



Early Support and Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Commission

2:00 p.m. Monday, 14th October 2019, Room 77, The Guildhall, Alfred Gelder Street, Hull, HU12AA

Present:

Councillors: McMurray (Chair); Kennett (Deputy Chair); Belcher; Collinson; Haines; Kirk; Matthews; Nicola; Payne (substitute for Cllr Pritchard), and Randall (Mrs)

Young People Representatives: Scarlett R. and Emily K.

In attendance:

M. Kohler (Scrutiny Officer)
A. Murphy (Corporate Director Children and Family Services) Minute 39 & 40
R. Waterman (Head of Youth Justice) Minute 40
A. Ward (Commissioning Manager, Hull CCG) Minute 41
J. Ashbridge (Information Management Research Manager) Minute 42
D. Beel (Performance Analysis Officer) Minute 42
C. Finnigan (Interim Head of SEND) Minute 43 & 44
A. Ward (SEND Assessment and Review Team Manager) Minute 43
F. Bell (Service Support Manager) Minute 44
M. Priest (Head of Looked After Children) Minute 45 & 48
S. Cornwall (SIO EYFS Lead) Minute 49
S. Gamble (Head of 14-19 Learning & Skills) Minute 50

<p>Apologies:</p> <p>Councillors: Ieronimo & Pritchard</p>

Minute Number		
37	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	(a) M. Kohler
<p>Councillor Collinson declared an interest at minutes 43 and 44 insofar as she was a SEND parent. Councillor Randall declared an interest at minute 44 insofar as she was a governor at Northcott Special School. Councillor Payne declared an interest at minute 44 insofar as she was a governor at Northcott Special School.</p>		
Recommendations:		Reasons for Recommendations:
a) N/A.		a) N/A.

38	MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 16TH SEPTEMBER 2019	(a) N/A

The Scrutiny Officer submitted the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16 th September 2019.	
Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:
a) That the minutes of the meeting of this Commission held on Monday 16 th September 2019 be taken as read and correctly recorded and be signed by the Chair.	a) N/A.

39	CORPORATE DIRECTOR CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILY SERVICES	(a) N/A
<p>A. Murphy, Corporate Director Children, Young People and Family Services attended the meeting to update the Commission on key and current issues and for Members to identify matters to be considered.</p> <p>The Commission was informed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) An inspection revisit was to be undertaken by Ofsted and the CQC in relation to the SEND Reforms. The visit would consider four areas for improvement and whether sufficient progress had been made. In the event that it was determined that sufficient progress had been made the monitoring would stop however if not, a discussion would take place to determine how the service would be monitored going forward. ii) A two day monitoring visit had also been undertaken by Ofsted in relation to ILACS (Inspection of Local Authority Children’s Services) on 18th and 19th September which focused on the front door (EHASH) & assessments. An initial letter had been received for which feedback had been submitted. Meetings continued to take place with the Improvement Advisor and a programme of visits had been undertaken with managers and frontline staff. The next monitoring visit was due to be undertaken in January. 		

The Commission discussed:

- i) How confident the service was on the schedule for improvement; the Corporate Director advised that this was a long process and there was more to do however there was some recognition of improvement. Detailed reports were submitted on a regular basis to the Improvement Board and the thematic approach was on track, concentrating on the quality of practice.
- ii) Whether the Improvement Board was a working Board and offered constructive criticism; the Corporate Director explained that the Board was made up of senior officers from all of the partner agencies; was chaired by the Improvement Advisor and offered challenge throughout the whole of the system.
- iii) Funding for the Hull Fair School; that this was no longer available and whether there was an intention to re-provide this in the future; the Corporate Director advised that the provision was commissioned through the Showman's Guild and the Leader had been keen to provide a contribution however this was not a statutory responsibility of the Local Authority. Future funding would need to be discussed further however there was no dedicated budget available in order to support this.

