

# **Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel**

**15 June 2017**

**Commenced:** 6.00pm

**Terminated:** 7.20pm

**Present:** Councillors Peet (Chair), Cartey (Deputy Chair), Affleck, Buglass, Kinsey, Patrick, T Smith, R Welsh.

**Apologies for absence:** Councillors Bowden, Cooper, P Fitzpatrick, Fowler, Ryan, Sweeton, Whitehead.

The Chair opened the meeting and received apologies.

## **1. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel held on 16 March 2017 were approved as a correct record.

## **2. CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

The Panel welcomed Stephanie Butterworth, Executive Director, People; and Dominic Tumelty, Assistant Executive Director, Children's Services to receive further information relating to the Tameside Children's Services Improvement Plan.

The Chair welcomed officers to the meeting and proceeded to update members on the improvement activity which is taking place within Tameside Children's Services. As a member of the Improvement Board, the Chair talked about the ongoing responsibility of scrutiny to work closely with the service going forward.

The Panel received a presentation on the Children's Social Care Improvement Plan. Ms Butterworth advised members that this is a multi-agency and partnership plan aimed to improve service delivery and create better outcomes for vulnerable children in Tameside.

It was reported that Ofsted recommendations across a number of themes have created a significant focus for the plan. The themes include:

- Leadership and Strategy
- Demand and Need
- Resources and Capacity
- Quality, Practice and Compliance
- Outcomes for Children

Each theme was addressed in the presentation, with details of the areas on which the improvement plan is focusing. It was explained that demand is currently at its highest level with around 2500 children open to the service. With significant investment over the next 3 years it is important that analysis of demand is used to determine what will be needed of the service in the future.

From previous updates, the panel are aware of challenges relating to the recruitment and retention of social workers and the need to ensure experienced staff are in the required areas. The panel asked how this work is progressing.

Ms Butterworth advised that work is ongoing to address a range of identified workforce issues. It is a priority for the service to recruit permanent and high quality staff, with a view to

stabilising activity and embedding the required support mechanisms. The service is working closely with the Council's Organisational Development department in order to meet those needs.

Work has already been undertaken to review Tameside's offer for social workers with regards to pay and terms, when compared with other Greater Manchester authorities. The result from this work showed that Tameside was one of the lowest in the area.

The Panel heard that following this work the identified gap has been addressed to bring pay and terms for social workers in line with those in neighbouring authorities. A review of the induction process has also been undertaken and a revised programme has been developed and implemented.

Ms Butterworth informed the panel that Ofsted had recently visited the service for a two day monitoring visit on 8 and 9 June 2017, this is the second monitoring visit since the authority was judged inadequate in December 2016. A report from the visit will be published on Ofsted's website in due course.

The panel recommended that it would be beneficial for presentations at future meetings to concentrate on a specific theme, allowing a greater level of detail to be observed with regards to the way improvement activity is planned, implemented and how outcomes are monitored.

Ms Butterworth agreed that this would be a good way to present the improvement activity and the service will ensure the content of future presentations is aligned to a particular theme.

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That Ms Butterworth and Mr Tumelty be thanked for attending the meeting.
- (2) That future updates focus on improvement elements of an identified key theme.

**3. PEOPLE AND PLACE SCORECARD**

Panel members received an update on sections of the People and Place Scorecard performance report that are relevant to this scrutiny panel.

**4. ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18**

The Panel discussed a range of potential topics to be added to the Annual Work Programme for 2017/18. It was agreed that the first review will be Homecare Provision in Tameside.

In order for the Annual Work Programme to be presented at Overview (Audit) Panel on 31 July 2017 it was agreed that the final work programme document will be shared outside of the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the Annual Work Programme be circulated to members outside of the meeting.

**5. ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUP**

The Chair invited Panel Members to express an interest in joining the new working group. Initial interest was noted and it was agreed that working group meetings will take place on Thursday afternoons.

**RESOLVED:** Details of the first working group meeting to be arranged and circulated.

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To note that the next meeting of the Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel will take place on Thursday 27 July 2017.

**7. URGENT ITEMS**

The Chair reported that there were no urgent items for consideration at this meeting.

**CHAIR**