

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Corporate Director for Corporate Services

to

People Scrutiny Committee

12th April 2016

Report prepared by:

Fiona Abbott

**In depth scrutiny report –
'Transition arrangements from children's to adult services'
A Part 1 Agenda Item**

1. Purpose of Report

To seek formal approval to the draft report of the scrutiny project – 'Transition arrangements from children's to adult services'.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report and the recommendations from the in depth scrutiny project, attached at **Appendix 1** be agreed.
- 2.2 That the Chairman be authorised to agree any final amendments to the draft report.
- 2.3 That in accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 10 (Part 4 (e) of the Constitution), to agree that the Chairman of the Project Team present the final report to a future Cabinet meeting.

3. Background

- 3.1 The People Scrutiny Committee selected its topic at the meeting on 14th July 2015 (Minute 138 refers). The project plan was agreed by Scrutiny Committee on 13th October 2015 (Minute 326 refers) and then by the Project Team on 26th November 2015. The specific focus of the review was to investigate whether the transition (process) arrangements between children's and adult services are effective in Southend (are they appropriate & clear) and to investigate whether there are different ways of providing services for people with lifelong disabilities by looking at the whole lifetime.
- 3.2 The Member Project Team, which was Chaired by Councillor Nigel Folkard, met on 4 occasions and considered a range of evidence to inform their approach. The Project Team comprised Councillors Brian Ayling, Mary Betson (until December 2015), Steve Buckley, Alan Crystall (from 11th December 2015), Meg Davidson, Lawrence Davies, Caroline Endersby and Kevin Robinson. Councillor Lesley Salter attended meetings in her role as Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee. Officer support was provided by Sharon Houlden, John O'Loughlin and Fiona Abbott.

3.3 The Project Team held a full day of evidence gathering with invited witnesses in February 2016 involving a mixture of key partner organisations, council officers and the voluntary sector. 3 members of the Project Team also met with 2 young service users and their parents in early March 2016.

4 Recommendations

4.1 The scrutiny report is attached at **Appendix 1**. The report has been discussed and agreed by the project team and will be shared with the witnesses.

4.2 It should be noted that approval of any recommendations with budget implications will require consideration as part of future years' budget processes prior to implementation.

4.3 Scrutiny is recommended to endorse the following conclusions from the review, for approval by Cabinet:

1. Need to ensure that the Transition Protocol is a live and meaningful document and the membership of the operational group has representation from key personnel / agencies.
2. That the interface with health partners (SEPT, NELFT, Hospital, CCG etc.) is further developed, moving to a model of care that encompasses all age groups without any gaps.
3. The Department for People should ensure that all agencies working with the transition of young people, are involved in the production of an information pack / directory around "Transitions and moving from children's to adult services – easy guide for service users and carers" to cover all agencies; clarity on transition age (use preparing for adults term instead); services and support available; details of where to go for support and what should be provided (managing expectations too). The views / comments of parents, carers and young people will be taken into account in this work.
4. Employment and training – welcome the making it work scheme – recognise challenges in current economic climate and that further work be undertaken about how apply criteria for service (examine criteria, ensure not excluding people arbitrarily).
5. Consider further how best to support those young people with a diagnosis of autism or Asperger's and in particular how the Council will take the lead in supporting the implementation of the Autism Strategy. Alongside this, we recognise that there are a number of young people with other, complex needs and physical disabilities who will be transitioning to adult services.

5. Other Options

Not applicable.

6. Corporate Implications

- 6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision and Critical Priorities – Becoming an excellent and high performing organisation; reduce inequalities and increase the life chances of people living in Southend.
- 6.2 Financial Implications – there are financial implications to some recommendations but as yet they are unquantifiable. However, any recommendations progressing with associated financial implications will need to go through the annual budgetary process before implementation, as currently no revenue or capital budgets exist for the proposals.
- 6.3 Legal Implications – none.
- 6.4 People Implications – none.
- 6.5 Property Implications – none.
- 6.6 Consultation – as described in report.
- 6.7 Equalities Impact Assessment – none.
- 6.8 Risk Assessment – none.

7. Background Papers –

- Project team meeting notes – meetings held on 6th October 2015, 26th November 2015, 6th January 2016 and 17th March 2016
- Notes from witness session held 24th February 2016
- Updates to Scrutiny Cttee – 1st December 2015 and 26th January 2016
- Other evidence as described in the report.

8. Appendix

Appendix 1 – in depth scrutiny project draft report