

**Children's Services and Education
Scrutiny Board**

**Monday 11 November, 2019 at 5.00 pm
in Committee Room 1
at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

Agenda

(Open to Public and Press)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Members to declare:-
 - (a) any interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting;
 - (b) the existence and nature of any political Party Whip on any matter to be considered at the meeting.
3. Minutes of previous meeting 23 September, 2019
4. SHAPE Programme
5. Regional Adoption Agency: Adoption@Heart
6. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Date of next meeting – 6 January 2020.

D Stevens
Interim Chief Executive

Sandwell Council House
Freeth Street
Oldbury
West Midlands

Distribution:

Councillors Singh (Chair);
Councillors Preece (Vice-Chair);
Councillors Allen, Ashman, Carmichael, Chidley, Costigan, Z Hussain,
McVittie, Phillips and Shackleton.

Co-opted Members:-

Charlotte Ward-Lewis (Church of England Diocese representative)
Vacant (Roman Catholic Archdiocese representative)
Tahira Majid (Primary School Governor representative)
Vacant (Secondary School Governor representative)

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Children's Services and Education Scrutiny Board

Apologies for Absence

The Board will receive any apologies for absence from the members of the Board.

Children's Services and Education Scrutiny Board

Declaration of Interests

Members to declare:-

- (a) any interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting;
- (b) the existence and nature of any political Party Whip on any matter to be considered at the meeting.

**Minutes of the Children's Services and Education
Scrutiny Board**

**23 September, 2019 at 5.00 pm
at Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

Present: Councillor Singh (Chair);
Councillors Ashman, Chidley, McVittie and
Shackleton.

Apologies: Councillors Allen, Carmichael, Costigan, Z
Hussain, Preece and Phillips;
C Ward-Lewis and T Majid (Co-opted members).

In attendance: Councillors L Giles and E M Giles
Lesley Hagger, Executive Director Children's
Services;
Chris Ward, Director of Education, Skills and
Employment;
Jacqui Smith, Chair Sandwell Children's Trust
(SCT);
Frances Craven, Chief Executive SCT;
Pauline Turner, Director of Operations, SCT).
Sally Dowie, Family Information Service.

16/19 **Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 July,
2019 be approved as a correct record.

17/19 **Sandwell Children's Trust Annual Review 2018/19 and
Improvement Plan 2019/22**

The Board received a report from the Sandwell Children's Trust relating to the Annual Review 2018-19 and the Improvement Plan 2019-22. The Chair and Chief Executive of the Trust presented an overview and update relating to the Sandwell Children's Trust (SCT) and highlighted the main points from the reports.

The Chair of the Trust advised that the Annual report covered the period April 2018 – April 2019, the Trusts first year of operation.

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She highlighted that there had been nine Ofsted visits and the leadership had been renewed and secured in the first year of operation, giving grip on the service.

The Board noted the following main messages from the report:

- 778 children were in care when the Trust started in April 2018, on 23 September 2019 there were 921 Looked After Children in Sandwell. There was clear stabilisation in the profile of trajectory and the Trust was now starting to see a reduction in numbers of Looked after Children;
- the Trust had inherited a system that was slow in moving young people children through the care system, this was starting to change, due to measures put in place;
- the Trust was supported by the DFE, looking at the edge of care and was looking at practice in Wolverhampton and Essex;
- the cost of placements for Looked After Children in residential accommodation was more than in foster placements, however the external foster agencies and independent providers of residential accommodation were not providing value for money;
- the Trust had taken a lead role across the West Midlands on foster placements to consider how the market could develop;
- staffing at the Trust was more stable and there was a permanent leadership team in place;
- the 12 reasons to work in Sandwell initiative was introduced last year to encourage people to work in Sandwell; recruitment and retention of social workers and foster carers was a priority;
- there was a £3 billion shortfall from the Government across the UK for children in social care, Sandwell was facing an overspend of £3.26 million in 2018-19;
- the Trust had worked on the Medium Term Financial Plan and £40,000 savings had been identified, they were working with the Council to agree the contract sum for 2019-20. The Trust was confident that costs could be brought down to the level when the Trust was entered into in April 2018;
- the Trust advised that there had been highlights and challenges during the first year and they were grateful for the support of the Council and of the hard work of all involved.

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The Board noted the following comments and responses to questions: -

- in relation to the services making referrals and thresholds: The CE of the Trust advised that there was an issue with people not understanding the thresholds, however the Trust was working with a Headteacher Reference Group to look at real life cases where no further action had been taken on a referral and considering why the matter was not progressed through the system. The Trust advised that there was a similar thing happening with Health Partners;
- there was provision of training for officers in Health services and schools relating to when to make a referral;
- concerns were raised about the number of school place moves and early intervention to prevent matters escalating;
- local safeguarding governance arrangements were being replaced nationally and conversation between Partners was ongoing;
- the Trust was scrutinising which agencies were making referrals and had started to amend the thresholds. The real-life cases were proving very good to learn from and were helping to raise awareness;
- the Trust and the Council were clear that they did not want people to hesitate when a young person may be in need of support in relation to prevention and protection, and that the early help services and the voluntary sector were trying hard to raise awareness to protect and prevent young people from neglect, at the earliest stage;
- in relation to the need to recruit foster carers the Trust advised that foster carers may choose to go to the external foster agencies because the financial reward may be more. Some foster carers chose to move to be a Council Foster carer for a safer job; there were several older foster carers who were looking to retire. The challenge was to recruit and develop foster carers in Sandwell and to retain them as Council employees;
- placement of Young People in Care was, whenever possible, within a 20-mile radius. Where a young person was placed outside 20-mile radius a social worker visited every six weeks to

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- ensure the placement was working and they were getting good care. The statutory requirement for visits was three monthly;
- since the February Ofsted 'inadequate' rating for fostering, there had been training and close working with practice improvement officers from Doncaster, there would be a further Ofsted visit in November 2019;
- the morale of frontline staff was highlighted, and the Board was reassured that senior officers do walkabouts to talk to staff. It was reported that the atmosphere was quite buoyant, many staff wanted to work in the new offices and people were seeing the benefits of the Beyond Auditing (BA) work and additional support. They had moved from just chasing compliance to feeling it;
- the Trust had delivered the three things that staff had said they wanted:
 - managers that do not change
 - a nice place
 - leadership.
- staff were not scared to voice opinions and say what their issues were, they felt valued;
- in relation to the 30% agency social workers and the differential with Council employed social workers, the costs were not that different, but the more senior the role the larger the differential. To appoint permanent staff the Trust was competing with 14 other Local Authorities, some offering £4,000 golden hellos;
- the agency workforce was transient, choosing where and when they wanted to work, especially in summer and Christmas periods when staff were on leave and agency workers may have chosen not to work the holidays. This was reflected in the performance information. The Trust advised there would be better planning next summer;
- the Board raised concerns about young people getting lost in the system during the summer and Christmas periods, when staffing levels and performance dropped. In particular at one point 38 young people were not allocated a place. The Trust advised that the figures changed almost every day and that every young person would have been allocated within the five-day requirement;
- the Board voiced concern about the inconsistency in the performance indicators. The Trust advised that there were

