

**To: The Chair and Members of the Scrutiny
Advisory Board - Children and Young
People**

Agenda

SCRUTINY ADVISORY BOARD - CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

A meeting of the Scrutiny Advisory Board - Children and Young People will be held as follows:

Date: Friday 4 December 2020
Time: 10.30 am
Place: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NjQ4YzgxOGMtN2MzNy00OGMzLWEwOTUtNmE3MjVWkYzc5MDU2%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22ac4b077e-a758-4bc5-9465-35c192007704%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%222d96a7b8-fb4f-48a2-a14b-f8f782b4ea89%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3a%22true%7d

Please Note

There will be a pre-meeting for Members only at 9:30 am

Dawn Roberts
Executive Director- Corporate, Customer and Community Services

Enquiries and requests for supporting papers to: Daniel Hamilton
Direct Line: 01228 226906
6906Email: daniel.hamilton@cumbria.gov.uk

This agenda is available on request in alternative formats

MEMBERSHIP

Conservative (6)

Mrs V Tarbitt (Chair)
Mrs EA Mallinson
Mr CP Turner
Mr P Dew (Vice-Chair)
Mr AW Wonnacott

Labour (4)

Mrs C Bowditch
Mr W McEwan
Mrs EL Williamson
Dr K Lockney

Liberal Democrat (2)

Mrs S Evans
Mr W Clark
Mr GD Cook

Church Representatives (2)

Mrs V O'Dea

Parent Governor Representatives (2)

Mrs M Davies
Mr P Healy

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Agenda and Reports

Copies of the agenda and Part I reports are available for members of the public to inspect prior to the meeting. Copies will also be available at the meeting.

The agenda and Part I reports are also available on the County Council's website – www.cumbria.gov.uk

Background Papers

Requests for the background papers to the Part I reports, excluding those papers that contain exempt information, can be made to Legal and Democratic Services at the address overleaf between the hours of 9.00 am and 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday.

A G E N D A

PART 1: ITEMS LIKELY TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence

2 MEMBERSHIP

To report any changes to the membership of the Board

3 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members are invited to disclose any disclosable pecuniary interest they have in any item on the agenda which comprises

- 1 Details of any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
- 2 Details of any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. (This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
- 3 Details of any contract which is made between you (or a body in which you have a beneficial interest) and the authority
 - (a) Under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
 - (b) Which has not been fully discharged.
- 4 Details of any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the authority.
- 5 Details of any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the authority for a month or longer.
- 6 Details of any tenancy where (to your knowledge)
 - (a) The landlord is the authority; and
 - (b) The tenant is a body in which you have a beneficial interest.

- 7 Details of any beneficial interest in securities of a body where
- (a) That body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the authority; and
 - (b) Either –
 - (i) The total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - (ii) If that share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

In addition, you must also disclose other non-pecuniary interests set out in the Code of Conduct where these have not already been registered.

Note

A “disclosable pecuniary interest” is an interest of a councillor or their partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom they are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they are civil partners).

Member Code of Conduct - Declaring Interests Flowchart

(Pages 7 - 8)

4 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item on the agenda.

5 MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 11 September 2020.

(Pages 9 - 18)

6 CUMBRIA EARLY HELP STRATEGY

Paper by the Executive Director – People (Deputy Chief Executive).

(Pages 19 - 22)

7 REGULATORY OVERVIEW REPORT

Paper by the Executive Director – People (Deputy Chief Executive).

(Pages 23 - 28)

8 COVID-19 UPDATE

Paper by the Executive Director – People (Deputy Chief Executive).

(Pages 29 - 36)

9 PORTFOLIO HOLDER UPDATE

To receive an update from the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services and the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Schools and Learning.

(Pages 37 - 38)

10 BOARD BRIEFING

To consider a report from the Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services (copy enclosed).

The report informs members of new and updated items of significance to the Board (including relevant aspects of the Council’s Forward Plan of Key Decisions).

(Pages 39 - 40)