Recommendations:

Reasons for Recommendations:

a) That the report is noted.

a) N/A.

40

URGENT ITEM: HULL'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMISSIONING STRATEGY 2019-2022

(a) M. Kohler

A. Murphy attended the meeting to provide details of the urgent item in relation to the Hull's Children and Young People's Commissioning Strategy 2019-2022.

The Commission was informed:

- i) The strategy provided details of the arrangements for the joint commissioning of services which had been established between the Local Authority and Health Services, and governed by the Committees in Common. The strategy had been co-produced with Children and Young People; provided an integrated approach with collective resources and further quality assurance/contract monitoring. The Children and Young People's Plan would sit alongside the strategy.

The Chair asked as to whether there would be any detriment to the Commission not receiving this item, as there was concern that there had not been enough time for the Commission to look over the paperwork provided. The Corporate Director confirmed that there would be no detriment. The report was however a high level document with more detail beneath.

Recommendations:

Reasons for Recommendations:

- a) That the report would be accepted as an urgent item however in order to allow for the Commission to fully consider the content of the strategy, that any comments would be provided to the Scrutiny Officer for submission to the Committees in Common prior to decision.

- a) N/A.

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**HULL THRIVE – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES
EMOTIONAL WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH AUTISM
UPDATE**

(a) – (d) A. Ward

A. Ward, Commissioning Manager, Hull CCG attended the meeting to provide the Commission with an update regarding the Children and Young Peoples Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Transformation Plan and the Autism Assessment and Diagnosis Service.

The Commission was informed:

- i) The report provided the Commission with an update in relation to the Transformation Plan and Autism Assessments. An annual plan was produced by the CCG in terms of children and young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing, as per the requirement of NHS England.
- ii) An integrated approach had been undertaken to develop the Thrive Strategy model moving away from the tiered system in order to remove barriers and enable signposting to help and support; early intervention and/or specialised support.
- iii) The Strategic Partnership had developed an action plan and a gap analysis had been undertaken for age groups 5-9 and 16-25 with arrangements in place to support parents of children with mental health problems. A key development of this was to bring together EHASH (Early Help and Safeguarding Hub) and HTFT (Humber NHS Teaching Foundation Trust) at the front door to be based at Kenworthy House. A number of task and finish groups had also been established to take forward the action plan.
- iv) In relation to referral rates, this was not considered as a local issue as rates were rising nationally. More work would be undertaken in terms of early intervention for which THRIVE would offer the framework in order to undertake this effectively.
- v) In terms of autism, changes had been made when compared to the previous year and the CCG had allocated further funding in this area, increasing staff capacity and enabling psychologists to undertake early intervention at the front door. Alongside this no referrals were being taken by GP's unless the child was not currently in education. Referrals were now being submitted solely from SENCO's.
- vi) An online assessment was also being developed, commissioned through Helios, and over 100 parents had agreed for this to be undertaken. The referral rate for autism was continuing to rise with a total of 74 referrals received in July however this had seen a drop in September.

The Commission discussed:

- vii) All services being made available at the front door was a positive move forward; the Commissioning Manager added that this would be an integrated contact point.
- viii) The following questions were asked on behalf of the young people representatives:

- a. In relation to the key actions agreed at the workshop please could you explain the gap analysis further and how this would be undertaken; the Commissioning Manager explained that Task and Finish Groups would be set up for both of the age groups as there was currently not enough support/early intervention for children aged 5-9 and young people aged 16-25.
 - b. As THRIVE was a new way of working, what difference would this make and to who; the Commissioning Manager explained that THRIVE would make a difference for both young people and their families in that services were currently provided in a tiered structure and were difficult to access however through THRIVE services would work together as one service to provide a continuous process.
 - c. The referral rate to the Autism and Diagnosis Service was continuing to rise, what were the reasons for this; the Commissioning Manager explained that the reasons were complex and potentially due to raising awareness through work undertaken with parents and schools. There was also a misconception of autism and the view of some parents that something would come with a diagnosis.
 - d. A communication and engagement plan was being developed, and whether more detail could be made available; the Commissioning Manager advised that the communication plan involved children and young people and would be around autism and the emotional wellbeing and mental health services. Services would be communicated through events and low key personal engagement activity. A copy of the plan would be shared with the Commission.
- ix) Concern regarding assessments for Looked After Children and whether this would be improved upon; the Commissioning Manager explained that looked after children were considered within a priority group and would receive the service as a priority.
 - x) That it was crucial for family members to be involved in receiving support; the Commissioning Manager added that access to support would be made through the contact point.
 - xi) Whether a further breakdown could be provided in relation to the waiting times for the Autism and Diagnosis Service; the Commissioning Manager advised that further detail would be provided within the next report.
 - xii) Speech and Language Therapy and whether cases which no longer required this support were identified through initial support; the Commissioning Manager explained that these cases would be considered holistically with all needs and elements assessed.
 - xiii) How parents with mental health issues were approached; the Commissioning Manager advised that this was a huge challenge however practitioners were trained and evidence based intervention would be provided with family therapy approached systemically.
 - xiv) The Helios assessments; whether there was a cost implication and concern that children would not engage with this particular practice of online assessments; the Commissioning Manager advised that not all children would be assessed in this way and the practice would not be undertaken for the more complex cases or those with mixed presentation. This practice was evidence based;

- had a good track record and children had been carefully selected to be assessed in this way.
- xv) Concern in relation to the qualifications of staff at the front door; the Commissioning Manager explained that all children approaching the service would be triaged to ensure they were referred to other trained professionals dependent upon their needs.
- xvi) The Thrive Strategic Partnership and who this referred to; the Commissioning Manager advised that the transformation plan was the responsibility of the Health and Well-being Board with the Integrated Commissioning Committee and Integrated Commissioning Officer Board providing the governance.

Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:
<p>(a) That a written response to the questions raised by young people representatives be circulated outside of the meeting.</p> <p>(b) That an update is provided within the next report in relation to progress of the Helios online autism assessments including costings for the commissioned service.</p> <p>(c) That details of the communication and engagement plan in relation to the autism assessment and diagnosis service is shared with the Commission once available.</p> <p>(d) That a further breakdown of the autism assessment waiting list is included within the next update report.</p>	<p>a) To enable a full response to be fed back to young people.</p> <p>b) To enable the Commission to monitor the progress in use of this system to undertake assessments.</p> <p>c) To provide members with an opportunity to view the communication plan in more detail.</p> <p>d) To enable the Commission to further scrutinise the figures in relation to the waiting list for autism assessments.</p>

42	SERVICE BASED PERFORMANCE MEASURES – 2019/2020 QUARTER 1	(a) M. Priest
<p>J. Ashbridge, Information Management Research Manager and D. Beel, Performance Analysis Officer attended the meeting to report the latest available service-based performance measures – 2019/2020 Quarter 1, to the Commission.</p> <p>The Commission discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) That there had been mention that referral forms were being sent back to schools due to not being completed correctly i.e. spelling mistakes; the Performance Analysis Officer explained that this was not her understanding, senior practitioners, team managers and qualified social workers would make decisions on referrals received within 24 hours. ii) The reason for the upturn in the rate of children subject to a child protection plan and whether the combined NEET figures corresponded to drugs and alcohol; the Performance Analysis Officer advised that child protection plans were due to threshold decisions being made. The Head of Looked After Children added that in terms of the NEET figures, there were some links to the ‘toxic trio’ however figures were on par with national. The Local Offer provided opportunities in terms of apprenticeships which had been particularly increased for care leavers. iii) The Qualified Social Worker Average Caseload which was now down to 17.7 and whether this had reduced further; the Performance Analysis Officer explained that the figure provided was from the beginning of the year and caseloads were now down to around 16. iv) The number of agency staff currently employed within the service; the Performance Analysis Officer explained that agency worker figures were currently at around 30-40. The Head of Looked After Children added that this number was lower than other local authorities however had increased in more recent years. v) The percentage of children with three or more placements and whether there was any further data available; the Head of Looked After Children advised that a piece of work had recently been undertaken in relation to this measure, details of which would be circulated to the Commission outside of the meeting. 		
Recommendations:		Reasons for Recommendations:

<p>a) That further data in relation to the percentage of children looked after with three or more placements and the piece of work undertaken around this is circulated to the Commission outside of the meeting.</p>	<p>a) To enable the Commission to view the further work being undertaken to reduce the percentage of children looked after with three or more placements.</p>
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<p>43</p>	<p>SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND) JOINT AREA INSPECTION EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE PLANS PATHWAYS AND PROCESSES WORKSTREAM</p>	<p>(a) N/A.</p>
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C. Finnigan, Interim Head of SEND and A. Ward, SEND Assessment and Review Team Manager attended the meeting to update the Commission in respect of the Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans Pathways and processes Workstream which had arisen from the SEND Inspection that took place in Hull in October 2017.

The Commission were informed:

i) That capacity in the SEN Team had been increased resulting in improved performance with the percentage of EHC Plans completed within 20 weeks now at over 90%. There was also increased satisfaction with a reduction in complaints and appeals to tribunal. Requests had increased from 729 to 1860; young people were being supported for longer up to the age of 25 and a rise had also been seen in complex needs.

The Commission discussed:

i) The personal budget procedure and how many parents had taken this up; the SEND Assessment and Review Team Manager advised that parents could request a personal budget however the number was currently very few as children were receiving support in school.

Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:
a) That the report be noted.	a) N/A.

44	SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND) JOINT AREA INSPECTION - TRANSPORT	(a) F. Bell
<p>C. Finnigan, Interim Head of SEND and F. Bell, Service Support Manager attended the meeting to update the Commission in respect of the Transport workstream which has arisen from the SEND inspection that took place in Hull in October 2017.</p> <p>The Commission discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) How the objectives outlined at 3.1 within the report would be achieved; the Service Support Manager explained that the service was now fully aware of children’s needs with links being made to Educational Health and Care Plans. Reviews would also be undertaken from the parent/child point of view. ii) The Abandoned Children Protocol; the Service Support Manager advised that the protocol had been established in order to provide a process for events whereby parents were not at home to collect their child, linking with Limetree Court. The Commission suggested that it may be appropriate to change the name of this protocol. iii) The roll out of the protocol; whether there was any flexibility and whether the new vehicles had appropriate space for equipment; the Service Support Manager advised that in relation to vehicles equipment was being considered within the additional contracts; the protocol was currently being formalised and there was a need to consider working parents through after school and breakfast clubs. Logistics also had to be considered in terms of other children on the bus and PA’s had now been provided with mobile phones which would be tested and analysed. 		

- iv) Whether there was a possibility to track the location of transport; the Service Support Manager explained that this had been looked into and would be explored further following implementation of the mobile phones.
- v) Evaluation of the new vehicles to ensure they were fit for purpose; the Service Support Manager advised that this would be undertaken by KWL and a cost analysis had also been undertaken as part of the procurement process. Children and young people had also been involved through special schools.
- vi) Whether any further action was undertaken in relation to any negative feedback provided by children and young people of their journey; the Service Support Manager explained that the schools were very much involved in this process and would work with children to establish the reasons why.
- vii) The next steps and how the reduction in journey times would be achieved; the Service Support Manager advised that additional software was being sought in order to undertake an analysis; the Interim Head of SEND added that this fit into the wider SEN Sufficiency Strategy with more locally based provision.
- viii) Whether the home to school transport newsletter could be circulated to the Commission and more details in relation to the independent travel trainer programme being undertaken in Northcott School; the Service Support Manager advised that there were currently four young people interested in the programme and work was currently being undertaken with these families to progress further.
- ix) How the service accommodated children with different needs; the Service Support Manager explained that there were almost 800 children transported and there were occasions whereby it was difficult to meet the different needs due to the number of children and young people being transported.

Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:
a) That the home to school transport newsletter is circulated to members of the Commission outside of the meeting.	a) N/A.

45	DISABILITY SHORT BREAKS; LIMETREE CHILDRENS HOME	(a) M. Priest
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M. Priest, Head of Looked After Children attended the meeting to provide the Commission with information on proposed plans for Limetree Children's Home as part of the Disability Short Break Offer.

The Commission was informed:

- i) That work had been undertaken to establish an integrated hub of Limetree Children's Home and Sunshine House however the size proved to be too big and therefore an agreement was made for Health to work on Sunshine House in terms of medical needs and the Local Authority would lead on Limetree Children's Home which provided the facility for short breaks. It was envisaged that a report would be submitted to Cabinet in December.

The Commission discussed:

- i) That the plans were welcomed and the Commission were fully supportive.
- ii) Whether the reduction to a five bedded home would involve the long term care being moved to an alternative home; the Head of Looked After Children explained that it was hard to judge the level of need and a five bed property would provide 150 nights of care. The recruitment of foster carers for disabled children was also being considered further in order to enhance the offer of community short breaks.
- iii) That the staff at Limetree Children's Home were congratulated on the job they do and that this should be recorded with thanks being passed on to the team in recognition; the Head of Looked After Children added that work was being undertaken with the Design Council with input from families and young people in terms of the look and feel of the home including the use of space. Consideration was also being given to bungalows in the area to assist with the transition to adulthood.

Recommendations:

Reasons for Recommendations:

- a) That the staff at the Limetree Children's Home are congratulated on their work with thanks being recorded.

a) N/A.

46	EARLY SUPPORT AND LIFELONG LEARNING OSC DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20	(a) M. Kohler
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M. Kohler, Scrutiny Officer presented the work programme.

The Commission discussed:

- i) That in relation to the THRIVE Model, qualitative performance information would be useful for the Commission to monitor in future.
- ii) That an update is sought in relation to the Hull Fair Education for future years.

Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:
a) That the items identified are included on the Commission's future work programme.	a) N/A.

47	EARLY SUPPORT AND LIFELONG LEARNING OSC OUTSTANDING ACTIONS – OCTOBER 2019	(a) M. Kohler
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M. Kohler, Scrutiny Officer presented the outstanding actions.

The Commission discussed:

i) That an update is requested in relation to SDP 14 and the Brunswick House developments as the consultation period had now been completed.	
Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:
a) That the item as discussed be progressed.	a) N/A.

48	UPDATE ON EDGE OF CARE SERVICE	(a) N/A.
<p>M. Priest, Head of Looked After Children attended the meeting to provide an update on the Edge of Care Service.</p> <p>The Commission was informed:</p> <p>i) The Edge of Care Service was established in May 2018 to help children to stay safely at home and the data provided on the number of children coming into care had seen a decrease in 17 year olds.</p> <p>The Commission discussed:</p> <p>i) The type of referrals and the reasons why male referrals were almost double; the Head of Looked After Children advised that male referrals were always higher which could be due to a number of factors including behaviour; autism; part time school timetables or not in school at all.</p> <p>ii) What provision was in place for children and young people up to the age of 15 in terms of prevention; the Head of Looked After Children stated that parenting for the older children was often more challenging due to their age; they were stronger and tended to answer back. A parenting strategy would be put into place to help gain control and put in place boundaries with expected reasonable</p>		

behaviours. Work was undertaken closely with children to understand what life was like for them with access to a clinician; psychologist and the police to provide additional support. Short breaks were also offered with foster carers attached to the service.

- iii) Why a psychologist had not been engaged as part of the service earlier; the Head of Looked After Children advised that funding agreements were being worked out with the CCG however support would still be accessed during this time. A clinician would now be in place on the full time basis for the home.

The young people representatives asked:

- i) What the outreach programme involved; the Head of Looked After Children advised that the team of residential workers within the home had been split and a number of them were now undertaking outreach work which involved going out to the family home and working closely with parents.
- ii) The number of referrals had reduced and whether this had affected the way the outreach programme was provided; the Head of Looked After Children explained that one young person with complex needs had come into the home which limited the amount of outreach that could be undertaken.

The Commission further discussed:

- iii) Whether there had been a good response to the advert in relation to the appointment of a clinical psychologist and why the police officer was no longer full time within the home; the Head of Looked After Children explained that the appointment of a clinical psychologist was being undertaken through CAMHS and it was known that there was some interest in the role. In terms of the Police Officer these resources had been pulled back to the neighbourhood team. Members considered that this could potentially be submitted as a cross party question within full council when the Police and Crime Commissioner would be in attendance.
- iv) The next steps to monitor the quality of supported accommodation; the Head of Looked After Children explained that council properties were being considered for older young people such as unaccompanied asylum seekers (as they presented with an unassessed risk), and older care leavers. This would become a flexible resource.
- v) The children and young people with part time school timetables and whether this spiked during the summer holidays; the Head of Looked After Children advised that the spike would hit when children returned back to school following the summer holidays. Additional support would be provided through Connexions however as they were not looked after by the Local Authority, the virtual school could

<p>not provide this support.</p> <p>vi) Whether there were opportunities for young people to live independently however return back to the Children's Home for additional support when required; the Head of Looked After Children explained that this was part of the Staying Close provision being developed to provide supported accommodation close by to the Children's Home.</p>	
Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:
a) That the report be noted.	a) N/A.

49	2 YEAR OLDS ACCESSING FREE EARLY EDUCATION PROVISION	(a) N/A.
<p>S. Cornwall, SIO EYFS Lead attended the meeting to update the Commission on the Early Education Entitlement for two year olds.</p> <p>The Commission was informed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) There was an ongoing decline in eligibility due to parents going back into work however uptake remained high at 84% which was above national, regional and statistical neighbours. ii) A ward comparison of take up had been provided and in terms of the 58% uptake within the Drypool ward, this was a particularly difficult location due to the area covered however parents were being contacted to find out why they were not taking up the offer. There had also been new provision built on Morrill Street which was hoped would close the gap. iii) Outcomes remained low however progress was greater than those who were not eligible. Boys in particular were an issue with consistently lower outcomes. iv) In terms of next steps, sufficiency assessments would continue to be undertaken, mapped against the availability of places with 		

targeted work also undertaken through Health Visitors.

The Commission discussed:

- i) Concern that there would still be some working parents losing as levels of deprivation included families who were in work. Reference was also made to the 52% of children subject to a learning development check and why this had only been undertaken for the few; the SIO EYFS Lead advised that some children may not be eligible until a certain term and the checks were undertaken routinely and would be dependent upon the date of which they took up their placements.
- ii) Whether the funding would continue in the event of a change in circumstances; the SIO EYFS Lead advised that in the event that parents fall out of the eligibility for the 30 hours, 15 hours of funding would continue to be provided.
- iii) What would happen in the event that a nursery lost a good or outstanding status; the SIO EYFS Lead explained that funding would be removed and parents offered alternative provision. In the event that parents wish to remain with that provision it would be the parent's responsibility to make contact. Parents were encouraged to think carefully however it would be down to parental choice.

The young people representatives asked:

- i) Why the number of applications was decreasing; the SIO EYFS Lead explained that although applications had decreased, the DWP send a list of parents who were eligible and contact was made with all for example, this month a total of 840 eligible parents had been received from DWP.

