



# Rutland County Council

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Minutes of the **MEETING of the CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY PANEL** held in the Council Chamber, Catmose on Thursday, 23rd November, 2017 at 7.00 pm

**PRESENT:** Mr N Begy Mr E Baines  
Mr K Bool Mr B Callaghan  
Mr J Dale Mrs L Stephenson  
Mr A Menzies

**APOLOGIES:** Mrs L Youngman

## **OFFICERS**

**PRESENT:** Mr M Andrews Deputy Director for People  
Ms B Caffrey Head of Early Intervention, SEND and  
Inclusion  
Mrs G Curtis Head of Learning and Skills  
Ms R Wilshire Head of Children Social Care  
Mr J Adamson Business Intelligence Manager  
Mr K Silcock Corporate Support Officer

## **IN**

**ATTENDANCE:** Mr R Foster Portfolio Holder for Children and Young  
People (Safeguarding)  
Mr D Wilby Portfolio Holder for Lifelong Learning

## **411 RECORD OF MEETING**

The minutes of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel held on 07 September 2017, copies of which had been previously circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## **412 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- i. Mr Menzies declared a personal interest in that he was a governor at Harrington School.
- ii. Mrs Stephenson declared a personal interest in that she was a teacher at a Leighfield Primary School, and had two children that attended a Rutland school.
- iii. Mr Begy declared a personal interest as his son attended a Rutland school.
- iv. Mr Callaghan declared a personal interest in that he was a governor at Casterton College, and had children at Rutland schools.

**413 PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS**

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

**414 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS**

No questions with notice had been received from Members.

**415 NOTICES OF MOTION FROM MEMBERS**

No notices of motion had been received from Members.

**416 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 in relation to the call-in of a decision in accordance with Procedure Rule 206.

**417 QUARTER 2 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT 2017-18**

Report No. 193/2017 was received from the Chief Executive.

The purpose of the report was to provide Cabinet with strategic oversight of the Council's performance for the second quarter of 2017/18 in delivering our Corporate Plan Aims and Objectives.

The report was taken without debate.

**AGREED**

That the Panel **NOTED** the report.

**418 QUARTER 2 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT 2017-18**

Report No. 191/2017 was received from the Director for Resources.

The purpose of the report was to inform Cabinet and all Members of the full year forecast position as at Quarter 2 for 2017/18 and to alert them to issues that may impact on the Medium Term Financial Plan to enable them to maintain sound financial management of the Council's operations.

The report was taken without debate.

**AGREED**

That the Panel **NOTED** the report.

**419 FEES AND CHARGES 2018/19**

Report No. 213/2017 was received from the Director for Resources.

The purpose of the report was to set out proposals for fees and charges for services provided by the Council, for the financial year 2018/19.

The report was taken without debate.

## **AGREED**

That the Panel **NOTED** the report.

### **420 NEXT STEPS 6 MONTHLY UPDATE - STORYBOARD**

Report No. 205/2017 was received from the Director for People.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- i. The social care area had organised a mock Ofsted inspection to challenge their service, and would go through the process to make sure the team continued working to a high standard. This would take place in the first week of December 2017.
- ii. Representatives from Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) and Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) were coming to Rutland County Council (RCC) in January to ask questions and offer challenge to the Children's Services for half a day. Representatives from RCC would then go to LCC and NCC to do the same.
- iii. There was concern that the storyboards were not easy to read due to the formatting in particular the green background, and landscape page layout.
- iv. Staff turn-over was now more stable, with up to 85% of the team being permanent members of staff.
- v. The staff were a lot more positive since changes to the service had been made, and permanent managers put in place.

### **421 LEARNING AND SKILLS SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2017**

Report No. 203/2017 was received from the Director for People.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- i. There had been positive feedback from all schools that were asked.
- ii. It was noted that although Leighfield Primary was an academy from 2013, this was not formally constituted until January/February 2017.
- iii. Multi-Academy Trusts were bringing schools together so they could share resources, and provide cost efficiency as well as greater stability.
- iv. Progress 8, which was a new measure of the progress students made between the end of Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 based on performance in eight qualifications, made a difference to the identification of children who were under-performing. There was an equivalent programme for Primary Schools for between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.
- v. The Chair asked if there would be any impact on teachers regarding the funding crisis. Ms Curtis responded that this would be looked at in the Schools Forum.
- vi. The Chair mentioned that in regards to post 16 education, a lot of students had gone out of Rutland for the education. Ms Curtis reported that if the St George's Barracks was built on and business took residence there, there would be more opportunity for apprenticeships and vocational routes.

#### **422 LOCAL OFFER TO CARE LEAVERS 2017 - 2020**

Report No. 203/2017 was received from the Director for People.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- i. Mrs Stephenson commented that a graphic on the Local Offer to Care Leavers' poster was covering text including a phone number, which made it difficult to read.

#### **423 ANNUAL ADOPTION REPORT 2016-2017**

Report No. 190/2017 was received from the Director for People.

It was noted that dates and timelines were not included with the recommendations in the report. Mr Andrews reported that many of the recommendations had already been completed, as many would have been shown on the Ofsted Improvement Plan, which included dates and timelines for the recommendations to be completed.

#### **AGREED**

That the Panel **NOTED** the report.

#### **424 AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017**

Report No. 207/2017 was received from the Director for People.

The report was taken without debate.

#### **AGREED**

That the Panel **NOTED** the report.

#### **425 CHILD PROTECTION ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017**

Report No. 208/2017 was received from the Director for People.

The report was taken without debate.

#### **AGREED**

That the Panel **NOTED** the report.

#### **426 SCRUTINY PROGRAMME 2017/18 & REVIEW OF FORWARD PLAN**

- i. The Chair noted he had had a conversation with Ms Curtis regarding looking at children's health and active lifestyle and how Rutland deals with it. A report would be written for next year.
- ii. Mr Oxley questioned whether the Panel should take a look at the Sexual Health Service Re-Procurement report as well as the Adults and Health Scrutiny Panel. Mr Andrews pointed out that the health scrutiny function of this panel

covered all age groups and not just adults. Mrs Stephenson highlighted that all were welcome to attend the Adults and Health Scrutiny Panel if they wished to take part in debate.

#### **427 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

- i. The Chair mentioned that Mrs Stephenson and he were looking to setup a joint mental health task and finish group that would look into issues within Rutland. The Chair asked members wishing to take part in the group to let him know by email. The first meeting would take place on 11<sup>th</sup> December to decide on the Terms of Reference.
- ii. At the last Panel meeting, Mr Callaghan raised the need to keep a focus on schools regarding absences; that the Council had a duty to ensure that schools were adhering to the policy of no absences. Mr Bool mentioned that while the Council could ask for details regarding absences, the majority of schools in Rutland were academies and therefore did not need to supply the information. Mr Wilby noted he would speak with Ms Curtis as to whether it would be possible to get an informal indication, and would try to get back to the Panel next year.

#### **428 DATE AND PREVIEW OF NEXT MEETING**

Budget Meeting (Joint Scrutiny with Adults and Health)

Wednesday 24 January 2018 at 7pm

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**The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.17 pm.**

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