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- inconsistencies and it was challenging work, but that this report was about year one and that there was a trend emerging for improvement;
- the Board was concerned that caseloads were still too high, the Trust advised that the target was an average of 18 cases and that currently the indicator was 18.27 caseloads on average, but that it was recognised that this figure could vary considerably;
 - there was a concern that the performance indicators were being missed and that the report did not show the improvement being made. The Board was advised that Ofsted would look at quality, numbers and the main targets to improving;
 - the Board highlighted several performance targets that were not being achieved, asked what the risks were of not meeting the targets and what was being done to mitigate the risk. The Trust advised that performance was monitored, and exception reporting was carried out and addressed through supervision sessions, training and buddying arrangements, and that team leaders covered for each other to ensure someone was there for staff to report to;
 - the Board highlighted the issue of County Lines and was advised that the Trust, the Council and Partners were part of the Exploitation Hub. The Hub focus was the prevention of exploitation and protection of young people and schools, police, health and other partners all work together in the Exploitation Hub on the issue highlighted.

The Board had highlighted the need to report to Scrutiny with up to date information and performance data. It was suggested that this could be six monthly. The Trust advised that performance was monitored and reported monthly.

The Chair thanked the Trust for attending and responding to the questions.

Resolved

- (1) that the comments of the Board be referred to the Cabinet Member for Best Start in Life;
- (2) that a performance update report be requested the Scrutiny Board in 6 months.

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18/19

Sandwell Childcare Sufficiency Report 2019-2020

The Board received the Sandwell Childcare Sufficiency report 2019-2020. The Director of Employment Skills and Education outlined the main messages and the 9 recommendations arising from the report.

The Board noted that the Children and Families Act 2014 stated that local authorities should report annually to Elected Council Members on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare and that the report should be made available and accessible to parents.

The Director of Employment Skills and Education advised that during preparation of the Childcare Sufficiency Report evidence was investigated to indicate numbers of childcare places, demand and supply of places, and to identify gaps against demographic data and supply of childcare.

The Board was advised that findings from evidence gathered in Sandwell overall, and for each of the 24 wards in Sandwell had informed the report. It was noted that subject to scrutiny comments being reported to Cabinet, and Cabinet agreeing the report and recommendations, the Childcare Strategic Action Plan for 2019-2020 would be developed, implemented and monitored.

The Board noted the following main points and comments:

- it was reported that childcare was becoming more difficult to sustain as a business in Sandwell and that ten childcare providers had been lost in recent months;
- there were sufficient childcare places in Sandwell but there were gaps in the provision across the six towns as identified in the report;
- there was no access to out of school care at Hanbury in Greets Green and Lyng and Wednesbury South;
- there was a sufficiency of places for 2-year old offer, 15 hours entitlement and 30 hours on school nursery provision. It was reported that the incentives for 15 and 30 hours were particularly good but that there was a differential between 15 and 30 hours – across the six towns in Sandwell;
- the Board indicated there was a need to encourage better take up of the places and was advised that there was a drive to promote take-up of places, raise awareness and encourage

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- engagement through social media, the council website and at local events;
- Members of the Board were concerned that young people were not spending enough time at home, that children were not getting a homelife, that parents were working longer hours and that young people were away from home for long periods, in pre-schools and after-school clubs;
 - it was noted that parents of larger families in low paid jobs may need to work longer hours;
 - the DfE had set funding at a maximum of 10 hours per day and the Board was advised that there were benefits of a child going into school early, including socialising and being fed, which helped their concentration and development;
 - the requests for out of hours cover was mainly due to parents' irregular working hours. Some parents who worked in shops, factory workers, nurses, police, and so on had to work long days and shifts, including weekends and school holidays;
 - the supply of childcare places was assessed against the potential demand for places and the findings were formulated into the 9 recommendations.

The Board considered that if a child was safe, loved and well cared for, generally the families had a more stable and happier time. It was highlighted that child care was not just being a baby minder, it was about the child learning, being inquisitive and learning language skills. Some parents had indicated that they did not need a child minder, they did not appreciate that the child may benefit from the interaction. The Director advised that it was not a statutory provision, but that the service gave parents the opportunity to take up the place.

The Board was concerned that some care providers had been rated as inadequate, they were advised that the Council would work with them, but that Ofsted was strict on ratio's and that one break would mean that the care provider would be rated as inadequate. The Director gave assurance that they would get the support they needed.

The Board noted that some schools did not provide out of school care. Officers advised that since the report was written there had

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been further work carried out and that both Tipton toddlers (St Martin) and Jubilee Park (Multi-academy Jubilee Park) were now covered.

The Board noted that there were places available and that work was ongoing to provide and sustain child care services. To promote the services in Sandwell, a list of providers was made available in towns and other public places such as doctors surgeries. In addition, a number of events had been arranged in Sandwell, including safer 6 campaign, a SHADE event, the big picnic in Dartmouth Park and some specific local Ward events.

The Chair and all Members of the Board welcomed the report, they wanted to record that the report was of high standard, an excellent reflection of the current position and work being done in Sandwell which presented a good picture.

Resolved

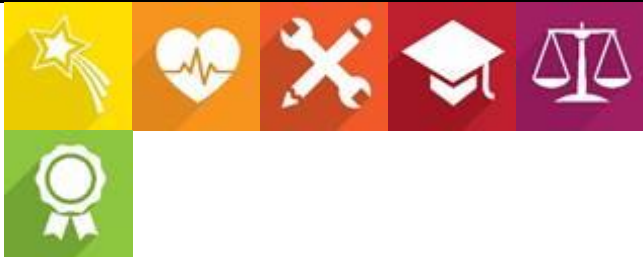
- (1) that the Children's Services and Education Scrutiny Board endorse the nine recommendations arising from the Sandwell Childcare Sufficiency Report 2019-20;
- (2) that the comments from the Children's Services and Education Board be referred to the Cabinet Member for Best Start in Life to take into account when the report is considered for approval by Cabinet.

(Meeting ended at 6.50 pm)

Contact Officer: Deb Breedon Democratic Services Unit 0121 569 3896

REPORT TO CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY BOARD

11 November 2019

Subject:	SHAPE Programme
Cabinet Portfolio:	Cabinet Member for Best Start in Life - Councillor Joyce Underhill Cabinet Member for Living Healthy Lives – Councillor Farut Shaeen
Director:	Director of Public Health - Lisa McNally
Contribution towards Vision 2030:	
Contact Officer(s):	Neesha Patel, SHAPE Project Manager Public Health neesha_patel@sandwell.gov.uk

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board:

1. considers the recommendations stated in the report.
2. agrees to consider the opportunities for young people to scrutinise key council proposals when appropriate.
3. makes any comments and recommendations as necessary.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 Members of the Board requested members of SHAPE Youth Forum to be invited to the next meeting to meet the Board members and explain the work they do as part of the SHAPE Programme.
- 1.2 This report provides an overview of the SHAPE Programme including its governance arrangements, consultation methods and anticipated future

steps to involvement in decision making and co-production with children and young people.

- 1.3 The report invites the scrutiny board to consider opportunities for maximising the extent to which young people can contribute to the scrutiny and feedback of council reports or initiatives.

2 IMPLICATIONS FOR VISION 2030

- 2.1 The project supports the achievement of predominantly ambitions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10, however does touch on all other aspects of the Vision 2030 too. The Programme raises aspirations and resilience in young people, encourages them to live healthier lives, gives them the skills and knowledge to help them grow and achieve their career aspirations, enables them to feel safe in their communities and works in partnership to get things done to meet the needs of young people.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The SHAPE Programme is a child's voice initiative for Sandwell, governed by the SHAPE Strategic Board. The Programme focuses on the five overarching priorities, staying safe, being healthy, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and economic wellbeing.
- 3.2 The Programme provides a vehicle for directorates to consult and engage with children and young people on any aspect of service improvement, raise awareness of issues and services across a large population of young people, showcase local talent and develops future leaders.
- 3.3 The SHAPE Strategic Board aims for all its multi-agency partners to engage with children and young people in ways that enable them to be actively involved in shaping decisions, and leading and initiating action for change and development across our services on an ongoing basis.
- 3.4 The SHAPE Strategic Board will be the governing body for all engagement with children and young people in Sandwell. The Governance Structure in Appendix 1 shows how it reports to other Boards and committees to enable effective communication and ensure all work undertaken is shared with others.
- 3.5 The SHAPE Strategic Board is chaired by the Director of Public Health who is the Council's lead director of SHAPE. The SHAPE Board is made up of a number of partners representing internal and external agencies including the voluntary sector who have played an integral role in the Programme. The SHAPE Board reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board and the new Children and Young People's Commissioning Partnership.

- 3.6 SHAPE Youth Forum is made of a diverse range of young people aged 12 and above from across the Borough. This forum connects with other regional and national groups with the inclusion of two Youth Commissioners, two UK Youth Parliament Members and two UK Youth Parliament Deputy Members. It also links to the Looked After Children Board and Care Leavers Forum working closely with the Children's Trust Participation Team.
- 3.7 Core events held through the SHAPE Programme include SHAPE Your Talent Show, a local talent show held to showcase young people's talents in music, dance and entertainment. This event has even been recognised by The Voice Kids who invite young people from SHAPE's talent show to audition on an annual basis. The SHAPE Youth Festival is an event held at Sandwell Valley to showcase what external and internal stakeholders offer in terms of services for children and young people. It is a fun community day out for young people and families. The SHAPE Our Future is an annual conference held for Primary and Secondary schools and Sandwell Community School, raising awareness on the SHAPE themes.
- 3.8 The Clickwise Campaign is a youth led initiative supporting parents to learn about the dangers children and young people face online in particular recognising signs of grooming. It is a concept derived by the former Chair of SHAPE Youth Forum who himself was sexually abused as a child. The Anti Bullying Roadshow is held during anti-bullying week to raise awareness of the signs of bullying to primary and secondary school children and how to tackle and build resilience to deal with these issues. The National Takeover Challenge is an initiative whereby young people take over the role of Directors/Service Managers or senior management boards and challenge them on their roles.
- 3.9 It is important to note SHAPE **is not** a Youth Service, it is an initiative run by young people offering a mechanism for consultation.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The SHAPE Programme has been hugely successful in developing child's voice across Sandwell whether it is through SHAPE Youth Forum, school councils or through voluntary and community organisations. However, there is still more work to be done to ensure young people are not only engaged in service design but also co-produce and design services impacting on their lives.
- 4.2 Through the SHAPE Strategic Board, a Children and Young People's Engagement Strategy has been developed in partnership with the CCG, Sandwell Council, Children's Trust and the Voluntary Sector. Children and

young people have also been consulted through the SHAPE Youth Forum. The Strategy has been endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board. The creation of a Children and Young People's Engagement Strategy ensures a joined-up approach to participation and engagement with children and young people.

4.3 The strategy action plan will ensure projects involving children and young people promote the 5 priorities of SHAPE, hence also taking into account the Board priorities of keeping people healthier for longer and keeping people safe and supporting communities

4.4 With a shared vision in place, it would be imperative to introduce a process whereby young people can be involved in decision making. It is recommended the members of the scrutiny board consider how to maximise opportunities for young people to scrutinise proposals when appropriate.

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

5.1 Consultation takes place with SHAPE Youth Forum which consists of approximately 25 young people ranging from the age of 12 to 21 from diverse communities and backgrounds, across the Borough. The forum meets on a bi-weekly basis allowing council and partner agencies to consult with the members on service re-design or project ideas which impact on children and young people.

5.2 Additional to this consultation takes place every 2 years through the SHAPE Survey which in 2017 received 939 responses from secondary school age young people. The survey consults on all of the 5 themes for SHAPE and the results help to develop the SHAPE Programme for the following year.

5.3 The annual SHAPE Our Future conference for schools is also an opportunity to consult with children and young people from primary and secondary school age. A separate conference is also held for young people from Sandwell Community Schools who needs may differ from those who attend mainstream schools.

5.4 Consultation with SHAPE Youth Forum has taken place on how they want to support scrutiny hence the proposal submitted.

6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS.

6.1 Options will be discussed once the recommendation has been approved.

7 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The SHAPE Programme is funded by the Directors of the Council with a total funding of £125,000 and with a financial contribution from CCG for 2019/20 of £30,000. Other partner agencies offer contributions in kind consisting of resources e.g. staff and facilities.
- 7.2 The SHAPE Programme is permanently resourced with a Project Manager currently based in Public Health. To support the Project Manager allowing more time to focus on the strategic objectives, a Project Officer post will be introduced.
- 7.3 Strategic and delivery support continues to be provided by Youth Services. The Programme is a partnership-based approach and hence is delivered by many internal and external partners.

8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 There are no legal considerations regarding this report.
- 8.2 The SHAPE initiative is operating on a partnership basis with partner organisations confirming their commitment by taking the work programme through their own governance processes for ratification.

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report

10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 10.1 New data protection regulations - General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) are adhered to by the SHAPE initiative and Programme.

11 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

- 11.1 There are no crime and disorder risks especially relating to this report, however the impact of engagement in positive activities should reduce crime and disorder in the long term.

12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

- 12.1 The sustainability of the proposals is reliant on the continued provision of funding for the SHAPE Programme.
- 12.2 There is also reliance on young people representation from all participation groups if given the opportunity to scrutinise. These include SHAPE Youth Forum, Care Leavers and Looked After Children.

13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

13.1 The SHAPE Programme's engagement with children and young people benefits their health and wellbeing and contribute to social value within Sandwell's communities.