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

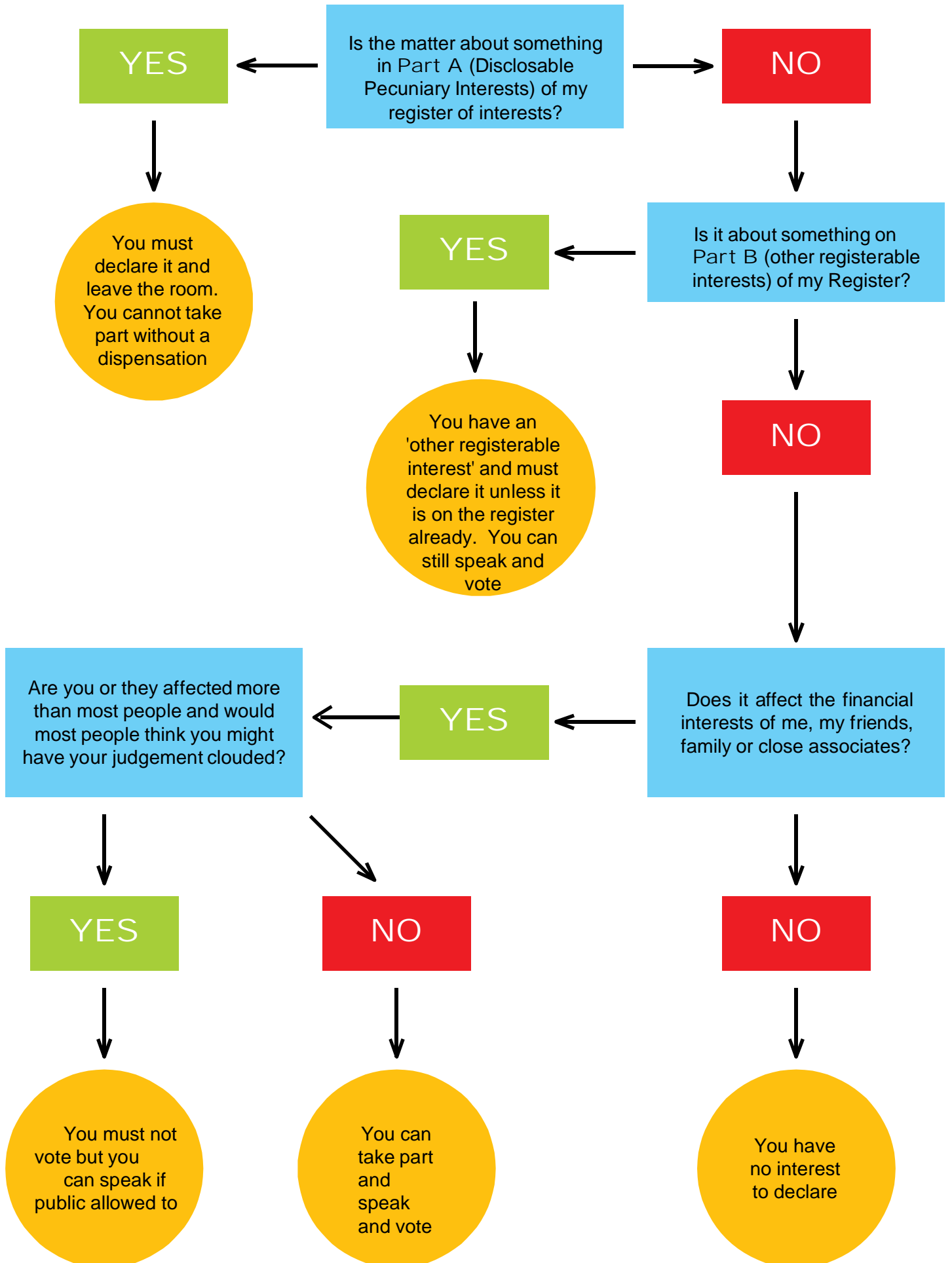
Date: 9 February 2021

Time: 10:30am

Venue: TBC

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MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT – DECLARING INTERESTS



NB: You do not need to declare the nature of 'sensitive' interests. You may still speak and vote if you have been granted a dispensation

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SCRUTINY ADVISORY BOARD - CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Scrutiny Advisory Board - Children and Young People held on Friday, 11 September 2020 at 10.30 am via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT:

Mrs V Tarbitt (Chair)

Mrs C Bowditch	Mr P Dew (Vice-Chair)
Mrs S Evans	Mr W Clark
Mrs EA Mallinson	Dr K Lockney
Mr CP Turner	Mr GRPM Roberts
Mrs EL Williamson	Mrs A Burns

Also in Attendance:-

Mr D Hamilton	- Democratic Services Officer
Mr D Barton	- Assistant Director - Education and Skills
Ms L Berryman	- Assistant Director - Children and Young People
Mrs F Musgrave	- Assistant Director - Integration and Partnerships
Ms S Starmer	- Interim Service Manager - Youth Offending Service
Mr J Rasbash	- Strategic Policy and Scrutiny Advisor

PART 1 – ITEMS CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

32 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Ms Michelle Davis, Mr Peter Healey, Mrs Sue Sanderson and Mr Andrew Wonnacott.

33 MEMBERSHIP

Members were informed that Mr Graham Roberts had become a new permanent member of the Scrutiny Advisory Board – Children and Young People for the Conservative Group, replacing the late Mr Lawrence Fisher.

34 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Mrs C Bowditch disclosed an interest in relation to agenda item 7 as she was Chair or Carlisle Mencap.

35 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that, the press and public be not excluded from the meeting during consideration of any items of business on the agenda.

36 MINUTES

RESOLVED that, the minutes of the meeting held on the 20 December 2019 be confirmed as an accurate and complete record.

37 CHILDREN'S COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY IN CUMBRIA

Members considered a report from the Executive Director – People (Deputy Chief Executive) which provided the Board with an update on the how the children's system had responded to COVID-19, its plans for recovery and a look ahead to priorities for children and families.

The Assistant Director - Children & Young People (Deputy DCS) introduced the report which would cover the following sections:-

- Early Years and Schools
- SEND
- Social Care and Safeguarding
- Think Family and Early Help
- Children's Commissioning

The Assistant Director - Education & Skills discussed the first two area of the report and provided an overview of the response to COVID-19 from Early Years and Schools which highlighted the major impact on schooling, and response to the issues of closing schools. This included targeted opening for specific groups, full opening for all year groups, prioritising the welfare and learning needs of disadvantaged pupils and providing of support to pupils whose public exams had been affected. The work around schools since March was split into three phases:

- Phase 1: COVID-19 response – March to June;
- Phase 2: COVID-19 initial recovery – June to September
- Phase 3: Full school opening September and beyond.

In response to the initial government guidance the Council worked with Cumbria Association of School Leaders and all parts of the education system (including the Early Years sector and post-16 education providers) to establish the Education Tactical Co-ordination Group (ETCG). This was a working group of the Local Resilience Forum that focused on supporting the education system for all year phases to manage the response to the pandemic.

It was explained that given that Cabinet and Scrutiny were not meeting during the first phase, the Executive Director - People (Deputy Chief Executive) made the

decision to set up Hub Schools and to extend year group access to the Hub Schools as was formally recorded on the Officer Decision Record.

Having established the Hub Schools, the main priority for the ETCG was to ensure children of critical workers and vulnerable learners were accessing the Hub Schools. The Assistant Director – Education and Skills explained that the Social Care and the School Improvement Team worked together to provide a definitive list of vulnerable learners and for then broke this list down by Hub School. In line with the DfE guidance, priority children with an Education and Health Care Plan were risk assessed to see if it were safe for them to attend a Hub School, and those deemed safe were supported to attend.

The Assistant Director – Education and Skills explained to members that one of the immediate impacts of the closure of schools was that disadvantaged learners could no longer access free school meals. Unlike vulnerable learners, disadvantaged learners were required to stay at home unless they were also vulnerable or a children of a critical worker, which meant that addressing this issue was an immediate priority.

In April, the Government announced the National Food Voucher Scheme, which entitled every child eligible for free school meals to access a £15 voucher each week. There was approximately a month's gap between the establishment of the scheme, and after its introduction there were a number of national problems in schools and parents accessing vouchers. In Cumbria the issue had been pre-empted as alternatives were already up and running by the end of March.

On Sunday 10 May, the Prime Minister announced the phased wider opening of schools to commence from 1 June. Further guidance from DfE confirmed these arrangements would be for:

- Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6;
- Some contact with Year 10 and 12 who were due to take exams;
- Vulnerable children and children of critical workers who have been accessing an educational setting during the lockdown period.

In response to the announcement ETCG focused on overseeing arrangements for the Hubs Schools to wind down and be replaced by all schools being able to open for the target groups from 1 June. The DfE guidance was clear that decisions to open schools had to be taken by schools individually, based on a risk assessment.

To support schools in carrying out the necessary steps to open, the Council's Corporate Health and Safety Team developed a risk tool and provided direct support and advice to individual schools. During this process the first priority once schools were safe to open was to ensure vulnerable learners and children of key workers, who were previously attending a Hub School, could transfer to their main school, and then to sequence in the other year groups when safe.

