART targets, key performance indicators, benchmarks etc. to ensure that outcomes are being met. Parents should contribute to the evaluation of services. | As part of on-going evaluation, the Council for Disabled Children are planning to hold a facilitated workshop to focus on parent, carer and young people's experience of the pathway. |
| Plan immediately to provide support and (if appropriate) diagnosis for those families who feel they have not been helped in recent years and to date and provide a report for the Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel to include details on the resource implications. | <p>Access Pathway Coordinator in post from 8th July 2019</p> <p>Interim Project lead has been appointment, start date is to be confirmed.</p> |

Consideration be given to rationalising or limiting the number of parenting courses prescribed to a single family. Report to Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel.

Family hubs have re-designed the parenting offer and approach.