



PEOPLE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2018

10.00 - 11.30 am in the Shrewsbury/Oswestry Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND

Responsible Officer: Tim Ward

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257713

Present

Shropshire Councillors

Councillor Peggy Mullock (Chairman), Kevin Turley (Vice-Chair), Christian Lea, Matt Lee, Cecilia Motley and Kevin Pardy

14 Apologies and Substitutions

14.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Clare Aspinall and John Price and from Sian Lines (Diocese of Hereford).

14.2 There were no substitutions.

15 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

15.1 There were no declarations of disposable pecuniary interests.

16 Minutes

16.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2018 had been circulated.

16.2 Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the People Overview Committee held on the 18 July 2018 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman

17 Public Question Time

17.1 There were no questions from members of the public.

18 Members' Question Time

18.1 There were no questions from Members

19 Youth Offending Service

19.1 Members received the report of the Director of Children's Services which introduced the West Mercia Youth Justice Partnership's Youth Justice Plan and outlined the findings of the recent pilot inspection of the Partnership by HM Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) and the action plan arising out of this.

- 19.2 The Head of Service - West Mercia Youth Justice Service advised Members that the Service had undergone a period of change in 2016 following the transfer of the hosting of the service to the office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, a staff restructure, the implementation of a new case management system and a new national assessment and planning process. He added that during this time 4 senior managers had left for a variety of reasons.
- 19.3 The Head of Service informed the meeting that the service had taken part in a pilot inspection process which although it was not classed as an official inspection gave an opportunity for external assessment. He advised Members that the overall assessment was "requires improvement" and of the 12 standards measured 7 were rated good, 4 rated requires improvement and 1 rated inadequate which related to partnership working; primarily based on information sharing with Children Services and Police intelligence.
- 19.4 In response to a query the Service Manager confirmed that all the recommendations contained in the inspection report had been incorporated in to the Youth Justice Delivery Plan.
- 19.5 A Member expressed concern at the number of managers that had left. The Service Manager advised that there were valid reasons for the managers leaving and that all vacancies had now been filled.
- 19.6 Members asked for reassurance that there was good communication and information sharing between Partners. The Head of Children's Services advised the meeting that the issue during the inspection had been that all staff did not have electronic access to Children's' Services records, she informed Members that staff in Shropshire did have direct electronic access and that this was being rolled out in the other Councils but that not having the electronic access did not mean that information was not shared.
- 19.7 In response to a query, the Service Manager confirmed that the reoffending rate for the West Midlands Area was 34% compared with the national figure of 42%. He advised Members that the figure for Shropshire was 35%.
- 19.8 A Member asked how much work was carried out with the parents of offenders. The Service Manager advised that there were much better outcomes where parents were involved in the agreeing and supporting of a plan and that parental involvement was very much encouraged.
- 19.9 The Chairman thanked the Service Manager for his presentation.

20 Corporate Parenting

- 20.1 The Portfolio Holder for Children's Services gave an update in Corporate Parenting and the work of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

- 20.2 The Portfolio Holder advised Members that the Corporate Parenting Panel now met on a monthly basis and that the Panel were currently looking at the following:
- Review of Reg. 44 visits. The Portfolio Holder reminded Members that Reg. 44 visits were now carried out by an external agency and that the Panel was considering ways that Members could be involved.
 - The Care Leavers Action Plan and the “Local Offer”
 - Educational performance of Looked After Children (LAC)
 - Development of an enhanced approach to enable LAC to develop independent skills
- 20.3 The Portfolio Holder advised the meeting that as part of their work Members of the Panel had been made “Champions” for various aspects of the panel’s work.
- 20.4 The Portfolio Holder reminded the meeting that all Councillors had a role as “corporate parents”
- 20.5 The Chairman commented that the Panel of which she was a member was really starting to make a difference and that she was keen to raise the awareness of Councillors of their role as a Corporate Parent.
- 20.6 The Director for Children’s Services advised members that she was looking to update the Corporate Parenting Pledge and that a report would be taken to the December Council meeting.

21 **Work Programme**

- 21.1 The meeting received the report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer which set out the proposed work programme for Overview and Scrutiny for the forthcoming year.
- 21.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Officer advised Members that at the next meeting it would be looking at education attainment data and the new arrangements for the Safeguarding Boards.
- 21.3 A Member asked whether it would be possible to look at housing at a future meeting. The Overview and Scrutiny Officer informed the meeting that the Place Overview Committee had looked at Housing at its last meeting but that he would add “Homepoint” to the work programme for this committee.

22 Date of Next Meeting

22.1 Members were reminded that the next meeting of the People Overview Committee would be held on Wednesday, 21 November 2018 at 10.00am.

Signed (Chairman)

Date: