

CHILDRENS AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 47

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: An update on children with additional needs
Date of Meeting: Wednesday 28 January 2009
Report of: The Director of Children's Services
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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 In July 2008 CYPOSC included an update on Children with Complex Needs on its 2008/09 work programme.
- 1.2 The CYPOSC Chairs meeting on 12th January asked for an additional report from the CYPT to accompany the two reports from the Parent/Carer Council.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 Members note the recommendations and information contained within the attached report of the Joint Heads of The Integrated Child Development and Disability Service (Appendix A).
- 2.2 Members determine whether to take further action on the recommendations outlined in the reports from the Parent/Carer Council, taking full account of the additional information contained within the report from the joint heads of the Integrated Child Development and Disability Service.
- 2.3 Members note the issues regarding process and reporting cycles and acknowledge the value of a timeframe and process which would enable a fuller response to the substantive issues, thus accepting the recommendation that a report is produced for the next CYPOSC meeting and for the next available CYPT board.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 The Brighton and Hove Parent/Carer Council, was launched in July 2008 and a Focus Group met on 5th December 2008. The Council is funded in part by the Integrated Child Development and Disability service with an understanding that it reports back to the Children with Disabilities and Complex Needs Strategic Partnership Board as an essential method of communication to inform service delivery. This Board is the overarching strategic forum for children with complex needs and disabilities, has four parent/carers representatives and is co-chaired by Amaze. The Board was formed as a recommendation from the CYPT strategic review of services for children with complex needs and is part of the Joint Commissioning Strategy agreed with the PCT.

3.2 The report of the Parent/ Carer Council has been presented to CYPOSC but had not been shared with either the CYPT officers with managerial and strategic responsibility for delivery of therapy services, these officers were unfortunately not invited to the Parent/Carer Council focus group in December 2008, or shared with the Disability Strategic Partnership Board which is a stakeholder meeting representing the CYPT officers, community and voluntary sector, parents/carers and key partners (terms of reference as Appendix B). As a result the expected process for raising such concerns has not been followed. The expectation would be that the Parent/Carer Council would make representation on key issues to the CYPT board via the Partnership Board and the DMT of the CYPT. Officers therefore need time to give the issues due attention and regard prior to providing a full response.

3.3 Further information is contained in the appendices to this report

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 No formal consultation was undertaken.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 There are potential financial implications for the recommendations made in the reports of the Parent / Carer Council. To date it has not been possible to assess the cost of these. This will need to be carried out as the contents of the reports are considered through the CYPT reporting mechanisms referred to in Appendix A to this report. Funding would need to be identified within the CYPT for the implementation of any recommendations with cost implications.

Legal Implications:

5.2 No legal implications are anticipated and no legal advice has been sought.

Equalities Implications:

5.3 Some of the items within the reports have significant equalities implications and members should bear this in mind when considering the reports.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 No sustainability implications have been identified.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 No crime and disorder implications have been identified.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 No risk and opportunity management implications have been identified.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 In determining the reports, members should be aware of the Council's corporate priorities, particularly the priority to "reduce inequality by increasing opportunity".

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

Appendix a is the report of the Joint Heads of the Integrated Child Development and Disability Service (health and social care leads)

Appendix b is the terms of reference of the disability strategic partnership board.

Documents in Members' Rooms:

Not applicable.

Background Documents:

1. None.