14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

14.1 There is no impact on any council managed property or land arising from this report

15 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

15.1 The SHAPE Programme has successfully demonstrated that child's voice can be captured and considered when developing services, however as part of the council's process of scrutiny, they are currently not included.

15.2 By providing the opportunity for young people to scrutinise in decisions relevant to them, young people will be able to feedback their views.

15.3 This preproposal enables true participation and young people will feel valued in knowing they are having a. Scrutiny in this way are co-opting young people into their work to bring a young persons' perspective.

16 BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 None

17 APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 – Governance Structure

Appendix 2 – 2018/19 Plan for SHAPE Youth Forum

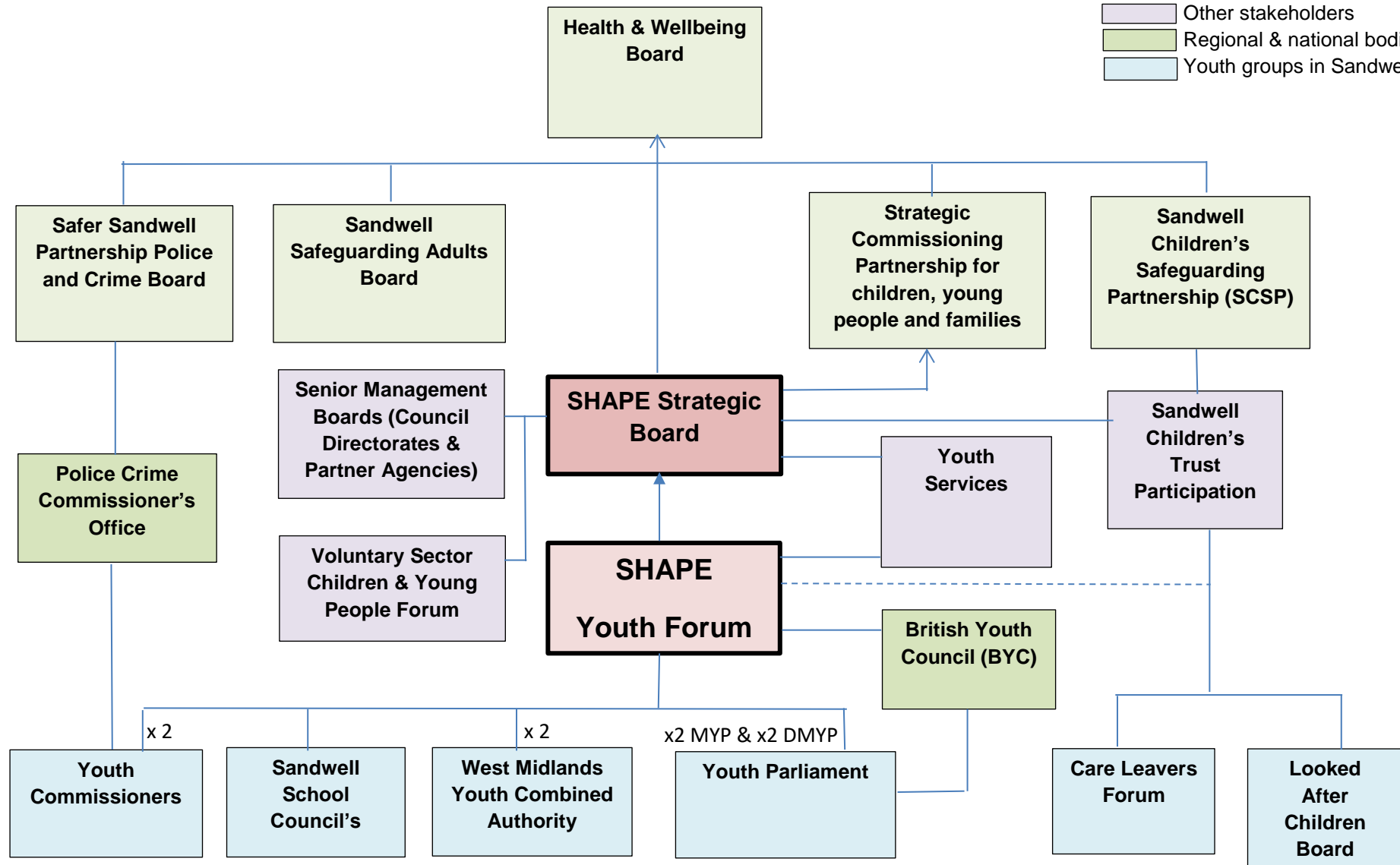
Appendix 3 – 2019/20 Plan for SHAPE Programme

Lisa McNally
Director of Public Health

Appendix 1 – Governance Structure

Key

- SHAPE governance
- Statutory & strategic boards
- Other stakeholders
- Regional & national bodies
- Youth groups in Sandwell



Appendix 2 – SHAPE Youth Forum Forward Plan 2019

<p><u>SHAPE Youth Forum Forward Plan</u> <u>2019</u></p>	<p>19th January 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - British Youth Council Convention - Regional BYC Awards
<p><u>31st January 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome to new members - Introduction to SHAPE - UKYP Election update - BYC Convention Feedback - SHAPE Our Conference Feedback - Youth Commissioner Feedback – None present - SHAPE Your Talent Dates - SSCB Work - Kids in Museum manifesto - Forward Plan 	<p>8th February 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UK YP Election Results
<p><u>14th February 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome - Toilet Door Poster - PHSE discussions - UK YP Elections - Code of Conduct - BYC Youth Voice Leadership Development Programme - Principles for Children and Young People’s Strategy 	<p><u>28th February 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sandwell Leisure Trust
<p>8th March 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BYC National Awards 	<p><u>28th March 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PC Treasure - SHAPE Your Talent Auditions – Debrief
<p>29th March 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children and Young People’s Panel for Independent Safeguarding Chair 	<p>4th April 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exploitation Summit
<p><u>11th April 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome and apologies - Chair of SHAPE Youth Forum - Exploitation Summit feedback - Children and Young People’s Engagement Strategy - Feedback on toilet door posters - Sandwell Cultural Educational Partnership logo feedback - Code of conduct - Youth Summit workshops 	<p>9th May 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transport for West Midlands Youth Forum Meeting - Chair of SHAPE Youth Forum nominations - Volunteers for SHAPE Your Talent Final and Hosts - Volunteers for SHAPE Youth Festival - Interview Training at Coneygre on 19th June - Princes Trust

