



Rutland County Council

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Record of a Meeting of the **PEOPLE (CHILDREN) SCRUTINY PANEL** held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham at 7.00pm on **Thursday 31 July 2014**

PRESENT: Miss G Waller (Chairman, in the Chair)
Mrs C Cartwright
Mr J M Lammie
Mr N M Wainwright
Mr J Dale

CO-OPTED MEMBERS: Ms S Gullan – Whur
Mr A Menzies

OFFICERS PRESENT:	Mrs G Rhodes-White	Interim Director – Services for People
	Mrs W Poynton	Assistant Director for People
	Mr K Garcia	Head of Service – Learning & Skills
	Miss K Knowles	Corporate Support Officer

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mr K Bool Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People
Mr L Charikar Joint CAMHS Commissioner
Mr N Hemstock Specialist Clinical Director for CAMHS

APOLOGIES: Mr M E Baines, Mr A Loomes, Mrs J Figgis, Mr A S Walters.

206 RECORD OF MEETING

The record of the People (Children) Scrutiny Panel held on 26 June 2014, copies of which had been previously circulated, was confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

It was confirmed that Mr Dale was at the panel meeting on 26 June 2014.

207 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

208 PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

No petitions, deputations or questions from members of the public had been received.

209 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS

No Questions with Notice were received from Members.

210 NOTICES OF MOTION FROM MEMBERS

No Notices of Motion were received from Members.

211 CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THE PANEL FOR A DECISION IN RELATION TO CALL IN OF A DECISION

No matter was referred to the Panel for a decision in relation to call in of a decision in accordance with Procedure Rule 206.

SCRUTINY

At the start of the meeting the chair welcomed Mr Menzies as the new representative for the Roman Catholic Diocese.

212 CAMHS TIER 3 REVIEW PRESENTATION

Mr Charikar, Joint CAMHS Commissioner, gave a presentation to the panel on the review of CAMHS Tier 3. The main points in the presentation were:

- a) Current timescales for referrals were 13 weeks which was too long.
- b) 2,500 children were using CAMHS.
- c) The relationship with partner agencies needed to be improved upon to reduce unnecessary referrals. 1/3 of referrals were not accepted.
- d) It was important to capture service users' and parents' views of CAMHS.
- e) A joint leadership board and multi-agency project group was being set up.
- f) Tim Jones was the Project consultant for the CAMHS Tier 3 review.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- i) Online counselling and relevant websites had been set up to help reduce waiting times.
- ii) Early intervention and investing in these services should help prevent more cases arriving at specialist services.
- iii) Clearer Rutland specific data is needed.
- iv) Children who are residential pupils at private school have problems accessing services as they are not registered with a GP locally.

AGREED:

Mr Charikar and Mr Hemstock would:

- 1) Provide the number of referrals and service users from Rutland to help understand where there were gaps in services;
- 2) Seek clarification about school nursing support for the statutory schools in Rutland;
- 3) Involve Rutland schools after the summer break so that they could contribute to the review and improvement of CAMHS;
- 4) Pursue the options for on-line counselling; and
- 5) Seek clarification around the responsibilities for commissioning health services for children in Rutland boarding schools.

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7.47pm Mr Hemstock and Mr Charikar left the meeting and did not return.

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213 CORPORATE PARENTING

Report No. 168/2014 from the Director of People was received.

The Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People, Mr Bool, introduced the report, the purpose of which was to set out proposals for a corporate parenting strategy and board.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- i) Members were made aware that a corporate parenting board offers a formal mandate where reports can be produced to inform and ensure that young people are receiving the best possible support.
- ii) Members were reassured that young people would sit on the corporate parenting board to enable the voice of the child to be heard.
- iii) The corporate parenting board would be able to make recommendations to officers so that changes could be made when faced with resource deficiencies. The board would also be able to monitor and challenge schools to see how they used their pupil premiums.
- iv) Members felt that the “champion” for looked after children should be elected at Council and that more than one elected member would be needed to ensure that there would always be representation on the board.

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8.13pm Ms Gulan-Whur left the meeting and did not return.

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- v) Safeguarding training was considered important as a way of ensuring that members know about corporate parenting. Members also wanted the training to be part of the induction process.
- vi) Members wanted to know how school governors would be involved. There was a meeting in September with the chair of governors and it was agreed to put that on the agenda and make clear what their roles and responsibilities were.

AGREED:

- 1) The panel noted the contents of Report No. 168/2014.
- 2) The panel noted the governance and chairing arrangements for the board.

214 CHILDCARESUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT

Report No. 148/2014 from the Director for People was received.

The Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People, Mr Bool, introduced the report, the purpose of which was to provide the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2013/14 for approval subject to being published in August 2014.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- i) Members felt that the report needed to reflect the needs of what was happening in Rutland more. Parents were delaying going back to work with not being able to find 8am to 6pm childcare.