Overall the opening process was successful. On 1 June the majority of schools had opened for vulnerable learners and children of critical workers. By Monday 15 June

all schools in Cumbria had opened, taking in over 20% of all vulnerable learners who were eligible to attend, and increasingly taking in all year groups. Attendance increased over the summer term and by the term's end around 10,000 children were attending.

On 23 June the Prime Ministerial made a statement on the further easing of lock down measures, reiterating the commitment to full school opening by September. To support the refocusing of attention to September opening for all year groups, the Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning agreed that the ECTG should stand down and be replaced by a September Opening Group that she would chair. This group developed a number of work streams that operated throughout the school holidays reporting in every week. Some of the key work streams included:

- Curriculum redesign
- Pastoral care
- Transport
- School layout and property
- Revised HR guidance

The Assistant Director – Education and Skills then provided an overview of one of the biggest challenges of COVID-19 which been around the suspension of public exams for the 2020 academic year and its replacement with a system of grades for GCSEs and A-levels based on teacher assessment and electronic moderation by an algorithm overseen by Ofqual.

The Assistant Director – Education and Skills moved on to discuss Early Years settings and stated that during the COVID response phase, the early years hub model was created alongside the school hub model – 12 PVI providers and 33 childminders remained open throughout; additionally, some early years children attended school hubs.

Members heard of the additional complexity in early years setting, where it was difficult for small children to socially distance especially as they need close physical contact as part of their support. This means there were additional demands practically and financially for early years settings in order to keep children in smaller groups and observe hygiene practices.

In Cumbria there are around 3700 pupils with an EHCP, so the main focus was upon initially risk assessing those with the highest need. This enabled the cohort as a whole to be supported safely and for those who could attend were supported to do so.

With regards to SEND children, In Cumbria there were around 3700 pupils with an EHCP, so the main focus was upon initially risk assessing those with the highest need. This enabled the cohort as a whole to be supported safely and those who could attend were supported to do so.

During the period a SEND helpline was also established for the Hub Schools and support was put in place for families around respite and short breaks in recognition of challenges they would be facing during the response phase.

A key priority during the past six months had been to ensure that work on the SEND Improvement would be insulated from any potential disruption. Meetings had continued virtually and many parent reps identified that there were pros and cons to the situation but for many not having to travel to a meeting was a definite bonus.

Since the publication of the report schools had returned and so an additional update was provided on the return to schools. Members heard that schools had reopened on a phased basis and that attendance had remained between 85-90%. The Assistant Director took the opportunity to thank the Public Health team for their clear guidance and support.

Members asked for further detail about extra support measures that would be provided over the coming year. The Assistant Director – Education and Skills informed members of the development of the recovery curriculum for schools and explained how schools would identify issues and provide support to mitigate against the impact of lockdown on mental wellbeing. The Local Authority was leading on a shared online resource platform to support schools. Discussion then took place regarding contingency planning in the event of a second lockdown and members were informed that plans for online remote learning had been made and that schools felt confident of their ability to provide classes this way in the case of a second lockdown.

The Assistant Director – Education and Skills gave assurances that support was also in place for staff including head teachers and that schools were equipped to identify newly vulnerable children for allocation of free school meals and equipment where necessary. It was **AGREED** that a response in writing be circulated to the scrutiny board to provide more detail on the current process regarding identifying newly vulnerable children who may be eligible for free school meals.

A question arose regarding support to non-state schools. The Assistant Director – Education and Skills clarified that the Independent Sector / Private Schools by virtue of their funding structure would likely not be as hard hit as state schools. Local Authority would not provide funding to these schools and they would be reliant upon their own reserves. Independent Service providers, as schools that the Council commission to provide service, we would not receive anything additional to their current fees they would also need to draw on reserves. The Assistant Director – Education and Skills made it clear that this was not to say that these schools were not being supported in other ways but highlighted that funding shortfall was more of a concern within the state sector.

A discussion took place regarding the reliability of attainment data collected and the need for schools to identify quickly which students might have fallen behind due to the interruption in their education.

The Local Member for Kells and Sandwith asked about support from the Council in the challenge from Whitehaven Academy to the current school bus transport '3 mile rule'. The Assistant Director – Education and Skills was aware of the issues at certain schools having to work directly with the provider. What the council had ensure was that transport had been supplied to all of the children to which the

council had a duty. The issue in other cases was around capacity of public transport because of Social distancing issues have caused issues with public transport. The Assistant Director – Education and Skills explained that a shadow bus route had been commissioned for 21 different routes that would pick up children who cannot travel on the first bus due to capacity.

The Assistant Director – Education and Skills was asked what was in place to support children who had parents who had chosen to keep them at home, or that had been sent home due to public health advice. He answered that it was children who had parents or carers who were at significant risk that the Council had the greatest opportunity to support and in those cases it did so with remote learning. It was added that the decision had been made at the moment to not prosecute with fines until the Council had better information regarding attainment trends.

The Vice-Chair thanked the Assistant Director and the team for the regular updates provided throughout the COVID-19 response.

The Assistant Director - Children & Young People (Deputy DCS) outlined the Safeguarding and Social Care response and first cited that 'business-as-usual' had been maintained throughout albeit virtually and that despite pressures staffing levels remained high, there was good morale and the service was highly resilient.

A RAG rating system was introduced to risk assess all looked-after children and young people to prioritise increased levels of contact during lockdown. Key meetings such as child protection conferences, and fostering and adoption panels were moved to virtual platforms very quickly and key priority activity such as fostering recruitment had continued during this period. Members were informed that there were 29 new foster care recruits over this period which was a net increase of 25.

The Assistant Director - Children & Young People (Deputy DCS) stated that the Service had worked hard to maintain contact with children and families and were aware of the increased vulnerability that not attending school would create for many children. The DfE survey completed in June highlighted that as a Council Cumbria outperformed both statistical neighbours and national rates in maintaining contact during the period.

The Service also recognised the importance of supporting care leavers during this period and initiated a quick, proactive and practical response which ensured regular contact, financial support, phones, food and support networks. The Assistant Director - Children & Young People (Deputy DCS) explained that the Service had linked in nationally with the DfE and Cumbria's response had been shared nationally as good practice. In concluding, Members were informed that Cumbria had been confirmed to be involved in a funded pilot study that would look into the benefits of placing social workers within schools. The study would be hosted by the What Works Centre, whose work was closely aligned to the Department for Education. The Service was in the process of identifying schools and would keep the Board updated as the project developed.

The Chair thanked the Social Care and Safeguarding services for their work and praised their resilience through the COVID-19 response.

The Assistant Director - Integration and Partnerships provided an overview of Early Help and the work of the Children's Trust Board. She began by explaining that due to concern about hidden harm and the potential for a surge in demand as society re-opens, the Children's Trust Board had been revitalised with a focus on developing a system-wide approach to supporting children and families in Cumbria.