Appendix 2 – SHAPE Youth Forum Forward Plan 2019

<p>11th May 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transport for West Midlands Youth Forum Meeting 	<p><u>23rd May 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Talent Show - Feedback from Transport Forum - BYC Convention confirmation - Stop and Search Panel training
<p>7th June 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SHAPE Your Talent Show Final 	<p>19th June 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Young people’s interview training at Coneygre Arts Centre - SHAPE Forum Meeting – Citizens Advice Bureau
<p>22nd June 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BYC Convention 	<p><u>4th July 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Boroughwide Convention Vision 2030 briefing - Chief Superintendent Richards Youds West Midlands Police - Roles for SHAPE Youth Festival
<p>11th July 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vision 2030 Boroughwide Conference, West Bromwich Albion Ground - 	<p>13th July 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SHAPE Youth Festival, Sandwell Valley
<p><u>18th July 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SHAPE Youth Festival Debrief - Sandwell Safeguarding Multi agency Partnership Independent Chair – Jane Shuttleworth - 	<p>19th July 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Air Mayhem trial – Tipton Sports Academy
<p>2nd – 4th August 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual Sitting – Residential for MYPs in Leeds 	<p>22nd August 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting for MYPs & DMYPs to meet with Leader of the Council
<p><u>12th September 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Weight Measurement programme (NCMP) - Black country conference briefing - Training and Development on presentation skills 	<p>13th September 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting for MYPs & DMYPs to meet with MP Adrian Bailey
<p>14th September 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BYC AGM 	<p>18th September 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our Voice Our Shoes Conference Meeting

Appendix 2 – SHAPE Youth Forum Forward Plan 2019

<p>19th September 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health and Wellbeing Board Takeover 	<p>25th September 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our Voice Our Shoes Conference
<p><u>10th October 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SHAPE Strategic Board Takeover <p>Forum Meeting – 6pm – 8pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to new members - Update on MP meeting - Update on conference - ACESs Coordinators - Careers Training CAB 	<p>12th October 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BYC Convention
<p><u>24th October 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusive Growth - Emotional Health and Wellbeing Training Videos 	<p>2nd November 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Away day at Malthouse Stables with Birmingham
<p><u>7th November 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child Employment 	<p>8th November 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - House of Commons Sitting for MYPs
<p><u>18th November 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth Services Young People Recruitment Panel 	<p>27th November 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leaders Takeover Challenge
<p>28th November 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children and Young People Now Awards 	<p>10th December 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth Summit - Police
<p><u>19th December 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Xmas Activity and Forum Event 	

<u>Event</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Primary or Secondary</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Clickwise Programme	Project delivered by Sandwell's Youth Commissioner educating parents of years 7 to 11's on use of online filters to safeguard and protect their children. Will include dangers of exposure to pornography and CSE	Presentation from chair of SHAPE Forum Adam Shaikh (CSE victim), drama by Loudmouth Education and Theatre company on "Working for Marcus" for parents and workshops for young people with Brook and CSE Team. NB: These can be tailored depending on needs of schools	Secondary Schools	Various	September 2018	April 2020
SafetyNet	Sandwell Council have been offered an opportunity to be part of the Safety Net Programme which focuses on keeping children safe online. The Programme is developed by Skips Education who in collaboration with Birmingham City Council have rolled the Programme out in several Primary Schools across Birmingham.	<u>Staff Assembly:</u> £345 A 90-minute session for all school staff, hard hitting awareness session to the real and emerging dangers of the internet. <u>Parental Assembly:</u> £345 A 90-minute session for all parents, a hard-hitting awareness session to the real and emerging dangers of the internet, managing professional reputational risk when using digital communication and how to keep children safe online. Parental engagement books included. <u>*Please note - This programme can currently be offered with Clickwise as a package for parents subject to funding being available</u> <i>NB: Other programmes can be offered, please contact SHAPE for more details.</i>	Primary Schools	Various	April 2019	Ongoing
SHAPE Survey	Survey sent to all schools covering all SHAPE topics for young people to complete. Informs the topics for the SHAPE Our Future conference.	Online survey, link sent to all schools. If a school sends over 25% of their school roll in responses, they will receive an individual report of all the data for their individual school. The surveys will be town based and staggered from June – October 2019	Primary/ Secondary Schools	In Schools	September 2019	November 2019

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SHAPE Your Talent	A talent competition for 8-19 year olds to showcase their talents in music, dance and entertainment.	6 auditions are held across the six towns in Sandwell. Children and young people can enter online or complete a paper application. Applications will open in January 2020. Winners from heats will enter a public vote where their performance videos will be online on You Tube. Finalists will perform at Sandwell College for the final.	Primary / Secondary	Various & Sandwell College	Auditions from 7/03/20 – 20/03/20	Final Date TBC
SHAPE Youth Festival	An outdoor community event for young people showcasing what services are available to young people during the summer holidays.	A number of activities, stalls and challenges are available to take part in	Primary / Secondary	Sandwell Valley	11/07/20	13/07/20
Make Your Mark	National campaign which gives the opportunity for young people aged 11-18 the chance to decide what members of Youth parliament debate in November 2019 within the House of Commons	Schools register online and receive ballot papers to vote	Secondary	In schools	June 2019	October 2019
National Youth Takeover Challenge – SHAPE Strategic Board	Council and partner agencies open door for young people to take over the role of the SHAPE Strategic Board who are made of services joined together to ensure children and young people's voices are heard	Maximum of 10 young people take over the Board meeting and challenge members through workshops and voice their views. Briefing session will take place before meeting.	Secondary	Executive Conference Room 2	10/10/19	10/10/19
Anti-Bullying Week	Anti-Bullying roadshow with SHAPE, Police and Youth Services	A maximum of 10 schools to take part in half day workshops.	Primary / Secondary	In Schools	11/11/19	15/11/19
National Youth Takeover Challenge	Council and partner agencies open door for young people to take over the role of senior officers and boards.	Students who are interested in scheme are paired with appropriate officer who they shadow or takeover for the day	Secondary	Various	22/11/19	06/12/19
Council Cabinet Members and Leaders Meeting – Takeover Challenge	Council Cabinet Members and Leaders along with Directors of the Council meet to make key decisions affecting the Local Authority.	Maximum of 10 young people take over the Board meeting and challenge members through workshops and voice their views. Briefing session will take place before meeting.	Secondary	Council House, Oldbury	27/11/19	27/11/19
SHAPE Our Future Conference – Primary	Annual Conference on topics of SHAPE inviting school council representatives	Interactive Workshops, presentations and guest speakers	Primary (Year 2 & Above)	Bethel Convention Centre	21/11/19	21/11/19
SHAPE Our Future Conference – Secondary and Over 16s	Annual Conference on topics of SHAPE inviting school council representatives	Interactive Workshops, presentations and guest speakers	Secondary	Bethel Convention Centre	22/11/19	22/11/19

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SHAPE Programme Timeline




SHAPE Youth Forum	Young people meet on a regular basis to discuss issues affecting them.	Young people aged 12 and above can express their interest in joining forum by emailing SHAPE_Events@sandwell.gov.uk	Secondary (12 +)	Oldbury Library	Bi Weekly Thursday 6pm – 8pm	Ongoing
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For further information please visit www.sandwell.gov.uk/shapeevents

 Follow us on Twitter: @SHAPESandwell

 Follow us on Instagram: SHAPE_Sandwell

 Email: shape_events@sandwell.gov.uk

 Telephone: 0121 569 6164

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REPORT TO CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY BOARD

11th November 2019

Subject:	Regional Adoption Agency: Adoption@Heart
Cabinet Portfolio:	Cabinet Member for Best Start in Life - Councillor Joyce Underhill
Director:	Executive Director of Children's Services – Lesley Hagger
Contribution towards Vision 2030:	
Contact Officer(s):	Lesley Hagger Executive Director of Children's Services lesley_hagger@sandwell.gov.uk

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That:

1. The Scrutiny Committee considers the report which provides a performance overview of the initial few months of service delivery by Adoption@Heart;
2. The Scrutiny Committee agrees to receive a full performance report from Adoption@Heart at its first meeting in the new calendar year.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 At its meeting on 7th January 2019 it was agreed that the performance of the new arrangement for the Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) would be reported to and scrutinised by the Children's Services and Education Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.2 The new organisation has been operational since 1st April 2019 and, at the time of writing this Scrutiny Committee report, the first half-year performance report has not yet been presented to the Adoption@Heart Commissioning Board. However, there are some early indications of

performance that are promising from Sandwell's perspective and these are presented below.

- 1.3 It is recommended that a full performance report is presented to the Scrutiny Committee at its first meeting in the new calendar year.

2 IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION

- 2.1 High quality adoption services improve the life chances of vulnerable children and young people and ensure that all children are offered an equality of opportunity in the way that they are matched with an adoptive family. Adoption offers children a new start in life that can give them the best chance to have a successful adulthood.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The provision of an adoption service is a statutory requirement and the council is required to monitor the provision of adoption services. The government agreed that all local authorities (LAs) would be expected to deliver their adoption services through an RAA by 2020 and funding was provided by the Department for Education (DfE) to cover the costs of setting up these new arrangements.
- 3.2 On 12th December 2018, SMBCs Cabinet gave approval to transfer adoption services to the new Regional Adoption Agency: Adoption@Heart. These arrangements were considered by the Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 7th January 2019 when it was also agreed that the Scrutiny Committee would undertake the role to scrutinise these arrangements and report its findings to the Corporate Parenting Board, which is chaired by the Lead Member for Best Start in Life.
- 3.3 The RAA for the Black Country local authorities is called Adoption@Heart. The arrangement is a 'hosted' model, whereby the adoption service is hosted by Wolverhampton City Council on behalf of the four Black County local authorities, and commissioned on their behalf via Dudley Council. Contractual arrangements are in place for all partners. The adoption service has an interface with each local authority children's service; in Sandwell, this is Sandwell Children's Trust.

4 PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW – 1ST April 2019 to 30th September 2019

- 4.1 A performance dashboard has been developed but requires further development to be a robust reporting tool. In the meantime, monthly written reports have been made to the monthly Operational Management Board and the quarterly Strategic Commissioning Board.
- 4.2 **Adopter Recruitment**

20 adopters have been approved in the period and 53 are in the process. Prior to Adoption@Heart the combined number of adopters approved was 49 in 2017/18 and 73 in 2018/19. However, the target for year 1 of Adoption@Heart is 120 and this is unlikely to be met due to a large number of transitional issues experienced during the first 3 months of the organisation being established, all of which have now been resolved.

4.3 **Children Placed**

47 children were placed by Adoption@Heart in the period, of which 24 were placed for Sandwell. The number of placements required in year 1 for Sandwell was 34 and it is anticipated that this target will be met.

4.4 **Budget**

The budget for 2019/20 is shown below:

Partner organisation	Budget 19/20
City of Wolverhampton Council	£1,102,948
Dudley MBC	£1,128,172
Sandwell MBC/Children's Trust	£ 965,575
Walsall MBC	£ 984,615
Total	£4,181,310

The position in the period shows an underspend. The budget setting process for 2020/21 will be finalised by the end of December 2019.

4.5 **Local authority scrutiny**

- a) An interim report will be made to the Association of Black Country Authorities (ABCA) on 13th November 2019: this meeting involves Council Leaders and Chief Executive Officers;
- b) A meeting of Lead Members for children's services will take place early in the new calendar year to ensure that Corporate Parenting Boards can be assured of progress;
- c) All 4 local authorities will receive a first full performance reports early in the new calendar year.

5 **CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)**

- 5.1 During the process of establishing Adoption@Heart there was full consultation with children, young people and families, and with staff that were transferred via a TUPE arrangement from Sandwell Children's Trust to Adoption@Heart.

6 **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 5.1 There are currently no alternative options to an RAA arrangement.

7 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (

- 7.1 The resource implications for Adoption@Heart were set out in Appendix 1 to the 7th January Scrutiny Committee paper.

8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The legal and governance implications for Adoption@Heart, and for the local authority, were set out in the 12th December 2018 Cabinet paper which was attached at Appendix 1 to the 7th January Scrutiny Committee paper.

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 The equality impact assessment was attached to the Cabinet paper.

10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 10.1 The data protection impact assessment was contained within the Cabinet paper.

11 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

- 11.1 There are no relevant crime and disorder risks.

12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

- 12.1 The sustainability matters were addressed in the Cabinet paper and are specifically set out in one of the Schedules for the Contract between SMBC and the Regional Adoption Agency.

13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

- 13.1 Timely and well-planned adoption improves the life chances of vulnerable and young people.

14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

- 14.1 There are no relevant property or land matters.

15 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 15.1 The Council will continue to have overall responsibility and accountability for adoption, and any future Ofsted inspection will be of the individual

local authorities/Trust, and not of the RAA. For this reason, it is important that the Scrutiny functions are regular, clear and robust.

15.2 This paper to the Scrutiny Committee is an interim report to ensure regularity in reporting. The first half-year performance report will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee at its first meeting in the new calendar year and this will enable a full and robust discussion about performance with the Adoption@Heart managers.

16 BACKGROUND PAPERS

15.1 None

17 APPENDICES:

16.1 Appendix 1: 12th December 2018 Cabinet report: Regional Adoption Agency


16.2 Appendix 2: 7th January 2019 Scrutiny Committee report: Regional Adoption Agency



Lesley Hagger
Executive Director of Children's Services

REPORT TO CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY BOARD

11th November 2019

Subject:	Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
Cabinet Portfolio:	Lead Member for Best Start in Life, Councillor Joyce Underhill
Director:	Executive Director of Children's Services, Lesley Hagger
Contribution towards Vision 2030:	
Contact Officer(s):	Lesley Hagger Lesley_hagger@sandwell.gov.uk 0121 569 8338

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That:

1. The Scrutiny Committee considers the report and notes the work of the ACEs Co-ordinators.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the Scrutiny Committee with information about the agenda for addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).
- 1.2 To assure the Scrutiny Committee that the Council is contributing to the multi-agency plan to address ACEs in Sandwell, which is monitored by Sandwell's Health and Wellbeing Board.