- ii) Members felt that data around parents delaying going back to work would be valuable to talk to part time childcare providers to see if they would be interested in offering full time childcare.
- iii) Members agreed that looking into a position of a Business Development Officer that sat alongside Childcare and Educational Development Officers would be beneficial. The Business Development Officer was critical in gaining intelligence to work alongside childcare providers to match need and stimulate growth.
- iv) Members suggested that alongside the document being made available in large print that it should also be made available without the coloured watermark.

AGREED:

- 1) The panel noted the contents of report 148/2014
- 2) The panel agreed to recommend Cabinet to approve the report for publishing in August 2014.

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8.35pm Mrs W Poynton left the meeting and did not return.

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215 INFORMATION REPORT – STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

Report No. 167/2014 from the Director for People was received.

The Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People, Mr Bool, introduced the report the purpose of which was to provide background information on the Rutland County Council SACRE and to present its 2012-13 annual report.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- i) Members were informed that religion was a statutory part of the curriculum but not part of the national curriculum.
- ii) There was a requirement placed on schools for religious education to be provided and that upon receipt of an application by a community the SACRE shall determine whether the requirement for Christian collective worship should apply to that school or any class or description of pupils at that school. Reference was made to section 4.2 (e) in the report.
- iii) The status quo currently in the county was mainly a Christian denomination and some members felt that children may not therefore be able to freely choose their own religion as it was possible that schools could be offering a single preference to children. Some members felt that children should be able to choose their own religion.
- iv) Members were reassured that local schools were signed up to a multi-faith syllabus and that SACRE had a multi-faith membership.
- v) Some members felt that it would be important for the council to look at whether schools were reflecting and representing demographic changes.

AGREED:

That the contents of Report 167/2014 be noted.

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In accordance with the provisions of Procedure Rule 11, paragraph 2 – Recording of Votes, Mr Lammie requested that his abstention from voting on the above agreement be recorded.

216 KEYSTAGES 2, 4 & 5 ANALYSIS 2013

Before the report was presented the Chair asked Mr Garcia for an update on Great Casteron School and Oakham Primary School.

- a) Great Casteron School was recently inspected by Ofsted and had dropped from a 'good' rating to a 'requires improvement' rating. This was due to a number of factors including teaching standards and parental views of the school. Officers from the council had already been out to the school and allocated a primary advisor to work with the school to help with the school improvement process. This was seen as a priority use of resources by the Council.
- b) Oakham Primay School had a strong inclusion policy and as a result had a higher level of Special Educational Needs (SEN) pupils in the school compared to other schools in Rutland. If the external examination results in the 2014 summer were poor then this would represent a further year of decline in performance. This would require intervention by the Local Authority. The Head Teacher had now left and an acting Head Teacher was to start in August 2014. Recruitment for a permanent Head Teacher would start in September 2014 and the local C of E Diocese was working closely with the school and the Local Authority to ensure the appointment was robust and would enable the school to improve performance.

Report No. 172/2014 from the Director for People was received.

The Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People, Mr Bool, introduced the report the purpose of which was to present analysis of the Key Stage 2, 4 and 5 results for Rutland.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- i) Members were informed that national thresholds were raised yearly and that schools can become underachieving by maintaining their current standards. The Local Authority was working with schools to ensure that they understand about external calibration of performance and the standards and thresholds to which they need to work.
- ii) Members were informed that work focused on achievement levels of those children receiving free school meals (FSM) should be made a priority in 2014/15 because it was a significant area needing improvement in some schools. It was agreed that a report on this will be brought back to the Scrutiny Panel in November showing a detailed breakdown of which schools have children claiming FSM, the levels of FSM and the performance of the respective children.
- iii) Members were informed that teaching standards, subject choice, inappropriate student entry and data on choices of students to access out of county provision needed to be looked at to understand why KS5 results had shown an underachievement over the last few years. Members asked for more data on Key Stage 5 results and the performance of Rutland residents attending out of County provision.
- iv) Members were concerned about the gaps in SEN data and that four primary schools did not achieve three or more elements of the 2014 DfE floor standard.

AGREED:

That the contents of Report 172/2014 be noted.

217 NATIONAL SOCIETY STATUTORY INSPECTION OF ANGLICAN AND METHODIST SCHOOLS (SIAMS) REPORT ON THE INSPECTION OF ST MARY AND ST JOHN CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Report No. 171/2014 from the Director for People was received.

The Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People, Mr Bool, introduced the report the purpose of which was to provide an overview and summary of findings of the SIAMS inspection report conducted on 11 March 2014.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- i) Church of England schools were subject to two types of inspections. An Ofsted inspection and a SIAMS inspection.
- ii) St Mary & St John C of E Primary School had now received two 'good' reports one from Ofsted and one from SIAMS.
- iii) Members requested that officers write to the school congratulating them on their achievements.

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND TOPICS

218 FORWARD PLAN

Members viewed the forward plan 2014/15 and had no further comments.

219 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

None.

220 DATE AND PREVIEW OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 28 August 2014 – Joint Children and Adults Scrutiny.

Thursday 13 November 2014 – Children's Scrutiny.

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

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