

Childrens Services Overview and Scrutiny Board

18 October 2023

Childrens Services

Policy/Plans:

We will show Middlesbrough's children that they matter. We will work to make our town safe and welcoming and improve outcomes for all children and young people.

Working closely with DCS, DCC, HOSs, Executive member for finance and Governance, and all other relevant officers of the Council.

- Driving Strategic priorities and Directorate priorities to improve outcomes for our children and young people and their families.
- Children Services Improvement Plan
- Children ACT 1989
- Children ACT 2004
- Work of the Virtual schools
- Early Help and Multi Agency children's Hub

- Work with safeguarding Children's Board
- Children Looked After (CLA)
- Residential Supported Accommodation Resources and Care leavers.
- Bring back children and our young people Nearer to their Homes and Families.
- Continue to recruit inhouse foster carers.
- Purchase and renovate residential properties.
- Explore and increase youth provisions purchase community centres when central funds are available.
- Develop different types of Kinship Care packages as appropriate.
- Strengthening partnership working with Health, Education, Police & Youth Justice Team.
- Challenge poor practices, supporting and sharing good practices where applicable, with internal and external colleagues in the best interest of our children and young people.
- Address Equality and Diversity issues as appropriate.

My Priorities

- Supporting Early help & MACH (Multi Agency Children's Hub)-Thresholds and responses.
- Constructive dialogue with all agencies involved increase the referral intake.
- Consider reducing external residential placements and IFA (Independent Foster Placements)
- Continue to monitor and swap our internal placements.
- Purchase residential properties.
- Seek funding where needed.

- Continue to consult with Ward Councillors and residents.
- Recruit inhouse Foster Carers
- Continue to improve internal workforce Team support.
- Extend providing parental support to all parents and carers.
- Support and protect vulnerable children and young people in our society.
- Address Equality, Diversity, Sexuality, Age and Gender issues where needed.
- Always build on strong working relationships and regular communication between staff members and our service users.

Questions?