

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIAL CARE & SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL

19 APRIL 2021

SUFFICIENCY & PERMANENCY (PERCEPTIONS OF CHILDREN IN CARE)

RECAP OF THE SCRUTINY PANEL'S WORK THIS YEAR/EVIDENCE RECEIVED

Sufficiency & Permanency (Perceptions of Children in Care) - Terms of Reference

1. To examine the numbers and profile of Middlesbrough's Children Looked After population and placement types and how we compare both nationally and to statistical neighbours.
2. To establish a profile of Middlesbrough's foster carers, including current recruitment and retention initiatives and to examine the availability of placements for Children Looked After in Middlesbrough.
3. To investigate the issues around permanency, including adoption, and to examine any initiatives and areas of best practice.
4. To challenge people's perceptions of children in care and to create a better understanding of Children Looked After for everyone involved in the process.

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Evidence Gathered/Guest</u>
20 July 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Overview of Children's Services and structure.2. Setting the Work Programme.
14 September 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction to topic – Overview of a child's pathway through care, including permanency; sufficiency of placements; and Case Study – Exec. Director of Children's Services/Director of Children's Care & relevant Heads of Service.
4 October 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Detailed profile of Children Looked After in Middlesbrough, including demand and placement planning – Exec. Director of CS and Director of Children's Care.2. Shared experience of being a looked after young person – Panel Member.
9 November 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Overview of findings from the Ofsted Inspection Monitoring Visit (23 & 24 September 2020) to the Multi Agency Children's Hub (MACH) – Exec. Director of CS.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Placement Stability & Breakdowns – Head of Futures for Families & Residential Care Service Manager and Head of Children Looked After & Corporate Parenting.
7 December 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Detailed Information re Futures for Families; Innovate; and External Residential & Foster Care – Exec. Director of CS, Director of Children’s Care, Head of Children Looked After & Corporate Parenting, Service Manager Futures for Families.
18 January 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Profile of Foster Carers and Placements in Middlesbrough – Fostering Team Manager. 2. Corporate Parenting Strategy – Children’s Services Programme Manager.
15 February 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update – Six Month Review of Children’s Services – findings of the Commissioner – Exec. Director of CS. 2. Covid Recovery – Exec. Director of CS.
22 March 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Perceptions and Stigma faced by Children & Young People in care/care leavers – Policy & Participation Manager, Become Charity. 2. Sufficiency & Permanency from an Adoption Perspective – Service Manager, Adoption Tees Valley. 3. Covid Recovery – Exec. Director of CS.

Councillor Lee Garvey

Chair - Children & Young People’s Social Care & Services Scrutiny Panel