2 IMPLICATIONS FOR VISION 2030

- 2.1 A multi-agency workforce that can provide early identification of, and take action to address, ACEs in children and adults can contribute to all of the Vision 2030 Ambitions relevant to people and place.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are stressful or traumatic experiences that can have a huge impact on children and young people throughout their lives. The ten widely recognised ACEs, as identified in a US study from the 1990s, are:

1. Abuse: physical, sexual and verbal
2. Neglect: emotional and physical
3. Growing up in a household where:
 - there are adults with alcohol and drug use problems
 - there are adults with mental health problems
 - there is domestic violence
 - there are adults who have spent time in prison
 - parents have separated.

3.2 As well as these 10 ACEs there are a range of other types of childhood adversity that can have similar negative long-term effects. These include bereavement, bullying, poverty and community adversities such as living in a deprived area and neighbourhood violence.

3.3 Childhood adversity can create harmful levels of stress which impact healthy brain development. This can result in long-term effects on learning, behaviour and health. Evidence from ACEs surveys in the US, UK and elsewhere demonstrates that ACEs can exert a significant influence throughout people's life. ACEs have been found to be associated with a range of poorer health and social outcomes in adulthood and that these risks increase as the number of ACEs increase.

3.4 Research has found that people who reported experiencing four or more ACEs are:

- 4x more likely to be a high-risk drinker
- 16x more likely to have used crack cocaine or heroin
- 6x increased risk of never or rarely feeling optimistic

- 3x increased risk of heart disease, respiratory disease and type 2 diabetes
- 15x more likely to have committed violence
- 14x more likely to have been victim of violence in the last 12 months
- 20x more likely to have been in prison at any point in their life

Consideration of ACEs is therefore crucial to thinking about how to improve the lives of children and young people, to support better transitions into adulthood, and achieve good outcomes for all adults. Addressing ACEs is about better supporting adults who have been through adversity and trauma as well as positive interventions in childhood.

- 3.5 In Sandwell, the Health and Wellbeing Board has recognised the importance of understanding the impact of ACEs on our communities and has agreed an Action Plan to improve the understanding, identification and support available to those at risk of, or experiencing the impact of ACEs. The Action Plan is attached at Appendix A. A multi-agency Steering Group was established as a ‘task and finish’ place to develop and implement the Action Plan. The Steering Group is chaired by the Executive Director of Children’s Services for Sandwell Council, and serviced by colleagues from Public Health. The Steering Group reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Action Plan is also incorporated into the work of Safer Sandwell, through the Prevention of Violence and Exploitation (PoVE) sub-group.
- 3.6 Sandwell’s partnership has benefited from the introduction of two ACEs Co-ordinators, funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner and hosted by Barnardo’s, working across Sandwell and Dudley. The co-ordinators will be attending the Scrutiny Committee meeting to describe their current work and future plans. Their work is also supported by the West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit and Public Health England.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The Action Plan seeks to address 3 priorities:
- Sandwell has a good understanding of the distribution of ACEs across the borough; professional curiosity is used in a systematic way to identify those at risk and their support needs. (Priority A)
 - People can access support and advice from a range of trauma informed interventions and services. (Priority B)

- Professionals are ACE aware, and trauma informed, communities across Sandwell have a better understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences and its impacts. (Priority C)

4.2 The Action Plan has progressed well, with the primary focus being to develop the awareness and understanding of ACEs across all agencies to improve the support provided to children and adults. The training offer is:

- a) an e-learning tool made available to all agencies to become ACEs Aware;
- b) a face-to-face training session to enable all agencies to become Trauma-Informed;
- c) a Trusted Adult training programme (3 days) in schools and made available to other agencies.

4.3 Additionally, the Teamworx programme, which is offered to pupils in Years 5 and 6 who are identified by their schools as experiencing ACEs, has been evaluated and demonstrates considerable impact. A Business Case is being developed to sustain the programme beyond this academic year.

4.4 The next steps are to find ways to evaluate the impact of the training, develop ongoing resources that agencies can use when working with children and adults, and to review and make recommendations for policy review across agencies to address the negative impact of ACEs.

5 **CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)**

5.1 Consultation and engagement took place with children and young people in October 2019 and a report is being prepared by the ACEs Co-ordinators.

5.2 Consultation has taken place with all agencies regarding the content of the Trauma-Informed training.

6 **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

6.1 The options to either ignore ACEs, or to invest heavily in interventions prior to developing understanding and knowledge across agencies, have been discounted in favour of a measured and sustainable approach.

7 **STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 Members of the Steering Group have given their time to participate in moving the ACEs agenda forward. Recent staff changes in Public Health have meant that progress against the Action Plan has slowed but it is hoped that this could be resolved via the ACEs Co-ordinators.

8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 Governance is via Safer Sandwell and ultimately the Health and Wellbeing Board.

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

9.1 ACEs can be experienced by all individuals; the impact of ACEs can make those individuals vulnerable to poor life outcomes.

10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

10.1 None.

11 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

11.1 Vulnerable children, young people and adults can be more likely to be victims of crime and potentially perpetrators of crime.

12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

12.1 The Action Plan has a definite end-date, however, there may be further activities that are developed through the ACEs Co-ordinator posts. Addressing policy changes will enable the understanding of ACEs to be sustained.

13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

13.1 People who experience ACEs are at risk of poor health and wellbeing outcomes.

14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

14.1 None.

15 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

15.1 There can be no doubt that ACEs are experienced by many Sandwell residents. Understanding ACEs, their potential impact on people's lives, and how to best to provide support is the first step in enabling people who have experienced ACEs to become better understood, more self-reliant and resilient, and achieve improved life outcomes. This is an important agenda for Sandwell Council to address, with its partners, as part of the

Vision 2030 ambitions to ensure that Sandwell residents can have improved life chances.

16 BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 None

17 APPENDICES:

17.1 Action Plan (Version 7)

Director Name: Lesley Hagger

Director Title: Executive Director of Children's Services

Adverse Childhood Experiences

Action Plan

Appendix A

Context

The aim of this action plan is to develop an ACE Informed approach across Sandwell that provides inter-generational support for parents, families and children to reduce the potential negative impacts for children and young people in later life.