The Children's Trust reviewed its priorities and agreed to focus on:

- Development and implementation of the Early Help Strategy and ownership and championing of the "Think Family" approach;
- Strengthening early help to meet the potential increase in demand to prevent children's needs from escalating;
- Refresh of the Children and Young People's Plan to reflect Covid-19 Recovery and the language of Think Family and Early Help;
- Developing the wrap around support to schools.

Members heard that in order to support these priorities the Children's Trust agreed to establish locality partnerships and revitalise existing partnerships where they were currently operating.

The Children's Trust Board developed an Early Help Strategy for Cumbria that set out the vision of priorities for Early Help through the local partnerships. It was **AGREED** that a wider piece of work be brought to Scrutiny to provide more detail on the Early Help Strategy after being considered by the Children's Trust Board.

The Assistant Director - Integration and Partnerships explained the Think Family approach to delivering the Early Help Strategy. Members heard how the strategy would use the Signs of Wellbeing and Success approach, which had adapted from the Signs of Safety approach that had been extensively used in Children's Social Care.

The Portfolio Holder highlighted to members the benefit of the Early Help strategy and the importance of locality partnerships.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Director - Integration and Partnerships and all officers involved for their report and adjourned the meeting for a 5 minute comfort break.

38 CUMBRIA YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE : WORKING THROUGH COVID 19 AND BEYOND

Members received a presentation from the Youth Offending And Prevention Service Manager on the impact of COVID-19 and the transition to recovery of the Cumbria Youth Offending Service. The Youth Offending And Prevention Service Manager explained to members that the requirement to provide an annual review had been lifted this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic but it was felt that to provide assurance a presentation should be given highlighting the following areas of the Services COVID-19 response:-

- What did we need to consider?
- Key issues

- What we have done?
- Achievements
- Moving Forward

Was asked whether there had been any noticeable changes to the type of offence reported. Continued rise in youth offending cases in the South of the county and in particular in Barrow. An audit in violent offence we do still have violent offending.

A discussion took place regarding the misuse of substances focusing on alcohol and whether there was an indication of how much these things factored into youth offending. The Youth Offending And Prevention Service Manager explained that substances and alcohol in particular are recognised as contributing factors to youth offending as is alcohol or substance use of parents of those who come into the service.

The Service Manager was then asked if there were any special arrangements made for those with autism or severe learning difficulties as part of the process. Members were informed that all young people who come into the service undertake a speech, language and communication screening assessment which was crucial to informing how the service tailors its interventions. It was also crucial in seeing if young people had not been in education for some time. It was explained to members that the Service also had links within the SEND team and could see whether young people had an EHCP. The Service also had links with specialist groups such as the AAA Autism group.

In response to a question regarding a recent Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons (HMIP) review, the Service Manager stated that verbal feedback had been very positive about the continuity of service and the conduct of staff as part of the response to COVID-19.

The Chair thanked the Youth Offending And Prevention Service Manager for the instructive presentation.

39 CABINET MEMBER UPDATES

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services praised all areas of the service for their hard work during the COVID-19 response and recovery and informed members of the recent confirmation of Cumbria as part of the Regional Adoption Agency alongside Sunderland and Durham. It was stated that this would open up a larger field for adopters and the Cabinet Member wanted it recognised that it was quite remarkable that this partnership had been negotiated during the COVID-19 pandemic. The agency would be titled Coast to Coast and had now been signed off by lead members of each authority.

40 BOARD BRIEFING

Members considered a report from the Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services which provided an overview of the Board’s business and opportunities for further scrutiny.

Members noted the report and were invited to share their suggestions for scrutiny agenda items in the lead up to the December meeting.

41 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Scrutiny Advisory Board – Children and Young People is due to take place 4 December 2020 via Microsoft Teams.

The meeting ended at 12:45pm

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SCRUTINY ADVISORY BOARD – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
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Meeting date: 4th December 2020

From: Executive Director - People
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Board Briefing

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide an overview of the development of the Early Help Strategy and the Childrens Trust Board locality partnership groups.

2.0 Issues for Scrutiny

2.1 To note the development of the Early Help Strategy and consider Early Help when scrutinising wider activity within the Children’s System.

3.0 Background

3.1 In 2019 Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership held a series of consultation events around the County entitled ‘Developing Excellent Early Help’ to inform the development of the strategy. The events were well attended (276 professionals) Participants were asked what excellent Early Help is, some of the responses were;

- A Joined up collaborative approach of working with transparency and honesty
- Easily accessible and promoted well so people know about it and how to access it
- The right help at the right time with timely interventions following a quality assessment
- Practical support available which develops resilience in families
- Children are at the centre of the family not the centre of the services

3.2 The strategy aims to create a system in which vulnerable children and families are identified and engaged at the earliest point, so that their needs do not escalate to requiring a statutory intervention. It also sets out;

- The support to be provided to ensure that services are working together effectively
 - How we will keep children & families at the centre of our services
 - How we will deliver Early Help and support at the earliest opportunity
 - How we will know that the Early Help is working
- 3.3 The strategy compliments a range of other Cumbria plans and strategies so that there is a continuity of proportionate and effective arrangements at all levels of need.
- 3.4 The vision for the strategy is: 'In Cumbria all children will be a part of a strong family network living in a thriving community being happy and healthy and able to succeed with a sense of pride'.
- 3.5 Our shared approach throughout all our priorities is 'Think Family'. Our strategic priorities are;
- Thriving communities and families
 - Give children the best start in life
 - The right help at the right time
 - Earlier identification and intervention with families to prevent their needs from increasing

Governance arrangements

- 3.6 Governance sits with The Childrens Trust Board and Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership. Delivery of this strategy will be through the six CTB Locality Children's Partnership Groups. Membership of each of these Boards is broad and involves statutory, voluntary and community sector partners.

CTB Locality Children's Partnership Groups.

