

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CHILDREN'S SERVICES
AND SAFEGUARDING)**

**MEETING HELD AT THE BIRKDALE ROOM, TOWN HALL,
SOUTHPORT
ON 20 MARCH 2018**

PRESENT: Councillor Murphy (in the Chair)
Councillor Carragher (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Bennett, Bradshaw, Hands, Keith, Pitt,
Spencer, Webster, Sandra Cain and Libby Kitt

45. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors O'Brien and Carr,
and Education Added Members Father Des Seddon, and Stuart Harrison.

46. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of personal interest were received:-

<u>Member</u>	<u>Minute No.</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Action</u>
Councillor Hands	94 – School Organisation and School Places	Personal – Is a governor of Birkdale Primary School and Peterhouse School	Stayed in the room, took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon.
Councillor Spencer	94 – School Organisation and School Places	Personal – Is a governor of Rowan Park School and IMPACT	Stayed in the room, took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon.

47. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2018, be confirmed as
a correct record.

48. CAPACITY AND WAITING LIST REVIEW - CAMHS SERVICES ACROSS SEFTON

Further to Minute No. 44 (2) of 30 January 2018, the Committee considered a report submitted by NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and NHS Southport and Formby CCG on capacity and the waiting list review for the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) across Sefton.

The report outlined background information including current waiting times; change in demand; and CCG plans to address waiting time issues and respond to plans and strategies.

Martin McDowell, Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Chief Officer, NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and NHS Southport and Formby CCG, was in attendance to provide information with regard to the Services and to respond to questions put by Members of the Committee.

Mr. McDowell gave a presentation on the CAMHS Service that outlined the following:-

- Financial and performance information;
- Changing demand: more intensive treatment being received, with details of the average duration of treatment provided;
- Changing the delivery model – Thrive information model for Sefton CAMHS;
- Changing the delivery model – Getting help: increasing “lower” level support and increasing access. Piloting of new services via the voluntary, community and faith sector (VCF), including:
 - the Venus collaboration at South Sefton Wellbeing Hub;
 - Sefton CVS – subsidised Sefton Emotional Achievement Service (SEAS) offer to schools;
 - Sefton CVS – SEAS Transition Programme for whole class groups;
 - Sefton CVS – Peer Mentoring/Support programme;
- Changing the local delivery model – getting risk support; and
- Next steps.

Members of the Committee asked questions/raised matters on the following issues:-

- Whether the CCG had a response to the CAHMS report
- Expressed their concern that the average waiting from referral to partnership was 31 weeks
- Staff training and the impact this has on waiting times

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND SAFEGUARDING)- TUESDAY 20TH MARCH, 2018

- CCG spending on CAHMS' services, and whether money was been diverted for other projects/initiatives
- What outreach services were being funded in Sefton
- Inclusion teams approaching schools for pupils in years 6 and 7 and whether this initiative was borough-wide
- How quick was the follow up for individuals who had self-harmed.

RESOLVED:

That the report and the presentation be noted.

49. SCHOOL ORGANISATION AND SCHOOL PLACES

Further to Minute No. 49 (3) of 21 March 2017, the Committee considered the report of the Head of Schools and Families on school organisation and school places. The report set out the background to the matter, together with details of Government policy; local authority statutory duties; the Government's vision for local authorities regarding school places; factors affecting pupil place planning; education reform; school funding reform; demographic issues; and planning areas based on geographical and ward boundaries.

Details of how pupil place planning numbers were determined and the next planning period projections were included within the Pupil Place Plan 2016/17 to 2020/21, attached to the report, The Plan set out the structure and characteristics of school provision; trends in pupil numbers; methodology used for forecasting pupil numbers; primary pupil numbers; secondary pupil numbers; Sefton's planning areas; pupil projections by planning area; empty places and surplus places.

Members of the Committee asked questions/raised matters on the following issues:-

- How responsive could schools be to fluctuating pupil numbers
- The 'Fair Access' process
- The increase in demand for Primary School places in the south of the borough
- The fact that some primary schools are over capacity
- The fact that the Formby PDC currently could, potentially, be converted back to being a school, but was listed as a site for development in the Local Plan
- Pupils 'drifting' to fill spare capacity in schools
- The acceptable level of surplus places
- The leverage the Council had over Academy Schools

RESOLVED:

That the information contained within the report be noted.

50. NOT IN EDUCATION EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING (NEETS) WORKING GROUP - IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chair reported that a request had been received from the relevant officer for the item to be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the report on the “Not In Education Employment or Training (NEETs) Working Group - Implementation of Recommendations” be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee, to be held on Tuesday, 10 July 2018.

51. CABINET MEMBER REPORT

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance in relation to the most recent report of the Cabinet Member – Children, Schools and Safeguarding for the period February – March 2018. The report outlined information on the following:-

- Schools Funding Formula;
- SEN Review and key issues for Sefton including:
 - Demand;
 - Provision;
 - Workforce;
 - Finance;
- Pupil Place Plan 2016/17 to 2021/2022;
- Adoption in Merseyside (AIM);
- Foster care allowances; and
- School Improvement.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet Member update report be noted.

52. WORK PROGRAMME - KEY DECISION FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance seeking the views of the Committee on the Work Programme for the remainder of 2017/18; noting the progress made to date by the Working Group appointed by the Committee; and identification of any items for pre-scrutiny scrutiny by the Committee from the Key Decision Forward Plan.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND SAFEGUARDING)- TUESDAY 20TH MARCH, 2018

A Work Programme for 2017/18 was set out at Appendix A to the report, to be considered, along with any additional items to be included and agreed.

Details of the progress made to date by the Special Educational Needs and Disability Process of Assessment Working Group were set out within the report.

There was just one Decision within the latest Key Decision Forward Plan, attached to the report at Appendix B that fell under this Committee's remit, and the Committee was invited to consider the item for pre-scrutiny.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Work Programme for 2017/18, as set out in Appendix A to the report, be noted;
- (2) the following item(s) be included within the Committee's Work Programme for 2018/19:-
 - Educational Assessments for Post 19s for SEN Working Group
- (3) progress made to date by the Working Group appointed be noted; and
- (4) the contents of the Key Decision Forward Plan and items for pre-scrutiny for the period 1 April - 31 July 2018 be noted.