This plan focusses upon achieving the following priorities over the next 18 months: -

- Sandwell has a good understanding of the distribution of ACEs across the borough; professional curiosity is used in a systematic way to identify those at risk and their support needs. (Priority A)
- People can access support and advice from a range of trauma informed interventions and services. (Priority B)
- Professionals are ACE aware, and trauma informed, communities across Sandwell have a better understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences and its impacts. (Priority C)

Governance				
G1	Reconvene ACEs Steering group	Review current membership	March 2019	Lesley Hagger Nick Laws
		Review current Terms of reference and Project initiation document (PID)	March 2019	Nick Laws
		Publish dates for future meetings	March 2019	Nick Laws
G2	Ensure strategic fit between ACEs action plan and other key borough wide strategies	Discussions to take place with Children's Trust, Child Exploitation Board and GEM to identify areas for collaboration	May 2019	Lesley Hagger
G3	Produce and agree an ACEs Action Plan for the borough	First draft produced	Feb 2019	Nick Laws
		Action Plan agreed by Steering Group	March 2019	Nick Laws
		Actions incorporated into Safer Sandwell Plan and	Sept 2019	Tessa Mitchell Nick Laws
		Progress updates presented to Health & Wellbeing Board	By request	Lesley Hagger
G4	Develop an evaluation framework to measure the overall effectiveness of a borough wide strategy. <i>We will develop an evaluation framework which enables us to ascertain the effectiveness of our strategy for tackling ACEs</i>	Produce a Logic model for the overarching ACEs Strategy	July 2019	Nick Laws Joht Chandan Steven Tedcastle
G5	Secure the additional support of ACE Coordinators <i>Work with the Violence Prevention Alliance & Barnardos to recruit two ACE coordinators to work across Sandwell and Dudley.</i>	ACEs coordinators appointed	Dec 2018	N Laws Emily Phelps Rachel DeKam
		Work plans agreed by the Violence Prevention Alliance	Feb 2019	Rachel DeKam

Priority A	Sandwell has a good understanding of the distribution of ACEs across the borough; professional curiosity is used in a systematic way to identify those at risk and their support needs.			
REF	Action	Tasks	Timescale	Leads
A1	Develop an evidence base that enables a better understanding of the potential prevalence and impact of ACES across Sandwell.	Use readily available statistical information from a range of data sources to produce an initial draft profile for Sandwell detailing:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevalence of the main ACEs • Outcomes resulting from ACES 	May 2019	Nick Laws Joht Chandan Amarjit Ballagan Rebecca Flowers Craig Rollinson Denis Lenihan
		Use feedback from the ACEs steering Group to improve the profile and publish amended version.	July 2019	
		Publish an annual briefing which uses the ACEs profiles to help improve understanding and quantify the impact of ACEs across Sandwell	March 2020	
A2	Develop an approach for identifying people in need of support using professional curiosity and a trauma informed approach	Create a Task & Finish group to undertake this action	March 2019	Nick Laws ACE Coordinators Louise Wright Steven Tedcastle Kate Griffiths Karmah Boothe Liz Stevenson Mel Barnet
		Explore and review the range of approaches that are used in other authorities to identify exposure to ACEs (e.g. REACH, Routine Enquiry in Adverse Childhood Experiences)	June 2019	
		Identify the range of approaches used by organisations and agencies across the borough to identifying exposure to ACES	July 2019	
		Produce & publish a guide / tool kit which assists organisations and services to identify ACEs in a safe and effective manner	Dec 2019	

Priority B	People can access support and advice from a range of trauma informed interventions and services.			
REF	Action	Tasks	timescale	Leads
B1	Ensure that key services and interventions that support people are Trauma Informed	Identify and understand strategic proposals and initiatives currently in place or that are being developed across the system that include becoming Trauma Informed	June 2019	Nick Laws Lesley Hagger ACE Coordinators
		Create a Task & Finish group to undertake this action (agree key tasks and milestone dates)	June 2019	Nick Laws ACE Coordinators Peter Forth Kate Griffiths Jon Grant Mark Davies Karmah Boothe
		Identify key services and programmes that may benefit from an ACE / Trauma Informed approach.	July 2019	
		Explore the range of Trauma Informed models that exist nationally and locally.	Aug 2019	
		Develop a toolkit which supports agencies and organisations to become 'Trauma Informed' identifying key competencies and capabilities	Dec 2019	
		Create a short development session that supports organisations to become Trauma Informed.	Nov 2019	
		Launch Trauma informed programme.	Dec 2019	

B2	Ensure that key services, initiatives, interventions and programmes have been evaluated	Produce Logic models for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A typical programme or package of support • A typical individual Intervention 	March 2019	Nick Laws Joht Chandan Peter Forth Mark Davies Jon Grant Steven Tedcastle Karmah Boothe
		Identify national examples of best practice for evaluating services and interventions	Aug 2019	
		Develop a range of evaluation frameworks and models and consult with service providers to determine usefulness and practicality	Dec 2019	
		Develop and launch a range of evaluation tool kits for use locally	Dec 2019	

		Support key services and interventions to complete evaluation	Jan 2020	
B3	Improve awareness of and access to services and interventions that support the people who have experienced ACEs	Identify and map primary secondary and tertiary Services that support the ACEs agenda	March 2019	Nick Laws ACE Coordinators Steering Group
		Identify potential gaps in current service provision and take actions to address where possible	Jan 2020	
B4	Ensure key policies & strategies support the prevention of ACEs and mitigation of negative impacts arising from ACEs	Identify key Policies & strategies that would benefit from review	May 2019	Nick Laws Lesley Hagger
		Review existing policies & consider whether/how they either minimise or mitigate ACEs.	Oct 2019	
		Produce report about outcomes of policy/strategy review for use by partner agencies to amend their own policies/strategies to mitigate the negative impact of ACEs	Nov 2019	

B5	Investigate the potential opportunities that commissioning of future services may offer	Investigate how Social Value and the commissioning of future services could be utilised to support the ACEs agenda.	Jan 2020	Nick Laws Peter Forth
B6	Develop a single point of access for ACE related resources and information. <i>There is currently no source of ACEs resources and information available for interested parties in Sandwell. The development of the web page will assist in coordinating activities and understanding.</i>	Develop and launch a web page specifically aimed at providing a focal point for all things ACE related.	Oct 2019	Nick Laws

Priority C	Professionals are ACE aware, and trauma informed, communities across Sandwell have a better understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences and its impacts.				
REF	Action	Tasks	timescale	Leads	
C1	Develop a community specific communications and marketing plan to improve the community's awareness of ACEs.	Form Communications & Marketing Task & finish Group to oversee this action	Oct 2019	Nick Laws Mark Davies Jon Grant Jon Hewit Kate Griffiths Denise Hooper	
		Produce a draft Communications & Marketing Plan for the ACES steering Group to discuss and approve	Nov 2019		
		Ensure key milestones from the Communications & Marketing Plan are included within this plan	Dec 2019		
C2	Develop an ACEs Champions network	Investigate and develop the concept of an ACE Champions network and present proposals to the Steering Group for approval	Aug 2019	Nick Laws ACE Coordinators Alaine Shaw Carol Singleton	
		Ensure agreed milestones are included within this plan	Oct 2019		
C3	Develop a ACE / trauma-informed workforce	Develop and launch a suite of awareness and training programmes for front line service providers to use (ACE Aware -Trauma informed)	Oct 2019	Nick Laws ACE Coordinators Holly Bramley Louise Judge Helen Tyson	
		Develop a elected member awareness session on ACES	Nov 2019		Nick Laws
		Develop an ACE Awareness module and integrate into existing mandatory safeguarding training.	Nov 2019		Nick Laws Deb Ward Holly Bramley Children's Trust
		Investigate the need for a trauma Informed competency framework and report findings to the ACEs Steering Group	Dec 2019		ACE Coordinators