

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Panel

DATE: 28th January 2016

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WARD(S): All

PART I **FOR COMMENT AND DISCUSSION**

FIVE YEAR PLAN – OUTCOME 5

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To set out the work that had been done under the umbrella of Outcome 5 of the Five Year Plan over the past six months, and the changes that have been made to this Outcome to reflect the changes in relation to delivery of children's services.

2 Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to scrutinise the information provided.

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities

Priorities:

- Health
- Economy and Skills
- Safer Communities

4 Other Implications

a) Financial

There are no financial implications specific to the recommendations in this report.

b) Risk Management

There are no specific risks identified in relation to the recommendations in this report.

c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Act or other legal implications in relation to this report.

Outcome 5

Children and young people in Slough will be healthy, resilient and have positive life chances.

5 2015 Priorities – What we've done

- 5.1 The agreement of a new Children and Young People's Plan (July 2015 – December 2016) cut across all of the activities in the Five Year Plan, with the agreement of the following priorities:
- To provide outstanding services to the most vulnerable children and young people in the borough
 - To support children and young people's emotional and mental wellbeing
 - To support children and young people's physical wellbeing
 - To reduce the level and impact of poverty on the life chances of children and young people in the borough
 - To deliver the expanded 'Families First' programme, achieving significant and sustained progress for our most troubled families
 - To strengthen our universal offer, making it accessible to vulnerable groups
 - To ensure children and young people are engaged and helped to access opportunities that will enable them to reach their full potential
- 5.2 Develop more preventative approaches to ensure children, young people and families are safe, independent and responsible.
- Ongoing work to develop an effective Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).
 - A revised emphasis around the use of Early Help Assessments (EHAs), which has meant that the level of EHAs has risen to a level comparable with Reading.
 - The Children and Young People's Partnership Board (CYPPB) Early Help Sub Group has taken a lead on the partnership elements and principles of developing early intervention.
- 5.3 Be one of the best providers of children's social care in the country, providing timely, purposeful support that brings safe, lasting and positive change.
- Establishment of the Slough Children's Services Trust from 1 October 2015 to deliver improved children's services in the borough.
- 5.4 Ensure vulnerable children and young people are safe and feel safe.
- Series of audits undertaken covering threshold decision making, children subject to child protection plans, domestic violence contacts and case supervision within children's social care.
 - Work undertaken with social workers to improve the development of SMART plans.
 - Improved legal planning processes and timeliness.

- 5.5 Ensure children and young people are emotionally and physically healthy.
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Strategy developed and publicly consulted on. CAMHS Transformation Plans developed for inclusion in the final Strategy.
 - Research collated on the issue of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) to inform the development of a local strategy to combat the issue.
 - Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE):
 - co-ordinated disruption and awareness raising activity across Slough with regular visits to licensed premises by Thames Valley Police and Engage, with training offered to a wide range of establishments to increase understanding and responses, including educational workshops.
 - SBC Licensing Committee agreed to introduce mandatory training for all taxi drivers on safeguarding, including CSE, which will begin in spring 2016.
 - Updated multi-agency CSE Strategy and action plan developed, setting out a range of specific tasks which were linked into the key strategic priorities to develop a high quality service provision.
 - A new clear referral pathway to SERAC provided the opportunity to enhance existing strategies and interventions, sitting alongside a fully operational MASH when ready.
 - A CSE Communications Strategy developed setting out a number of measures to increase awareness and respond to CSE effectively, including the drafting of LSCB marketing material to distribute to parents, carers, children and young people, as well as organisations.
 - CSE Co-ordinator, running regular forums to exchange information, increase awareness and improve working together opportunities.
- 5.6 Ensure children and young people enjoy life and learning so that they are confident about the future and aspire to achieve their individual potential.
- Slough has the 8th highest GCSE results (5 A*-C including English and maths) when compared with the 152 local authorities across the country.
 - Slough is ranked 5th (out of 11) for Good Level of Development at the Early Years Foundation Stage.
 - In terms of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), Slough's rate of 4.3% is below both the national and statistical neighbour levels, and well within our target of 5%.
- 5.7 Ensure children and young people with SEND and their families receive comprehensive, personalised support from childhood to adulthood.
- The transition onto Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCs) for children and young people with SEND.
- 5.8 Secure sufficient school places to meet the needs of Slough residents.
- 900 more pupils were provided with a school place in Slough (excluding all nursery places).
 - £6m was spent on new school places. Bulge classes and two new free schools were opened ensuring every child had a place, with additional spaces identified across all primary year groups for further in-year admissions.
 - £2.6m was spent on improving existing school buildings.

5.9 Sitting across all priorities, the establishment of the Slough Children's Services Trust to deliver improved children's social care services in the borough, has provided the context within which this outcome has been developed.

6 **2016 Priorities**

6.1 Enable children and young people to lead emotionally and physically healthy lives.

- Deliver the local CAMHS Strategy
- Develop and deliver programmes that support reductions in infant mortality e.g. smoking cessation in pregnancy programme
- Commission and establish Weight Management Service
- Develop and implement plans for new community-based facilities and programmes which aim to get children, young people and their families more active, more often
- Develop and commission local 0-19 child health offer

6.2 Enable children to live safe, independent and responsible lives.

- Provide support from across the council to, and oversight of, the Slough Children's Services Trust as they work to become an outstanding provider of children's social care.
- Deliver outstanding corporate parenting across the council.
- Co-ordinate the delivery of an effective and sustainable Families First programme.
- Actively engage with partners to deliver key safeguarding strategies such as CSE and FGM.
- Deliver PREVENT (safeguarding children and young people from extremism and radicalisation).

6.3 Enable children and young people to enjoy life and learning, to feel confident about their futures and aspire to achieve to their individual potential.

- Deliver School Places Strategy 2013-2022
- Deliver Child Poverty Strategy 2014-2018
- Deliver Early Years improvement programme
- Commission services that support schools to be judged good or better by Ofsted
- Develop effective strategies to support the achievement of identified priority groups:
 - Looked After Children (LAC)
 - Special Educational Needs (SEN)
 - Pupils eligible for free school meals
- Develop effective strategies to improve all pupils attainment at Key Stage 2
- Deliver programme to raise participation of young people staying in education, employment or training, and the identification of 'Not Knowns'.
- Continue to develop engagement with the Slough Youth Parliament
- Deliver a safe transfer of services from Cambridge Education to the Slough Children's Services Trust, and the recommissioning of the remainder of the Cambridge Education contract.

6.4 The outcome of the Ofsted inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers, along with a review of the Local Safeguarding Children Board, will impact on these priorities as the council develops a plan around the improvements that it will need to make, and support for the Slough Children's Services Trust.

7 **Conclusion**

- 7.1 There has been a significant amount of work undertaken over the past year to deliver against the priorities for Outcome 5 in the Five Year Plan. The most prominent development has been the establishment of the SCST, which should enable sustainable improvements in the outcomes for the most vulnerable children in the borough.
- 7.2 The revised Outcome will help to focus on the key elements of work that the council will need to undertake in order to support children and young people in the borough.

8 **Background Papers**

None.