The Commission discussed further:

- i) Concern in relation to whether there would be an impact on outcomes through withdrawal of the 30 hour offer in the event of a change of circumstances; the SIO EYFS Lead advised that very few lose their funding however a parent would often forget to re-apply however the Local Authority was pro-active to ensure this did not happen by sending follow up reminders.
- ii) Whether there was any detriment to a child's bond with family at home by taking up the offer; the SIO EYFS Lead stated that this was not the case and there were issues with speech and language which was a key focus of the offer along with emotional and social development. A positive impact was being made through interventions such as language sessions.

Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:
a) That the report be noted.	a) N/A.

50	COMMUNITY LEARNING AND SKILLS – OFSTED INSPECTION – UPDATE	(a) N/A.
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S. Gamble, Head of 14-19 Learning & Skills attended the meeting to advise members of the progress made since the Ofsted Inspection of the Hull Training and Adult Community Learning and Skills Service.

The Commission was informed:

- i) The service had recently received an Ofsted monitoring visit since the service was judged as requires improvement at the inspection undertaken in October 2018. The monitoring visit focused on four elements; the progress of adult learners who were not studying for a qualification; leaders' and managers actions to tackle staff underperformance; assessment of learners' individual needs, and attendance monitoring and impact of interventions. The monitoring visit judged that reasonable progress was being made in all four areas.
- ii) In terms of work undertaken since the monitoring visit this included completion of an organisational restructure, and alignment of the self-assessment to the new inspection framework. A destination survey was also undertaken with 62% of former learners having completed surveys for analysis and a further destination report would be made available in November.
- iii) The next inspection could take place at any time within the next 12 months.

The Commission discussed:

- i) Further details around the restructure undertaken; the Head of 14-16 Learning & Skills explained that consideration was given to what was being offered and how, and the amount of take-up for each of the courses. An analysis was undertaken of the curriculum and courses which were no longer relevant were identified. Consideration was also given to work based learning within the community.
- ii) The percentage of attendance and whether there would be more leverage with day release; the Head of 14-16 Learning & Skills explained that individuals were considered and those with attendance problems had a study programme coach outside of the classroom in order to help develop support and this was working well.
- iii) Whether attendance was affected through the full time students undertaking functional skills; the Head of 14-16 Learning & Skills advised that it had been found that students were disengaging from functional skills and that they had now been embedded within courses with outcomes now being higher.
- iv) Whether the destination data and impact of the soft outcomes would be used to inform the offer; the Head of 14-16 Learning & Skills advised that the soft outcomes had been highlighted and it was imperative that a robust programme was developed to include outreach within communities, working with stakeholders.
- v) Attendance and whether there was now an officer within that role; the Head of 14-16 Learning & Skills explained that Learning Support Mentors would identify where support was needed and attendance rates were now increasing.

The Young People Representatives asked:

- i) Whether the monitoring visits undertaken by Ofsted provided a true reflection of the service; the Head of 14-16 Learning & Skills explained that Ofsted placed a focus on data through the new framework and also provided a focus on learning within the classroom in order to improve on life choices with destination data tracked at 6 and 12 months.
- ii) How progress was measured; the Head of 14-16 Learning & Skills advised that Individual Learner Records were completed which included a code recognised in the statutory data return to central government.
- iii) How communication was undertaken in order to improve teaching practice; the Head of 14-16 Learning & Skills advised that a number of working parties were in place made up of senior leaders and professional practitioners to look at what was working well for example grading with a focus on learning. An external group would also be established to share ideas.

The Commission further discussed:

- i) Whether the new offer would provide equal value on the softer outcomes for example, the prevention of loneliness and that contact with Adult training was maintained; the Head of 14-16 Learning & Skills explained that adult learning opportunities would be identified within the business plan; funding would continue to be sought and relevance of courses measured.
- ii) There was confidence within the Commission in the steps taken towards improvement.

Recommendations:	Reasons for Recommendations:
b) That the report be noted.	b) N/A.

DRAFT