- 3.7 The Locality Children and Families Partnerships are partnerships between statutory, voluntary and community organisations that are working with and for children, young people and families at a local geography. The partnerships will focus on early intervention, building preventative places and ultimately improving outcomes for children and young people and families.
- 3.8 The aim of the groups is to build a commitment to early intervention. Reducing the barriers to effective multi-agency working, improving joined up working and identifying opportunities to improve outcomes for children, young people and families by working together better.
- 3.9 Each of the groups has a Chair and Vice Chair and is working with the County Council's Local Committees to ensure alignment in the local area. The Chairs for each of the partnerships are set out below:

- Allerdale – Andrew Seekings, Chief Exec, Allerdale BC
 - Copeland- Pat Graham, Chief Exec, Copeland BC
 - Barrow – Sam Plum, Chief Exec, Barrow BC
 - Eden – Deborah Royston, Chief Officer, Cumbria Family Support
 - South lakes – Jonathon Taylor, Senior Manager, Children and Families, CCC.
 - Carlisle – Jason Gooding, Chief officer Carlisle City Council
- 3.10 The groups have identified their local priorities and some of which include; Domestic Abuse, healthy weight, under 5's, youth unemployment.
- 3.11 In most areas task or working groups have also been established which feed into the locality groups.
- 3.12 The groups are meeting monthly or every 6 to 8 weeks. Each of the groups has specific action plans to enable them to monitor progress.
- 3.13 The groups are very well attended and feedback has been positive. The groups are linked to each area local committee, and members are represented on the locality groups.

Think family

- 3.14 The Think Family agenda recognises and promotes the importance of a whole-family approach which is built on the principles of 'Reaching out: think family'. Working with families and not doing to them. Moving from transactional to relational approaches;
- No wrong door – contact with any service offers an open door into a system of joined-up support. This is based on more coordination between adult focussed services and children's services.
 - Looking at the whole family – services working with both adults and children taking into account family circumstances and responsibilities. For example, an alcohol treatment service combines treatment with parenting classes while supervised childcare is provided for the children.
 - Providing support tailored to need – working with families to agree a package of support best suited to their particular situation.
 - Building on family strengths – practitioners work in partnerships with families recognising and promoting resilience and helping them to build their capabilities. For example, family group conferencing is used to empower a family to negotiate their own solution to a problem.
- 3.15 The strength- based model adapted from Signs of safety; 'signs of wellbeing and signs of success' where the family are at the heart of all decision making

and are empowered to make positive choices about their own lives is embedded within the strategy.

4.0 Recommendation

- 4.1 Members note the Early Help Strategy is now in place and been signed off by the Children Trust Board. The Board has oversight of the Strategy and the work of the locality partnerships groups to ensure that the strategy has the expected impact for children and families within our communities.

Lesley Sanczuk
Senior Manager

Please ensure that every part of this section where there is an asterisk is completed in accordance with the instructions before sending the report to Member Services, following which please delete this sentence.*

Appendices

No appendices.

Previous Relevant Council or Executive Decisions [including Local Committees]

No previous relevant decisions.

Background Papers

No background papers.

Contact: Sue Hodkin, sue.hodkin@cumbria.gov.uk

SCRUTINY ADVISORY BOARD – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
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Meeting date: 4th December 2020

From: Executive Director - People
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Board Briefing

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline the existing regulatory regimes that relate to the breadth of children’s services, to highlight where these have been impacted by the current Covid pandemic, and to provide a current status update against each area.
- 1.2 The report concludes with an overview of the North West Peer Challenge Process and a recommendation that Scrutiny review the self-evaluation submissions at a future meeting.

2 Children’s Social Care

- 2.1 Children’s social care are subject to the Inspection of Local Authority Children’s Services (ILACS) framework.
- 2.2 Cumbria’s last full inspection was under the previous Single Inspection Framework (SIF) in November 2017 and the judgements were as follows:

Overall Judgement	Requires Improvement
Sub-Judgements Children who need help and protection	Requires Improvement
Children looked after and achieving permanence	Requires Improvement
Adoption Performance	Good
Care Leavers	Requires Improvement
Leadership, management and governance	Good

- 2.3 Under the ILACS framework local authorities receive a full inspection approximately every three years with a minimum of two short focused visits (usually thematic) undertaken between inspections, one of which could be a Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) which is a thematic multi-agency inspection which Ofsted and other regulators undertaken with a small

number of authorities each year against a selected topic, such as child exploitation, or mental health.

- 2.4 Our first short focused visit under the ILACS framework took place in August 2019. There were no priority areas for improvement resulting from the visit and many areas of positive practice highlighted. Our second short focused visit was scheduled for March 2020 and postponed due to the Covid pandemic.
- 2.5 During Covid, the formal inspection schedule has been postponed, however Ofsted have recently initiated support/assurance visits to local authorities and we have been anticipating one of these imminently with a full ILACS potentially towards the end of 2021, though the impact of Covid on timelines for this is as yet unknown.
- 2.6 Ofsted have currently paused ILACS support/assurance visits during the national lockdown effective from 5 November, and state that due to the 10 day notice period it is likely to mean there are no further focused visits until the New Year.

3.0 SEND

- 3.1 The framework for the inspection of local areas' effectiveness in identifying and meeting the needs of children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities was introduced in 2016.
- 3.2 This framework details how local areas will be jointly inspected by Ofsted and CQC at least once in a five year period. Inspections do not result in a judgement, but where there are areas of significant concern, local areas are required to produce a Written Statement of Action (WSOA), and can expect to be re-inspected against that in the future.
- 3.3 Cumbria received our first SEND inspection in 2019. The inspection identified 9 areas for priority action which formed the basis of a WSOA which is the joint responsibility of the local authority and the two Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in Cumbria.
- 3.4 The improvement activity is led by our SEND Improvement Board, with an independent chair and strong partnership representation including parents/carers and elected members.
- 3.5 Monitoring/progress evaluation visits take place quarterly led by the DfE and NHS England. Our last such visit took place on 16 November 2020. The timeframe for our re-inspection is unknown and is likely to have been impacted by the pause in inspections during Covid.

4.0 Education

- 4.1 Ofsted inspections of Local Authority (LA) arrangements for supporting school improvement ceased due to changes in government policy on 19

October 2018. However, the LA retains a statutory duty to identify schools causing concern and those that are in decline or at risk of failure; to challenge and undertake timely interventions in schools to raise standards.

- 4.2 The LA must engage in an annual conversation with Ofsted to report and be held accountable for school performance. There are also termly challenge meetings with the regional HMI in relation to early years provision and outcomes, post 16 provision and outcomes and school improvement and pupil outcomes. The Learning Improvement Service ensures LA statutory duties are met by championing high standards, including for the most vulnerable learners. It drives improvement in academic and Ofsted outcomes by identifying, brokering and monitoring support in schools through system leadership and by exercising LA statutory powers of intervention where required. As at 31 October 2020, 286/321 schools in Cumbria were judged good or outstanding (89.1%) This compares to 86% nationally as at 31 December 2019.
- 4.3 School inspections are carried out under the Education Inspection Framework which covers Ofsted inspections of maintained schools, academies, non-association independent schools, further education and skills provision and registered early years settings in England. The frequency of inspection will depend on the most recent judgement afforded to a setting.
- 4.4 The COVID pandemic resulted in a pause of Ofsted inspections on 17 March 2020. Ofsted commenced an interim visit programme on 28 September 2020. These interim visits were introduced to reassure and inform parents, government and the public about how schools are managing the return to full education for all pupils. The lead Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI) writes a short letter after each interim visit. This is to provide parents with information about what leaders are doing to help pupils back into full-time education. Letters do not provide any evaluation or graded judgement. There have been 15 of these section 8 visits to Cumbrian schools as at 19 November 2020. Ofsted plan to restart inspection from Spring term 2021.

5.0 Early Years

- 5.1 Early years services are not inspected as a separate entity. In December 2019 Cumbria County Council invited the LGA to conduct a Peer Challenge of early years services across the multi-agency partnership.
- 5.2 There is currently no separate inspection framework for children's centres. The last children's centre inspections in Cumbria took place in June 2015. Since then children's centres have been included as part of wider area inspections relating to children's social care and SEND.
- 5.3 Routine Ofsted inspections of childminders and private, voluntary and independent early years settings were suspended in March 2020 due to the pandemic. Since September 2020, Ofsted have been conducting registration and compliance visits. Ofsted risk assess on a case-by-case basis

whether to carry out this work virtually, or on-site or a combination of the two. Regulatory enforcement work continues both on and off sites.

- 5.4 Ofsted have recently released their plans to re-introduce inspections from January 2021 but these are under constant review. When full routine early years inspections resume under the Education Inspection Framework (EIF), Ofsted will schedule these based on risk assessment and inspection grades, prioritising nurseries, pre-schools and childminders that are not yet good and those there are significant concerns about.
- 5.5 Under the new arrangements, all early years providers will be inspected in a six-year window from the date of their last inspection, rather than the current four-year cycle. Ofsted will still aim to inspect all new childcare providers within 30 months of registration where possible, childcare providers judged to require improvement will be inspected within a year and inadequate childcare provision will be inspected within 6 months. Nursery and Reception provision within schools comes under the school inspection regime.

6.0 Residential Provision

- 6.1 Cumbria County Council's Edge of care and Children's home services are regulated by Ofsted using the Social Care Common Inspection Framework (SCCIF). Ofsted inspect homes once per year, known as a 'key inspection' over two days, whereby a judgement of, outstanding, good, requires improvement or inadequate will be made. If a home is judged to be inadequate or requires improvement, then a second inspection would occur in the same year known as an interim inspection (one day).
- 6.2 Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic Ofsted have changed the way they are carrying out inspections and are undertaking 'assurance visits' which are undertaken over two days, the first day by telephone and the second day in person at the home. This assurance visit is not graded. All our residential provision is currently rated good or outstanding, other than a newly opened provision in Kendal which is awaiting interim inspection and currently has no grading.
- 6.3 Once per month an independent person from NYAS carries out a Regulation 44 visit which looks at how the home is operating and may make recommendations for change and looks at good practice. The report is then sent to Ofsted. The Regulation 44 visit is usually an unannounced visit to the home, but due to COVID-19 restrictions they have been carried out over the phone with the information required being sent over prior to the call.

7.0 Youth Offending Service (YOS)

- 7.1 HMIP (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation) are the body responsible for inspecting Youth Offending Services across England and Wales. Youth

Offending Services are selected for inspection on a risk basis, determined by a set of criteria including volume, performance information and the date since last inspection. Most Youth Offending Services will be subject to a core inspection but a small number will be selected for a joint agency Inspection. In addition to these core inspections, HMIP carry out a number of thematic reviews, focusing on a specific area, where a number of services take part, looking at a similar theme.

- 7.2 HMIP are currently half way through a 4 year program of inspections, it is anticipated that at some point all Youth Offending Services will be inspected. The focus from now until January will be on two thematic reviews, with core inspections likely to restart in March 2021. Cumbria YOS was subject to a full inspection in 2009 and subject to a Short Quality Screening Inspection in 2016. In July 2020 Cumbria YOS were one of 7 services selected to be part of the HMIP thematic review in to how Youth Offending Services have operated during Covid-19. The report is due to be published on 18th November 2020.

8.0 Self Evaluation

- 8.1 Cumbria are active participants in the annual NWADCS regional peer challenge process. This involves the submission of self-evaluation in relation to children's social care, education and SEND, with accompanying data packs.
- 8.2 Self-evaluations are currently being updated/developed and will be submitted on 20 January 2021, prior to the peer challenge session being held on 9 February. These self-evaluations also feed into the Ofsted 'annual conversation' as well as being used as evidence when we receive an inspection.

9.0 Recommendations

- 9.1 That Scrutiny members note the information shared regarding inspection frameworks, and receive at a future meeting the self-evaluations relating to children's social care, education and SEND, for further detailed discussion and review.

Amy Holliman
Senior Manager, Partnerships and People Improvement

Appendices

None

Previous Relevant Council or Executive Decisions *[including Local Committees]*

No previous relevant decisions.

Background Papers

No background papers.

Contact: Amy Holliman, amy.holliman@cumbria.gov.uk

SCRUTINY ADVISORY BOARD – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
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Meeting date: November 2020

From: Executive Director People
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CHILDREN’S Covid RESPONSE AND RECOVERY IN CUMBRIA – UPDATE ON DEMAND AND RECOVERY

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide the Board with an update on impact of Covid on the children's system, its plans for recovery and a look ahead to priorities for children and families.
- 1.2 The report will be supported by a presentation at the meeting.

2 Issues for Scrutiny

- 2.1 To note the report.
- 2.2 To seek assurances around any actions proposed in the report.
- 2.3 To make recommendations to the Executive Director People and the Assistant Directors.
- 2.4 To consider the whether report raises wider issues for other Scrutiny Boards.

3 Background

- 3.1 This report provides an outline of the Covid Response and Recovery Priorities across the Children’s System, which covers:
 - Early Years and Schools
 - SEND
 - Social Care and Safeguarding
 - Think Family and Early Help
 - Children’s Commissioning

4 Schools

- 4.1 Covid has posed unprecedented challenges for schools. Members of Scrutiny have received regular briefings on this. The meeting will receive a

presentation alongside this report – and will include a contemporary update on the situation across schools and the education system.

