

### Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Tracking Decisions 2023/24

	Resolution	Target Date, Officer Responsible and Progress
1)	The Council would write to MAT's to see how they were working towards the Plymouth Plan in driving towards a consistency across all schools and other area's in regards to SEMH;	<p><b>Date:</b> September 2023</p> <p><b>Progress:</b> In progress, update would be provided to February's Committee meeting.</p> <p><b>Officer:</b> Claire Hetherington</p>
2)	Councillors from the Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be involved in the Foster Carer summit.	<p><b>Date:</b> November 2023</p> <p><b>Progress: Complete: Foster Carer summit took place on the 31 January 2024</b></p> <p><b>Officer:</b> Nigel Denning</p>
3)	Councillors to be distributed data as to how many foster carers from them having interest to then becoming a Plymouth City Council approved foster carer.	<p><b>Date:</b> November 2023</p> <p><b>Progress:</b></p> <p><b>Officer:</b> Nigel Denning</p>
4)	Councillors to be invited to Practice week sessions with staff.	<p><b>Date:</b> November 2023</p> <p><b>Progress: Complete and councillors would be invited to future practice week sessions.</b></p>
5)	The Committee to hear what outcomes were implemented following the completion of the Children's Society Missing Children response assessment tool.	<p><b>Date:</b> November 2023</p> <p><b>Progress:</b> A new Safeguarding Adolescent Strategy is being developed alongside a toolkit for practitioners to support confidence in identifying and responding to exploitation. This is now in draft for further feedback.</p> <p>We have reviewed the Adolescent Safeguarding Framework, with a view to refining and simplifying it to support partners with it's use in collaboration with our partners. This is now in draft and will be piloted by REACH to ensure this is fit for purpose before rolling out.</p>

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		<p>We have recently implemented the Philomena Protocol with the police and our children in care team – this will improve the response to children in care who go missing.</p> <p>We have developed a shorter Child Exploitation screening tool.</p> <p>The REACH Practice Manager will attend DSL meetings to ensure all themes around exploitation are shared with schools regularly and support the use of the Safer Me</p> <p><b>Officer:</b> Nigel Denning</p>
6)	<p>David Haley to discuss with John Clements the cost of training and to ascertain whether there was an issue in organisations not undertaking training due to associated costs.</p>	<p><b>Date:</b> November 2023</p> <p><b>Progress:</b> There is good engagement with PSCP multi-agency training and over the past twelve months the Partnership's Learning Team has generated £20,000 income from those partners who do not contribute to the funding of the partnership and have the means to pay. The major proportion of the organisations who have paid are from education, but other organisations who have attended include those from housing and the voluntary and community sector.</p> <p>The concerns over some organisations not being able to afford the training has been investigated with work instigated to provide alternative forms of training. Training sessions have been arranged for 'trainers' within some organisations to enable them to deliver sessions to their colleagues. In addition, video sessions of core training are being recorded for multi-agency staff to view without having to attend a specific PSCP learning event. There is scope for organisations with hardships to apply to PSCP to be exempted from having to pay with each case assessed on its merits.</p> <p><b>Officer:</b> John Clements</p>
7)	<p>The Plymouth Safeguarding Partnership would have an agenda item regarding online exploitation and how the partnership was providing the right materials and messaging to parents in the city.</p>	<p><b>Date:</b> November 2023</p> <p><b>Progress:</b> Councillor Laing attended the most recent Partnership Board meeting on 5 December 2023 when this topic was an agenda item. This initiated the following work:</p>

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		<p>The PSCP website is being updated to ensure current and relevant advice relating to online safety is available to parents and carers.</p> <p>Learning events are being scoped to provide parents and carers with information about child safeguarding. Parents and carers are being canvassed to establish which topics they would wish to be covered. If online safety is identified as a priority, a learning event will be delivered and made available subsequently as a video.</p> <p>Online safety is considered by education providers across Plymouth and work is being undertaken to assess if there are any gaps. Inputs are provided from Key Stage 1 across to Key Stage 4 in age-appropriate sessions.</p> <p>School visits show there are a range of approaches used to safeguard children. The IT systems within schools are subject of monitoring technology that enables staff to identify when material or 'words' of concern are encountered. Staff then investigate further with the relevant children or staff and act. Examples have been given to the partnership that shows this is happening routinely.</p> <p>Children are provided with inputs within IT science and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) sessions. Some schools provide additional information through assemblies or other school, year, or key stage forums. Examples provided to the partnership, show the inputs are relevant and current.</p> <p>Schools offer support to parents on their websites. Please find below links to resources two primary and two secondary schools in Plymouth direct their parents and carers towards:</p> <p><a href="https://www.marineacademy.org.uk/safeguarding-online-safety">https://www.marineacademy.org.uk/safeguarding-online-safety</a>  <a href="https://www.sdcc.net/page/?title=Safeguarding&amp;pid=76">https://www.sdcc.net/page/?title=Safeguarding&amp;pid=76</a>  <a href="https://www.marydeansprimaryschool.co.uk/safeguarding">https://www.marydeansprimaryschool.co.uk/safeguarding</a>  <a href="https://www.wideycourt.plymouth.sch.uk/safeguarding/">https://www.wideycourt.plymouth.sch.uk/safeguarding/</a></p> <p>The websites, in the opinion of the author, are easy to navigate. The resources are up-to-date and relevant.</p>
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		<p>One issue raised with the partnership, is how schools keep up to date with all new developments. This is being investigated to establish if this can be done centrally to avoid many schools completing the same work. Another suggestion for the partnership is to mount an 'online campaign'. This is now being considered.</p> <p>Finally, the Strategic Missing and Child Exploitation (MACE) sub-group of PSCP has been considered if there is anything else that the partnership could do to support parents and carers in respect of online safety.</p> <p><b>Officer:</b> Siobhan Logue / John Clements</p>
8)	All Councillors would be provided with advice and guidance if they were being asked where to turn to for support in relation to substance misuse.	<p><b>Date:</b> November 2023</p> <p><b>Progress:</b> Local provider: <a href="https://harbour.org.uk/">https://harbour.org.uk/</a></p> <p><b>Officer:</b> Nigel Denning</p>
9)	Further investigations would take place as to whether exploitation within Airbnb accommodations was a significant issue for the city which would inform Plymouth's response if necessary.	<p><b>Date:</b> November 2023</p> <p><b>Progress:</b> This was a historic issue of concern however currently there is not a significant issue however this is monitored daily within the Daily Intelligence Briefings</p> <p><b>Officer:</b> Nigel Denning</p>
10)	Faith Groups and Voluntary Sector organisations to be part of the Plymouth Safeguarding Partnership Board.	<p><b>Date:</b> November 2023</p> <p><b>Progress:</b> Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023, the statutory national guidance, was published on 15 December 2023. It has made structural and procedural changes to safeguarding children. One relevant requirement is for all partnerships to review the participation, in local safeguarding children arrangements, of all partners. It specifically mentions education providers, religious groups, sporting organisations and the wider voluntary, community and social enterprise sector. As a result, the partnership will be reviewing and consulting on the participation by, and engagement with all of these groups. The partnership will be able to report back on the outcome of this work.</p>

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		<b>Officer:</b> Siobhan Logue
11)	Child Exploitation would become a yearly report at the Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.	<b>Date:</b> November 2023 <b>Progress:</b> Added to the work programme, Complete.
12)	Members of the Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be invited to the planned virtual session with head teachers in the city.	<b>Date:</b> November 2023 <b>Progress:</b> Complete.