5 Early Years

- 5.1 Early years PVI sector (group based and childminders) has showed incredible resilience and support to families throughout the pandemic. We are not aware of any early years settings closing as of yet as a direct result of Covid, however the future of the sector is potentially fragile as a result of a combination of reduced demand from families for fee paying places, and the end of the flexible furlough scheme in March 2021.
- 5.2 There are additional demands practically and financially for early years settings in order to keep children in smaller groups and to implement additional cleaning. The sector is also affected by bubble closures. We are awaiting final confirmation from the DfE regarding childcare places funding for Spring 2021 onwards.
- 5.3 The impact on young children’s development, health and learning from missing months of childcare is not known – some children may have thrived due to extended time with caregivers, others may have missed vital opportunities in terms of their nutrition, learning and socialisation. This is likely to result in a widening disadvantage gap.
- 5.4 Opportunities for early identification of additional needs may have been lost due to children not starting or attending their early years setting this year, and there is also likely to be a back log of health led assessments. Some young children with SEND are finding the transition to school challenging and there is an increase in requests for support from Early Years Area SENCOS.

6 SEND

- 6.1 The Covid pandemic has presented an exceptional challenge on our services including the schools and settings our children and young people attend.
- 6.2 We are pleased to inform that we have maintained continuity of support and provision for our SEND children and young people, and despite this disruption and adaptation to new ways of working we have maintained business as usual in the midst of a service redesign that has now ended and implementation of this is underway. The redesign will improve how services work to support the children and young people with SEND.
- 6.3 There are additional demands practically evident in the increase of SEN children and young people who are experiencing high anxiety due to the impact of the Covid pandemic. Work is ongoing with health colleagues to address this through support for schools and settings in managing and meeting needs.

- 6.4 Work continues in relation to the Written Statement of Action through the six identified working groups with the focus remaining on improving SEND provision across the local area
- 6.5 Requests for statutory assessments of SEN have increased and any agreed assessments are taking place within the required statutory timescales. Ongoing support and advice is in place from relevant professionals involved within individuals and schools and settings report the effectiveness of this work on their ability to continue meeting the needs of the SEND children and young people.
- 6.6 Teams across our services are working closely with schools and settings to support when complexities arise relating to individuals. In particular for those children and young people who have complex health needs that need to be managed in a specific way, in these cases we are working in partnership with our health colleagues.

7 Social Care and Safeguarding

- 7.1 The Covid pandemic has presented an unprecedented challenge to our service, as well as to the children and families we support. We are proud to be able to say we have maintained continuity of support and provision for our most vulnerable children and young people, and that despite the disruption, wherever possible we have maintained business as usual.
- 7.2 We have maintained and strengthened our key partnerships during this period, with fortnightly Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP) business continuity meetings ensuring a joined up partnership response.
- 7.3 During the response phase there was a significant drop in calls to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, which was in line with the national trend. Whilst figures have been increasing the figure for October 2020 was 19% lower than the 2019 average.
- 7.4 In terms of social care the overall numbers of open cases have fallen by 7% since the start of the pandemic. The picture differs across the districts with Carlisle seeing a substantial decrease in case numbers, whilst numbers in Barrow have increased by 8%. Other districts have either remained stable or seen a small decline in numbers.
- 7.5 Work is being undertaken with children, young people and families to deal with any of the consequences of Covid.
- 7.6 There continues to be a strong line of sight in terms of practice and performance which has engaged staff, families and carers in development and process. A daily key information email is sent out which set out policy and guidance which have been updated in line with any new government or public health information. There have also been online whole management

meetings across county which have delivered information and training and development time.

7.7 The Social Workers in Schools (SWiS) project is in progress, a manager has been recruited to post and social worker recruitment is underway. 8 schools from across Cumbria who will be part of the project have been identified.

7.8 As well as the excellent examples of innovative and flexible response highlighted, inevitably there have been, and continue to be, areas of concern and challenge as a result of Covid which we are working through as part of our recovery planning. These include:

- Delays for children's permanence, due to court delays and backlog.
- The disruption to family time (supervised contact).
- Delays in progressing the establishment of new residential homes.
- The potential for hidden harm to children, young people and their families during this period, and the medium – long term impact of this.

8 The whole system

System Demand

8.1 A number of key areas of demand have been highlighted across the system:

8.1.1 The impact of Covid on Emotional Health and Wellbeing is being seen across the system. In terms of calculating demand, the latest national survey results from NHS Digital show a significant increase in the incidence of children and young people experiencing poor mental wellbeing to the extent of being diagnosed with a mental health disorder. From 1 in 9 in 2017 to 1 in 6 in 2020. It is assumed that this is due to the impact of Covid on the CYP population.

8.1.2 There has been an increase in contacts into safeguarding hub for emotional wellbeing, 90% did not reach threshold for transfer to district social care, a piece of work is being undertaken to review these children and identify their support requirements.

8.1.3 CAMHS surge calculations predict a 70% surge is a reasonable worst-case scenario with the worst effect falling over this winter. Calculations have worked on a basis of 8% of CYP affected by Covid actually being eligible for CAMHS services, meaning that 92% will need to access support elsewhere.

8.1.4 75% of police vulnerable adult referrals relate to mental health referrals (Jan-Oct 2020), a number of these are adults with children in their household.

- 8.1.5 We have seen an increase in Domestic Abuse – 7.8% increase in incidents compared to same period in 2019, with a Child present or witness in approximately 30% of incidents.
- 8.1.6 In terms of Child Exploitation, the Police have reported that there are a number of active County Lines. There has also been an increase in Child Exploitation reports in north and west Cumbria, the south has seen a slight decrease.
- 8.1.7 The Children’s Trust Board (CTB) have discussed the impact of Covid on poverty. Many people losing their job or seeing a long-term reduction in income is one of the most significant community concerns. In September 2020 there were 2,800 more households with children claiming Universal Credit than in February 2020. The end of the Furlough Scheme could see the number of children in poverty double from 14% to around 30%.
- 8.2 As can be seen it is not a consistent picture across all areas of demand as some have seen a decrease and some have seen an increase. The CTB is working with the Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP) and Safer Cumbria to ensure that the demands are understood and acted upon.

The Children’s Trust Board, Early Help and Think Family

- 8.3 A reinvigorated Children’s Trust Board (CTB) meets monthly to lead the wider children’s agenda, supporting a joined up response to the challenges posed by Covid and more widely.
- 8.4 The recent focus of the CTB has been understanding system demand and the impact of Covid; Early Help and engagement through schools; development of Children & Families Locality Groups and setting of locality priorities. The group have had oversight of a number of key issues:

- hidden harm
- newly vulnerable
- team around school
- locality priorities

And are undertaking further exploration of:

- Specific impacts of Covid on BAME, LGBTQ and other groups
- Poverty (including digital access)
- Emotional Health & Wellbeing systems in recovery

9 Commissioned Services

- 9.1 The main objective for the Strategic Commissioning team during the early phase of the pandemic was to establish systems to quickly identify and manage any emerging issues that would impact commissioned providers, children, young people and their families. Providers completed and returned risk assessments, recovery plans and regular RAG reports. A project team comprising operational and strategic commissioning staff met daily to manage this process. A weekly RAG report was produced for the Executive Director of People.
- 9.2 Strategic Commissioning developed a dedicated 'Coronavirus advice and information webpage', as a point of reference for providers on latest information for example on PPE, outbreak control and how to access the 24-hour emergency response helpline. The webpage also supported families, providing information and guidance on personal budgets and direct payments, advice on accessing PPE for personal assistants and information on testing, as well as FAQs and signposting.
- 9.3 The project team continues to meet three times weekly during the recovery phase to manage and provide a co-ordinated response to localised issues.
- 9.4 Strategic Commissioning attends the daily School Infection Control Team meeting and works with Public Health and providers to manage outbreaks within school settings.
- 9.5 The sourcing of placements for Children and Young People entering Care remains a challenge however regular engagement and monitoring of providers ensures we are aware of and able to plan for any potential disruptions to service delivery.
- 9.6 At a strategic level, the Commissioning team continues to monitor how the crisis has impacted providers, children, young people and families, to identify evolving longer-term priorities.
- 9.7 The systems established to identify and manage Covid related issues have been embedded and are working effectively.
- 9.8 This has allowed Strategic Commissioning to move to the recovery phase and manage its Covid response as 'business as usual'. However, this has resulted in significant change and increased workload.
- 9.9 Two full time, permanent appointments have been made (Commissioning Manager and Commissioning Officer). This has allowed the team to redeploy resource to support the Council's priority areas in relation to Early Help and the SEND Written Statement of Action.

10 Recovery

- 10.1 The Strategic Recovery Coordination Group (SRCG) takes responsibility for coordinating the critical aspects of the Recovery Strategy and has agreed the following purposes:

- 10.1.1 To facilitate and enable recovery of Cumbria from the Covid pandemic, focusing on the impacts at community and countywide level, and the opportunities to reimagine and rebuild a better future for the county, its places, and communities.
- 10.1.2 To promote collaboration across and through partnerships at countywide and locality level and support the development and delivery of recovery strategies and plans.
- 10.1.3 To facilitate an approach to recovery in Cumbria that includes community voices, builds community resilience and so supports communities to thrive.
- 10.2 The SRCG is developing a Recovery Strategy and the approach to recovery for Cumbria is built around existing partnership and programme structures rather than establishing a new set of subgroups.
- 10.3 The draft vision for the strategy is “Building a better, stronger and more resilient Cumbria for our residents, our communities and our businesses” and it developed around the Cumbria Public Health Strategy.
- 10.4 For children this will mean that the plans for recovery will be driven by the Children’s Trust Board and will be focussed around narrowing the widening gaps for children across the whole range of impacts including: poverty, emotional wellbeing and mental health, skills and education, impact of parental issues, access to digital, safeguarding etc.
- 10.5 Opportunities to comment on the Recovery Strategy priorities and measures of progress will begin early in 2021.

11 Conclusions and summary

- 11.1 This report presents an overall view of the current demand across our services for children and families and our plans looking ahead as we move into recovery from Covid.
- 11.2 The key messages for the Board to consider are:
 - Covid has been one of the most challenging times for children, families and services we can remember.
 - We may not yet be seeing the full impact of the pandemic on our services and work continues to assess demand and the wider secondary impacts for our children and their families.
 - A strategy for recovery is in development through the SRCG and recovery work for children and families will be led by the Children’s Trust Board in partnership with other strategic partnership boards such as Safer Cumbria, the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership.

John Readman, Executive Director – People

November 2020

Please ensure that every part of this section where there is an asterisk is completed in accordance with the instructions before sending the report to Member Services, following which please delete this sentence.*

Appendices

No appendices

Previous Relevant Council or Executive Decisions [including Local Committees]

No background.

Background Papers

No background papers.

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SCRUTINY ADVISORY BOARD – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
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Meeting date: 4 December 2020

From: Cabinet Members for Children’s Services and Schools and Learning

Cabinet Member Update

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 For lead Cabinet Members to give a verbal update scrutiny on their activity.

2.0 Issues for Scrutiny

2.1 Note the updates from the Cabinet Members for Children’s Services and for Schools and Learning.

2.2 Agree any items with Cabinet Members for the board, or questions for the board to include in future items based on the update.

3.0 Background

3.1 Lead Cabinet Members give a verbal update routinely to the Scrutiny Advisory Board Children and Young People, which provides the board with an opportunity to understand what the lead Member is working on and to inform the programme of the board.

Anne Burns, Lead Member – Children and Families
Sue Sanderson, Lead Member – Schools and Learning
4/12/20

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Appendices

No appendices

Previous Relevant Council or Executive Decisions *[including Local Committees]*

No previous relevant decisions.

Background Papers

No background papers.

Contact: Joel Rasbash, joel.rasbash@cumbria.gov.uk

SCRUTINY ADVISORY BOARD – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
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Meeting date: 4 December 2020

From: Executive Director Corporate Customer and Communities
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Board Briefing

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide an overview of the Board’s business and items on the Board’s forward plan.

2.0 Issues for Scrutiny

2.1 To consider the Cabinet Forward Plan and agree any items for pre-scrutiny.

2.2 To consider the items for the next Board meeting in February 2021.

3.0 Background

3.1 Over the next three months Cabinet will have considered four items which focus on children and young people. The Board is asked to consider any pre-scrutiny they would like to see for any of these items.

ITEM	CABINET
School Funding Formula 2021-22	17/12/20
Alternative Provision in Furness and Carlisle	17/12/20
School Admission Arrangements	17/12/20
Proposed change of age range at Armathwaite School from 4-11 to 3-11.	17/12/20

3.2 The following items are on the Forward Plan for the Board:

Child Exploitation	Review issues in tackling child exploitation in Cumbria, seek assurances that partnerships are effectively tackling the problem and any issues arising from the pandemic in 2020 in	Liz McKie	February 2021
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	addressing the issue.		
Inclusion review	Review issues relating to Inclusion – Alternative Provision, Pupil Referral Units, school exclusions, attendance.	Dan Barton	February 2021

Joel Rasbash

Strategic Policy and Scrutiny Advisor

11/9/20

Please ensure that every part of this section where there is an asterisk is completed in accordance with the instructions before sending the report to Member Services, following which please delete this sentence.*

Appendices

No appendices.

**Previous Relevant Council or Executive Decisions
[including Local Committees]**

No previous relevant decisions.

Background Papers

No background papers.

Contact: Joel Rasbash, joel.rasbash@cumbria.gov.uk