

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission February 27th 2023 Item 6 - Cabinet Q & A	Item No 6
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Outline

Cabinet members who have responsibility for children and young people's services are invited to the Commission annually, to enable members to scrutinise services within their portfolio. The Commission may identify up to three service or policy areas on which to focus its questioning which must be notified to the Cabinet member 6 weeks in advance of the meeting. The Cabinet member is required to give a verbal response at the meeting.

For this session, the Commission requested that the Cabinet member:

1. Update the Commission on future plans for Children's Centres?

- Setting out prospective key decisions (by Cabinet) and timescales for future proposals;
- How proposals for the development of Family Hubs (including additional funding) relate to future re-configuration of children's centres?

2. Outline support available to parents of children with SEND, in relation to:

- Role of the Parent Carer Forum and plans to restart this?
- Operation of SENDiags, the nature of support offered and accessibility of this service;
- How parents of children with SEND are made aware of their rights in relation to EHR legislation;
- Advice, information and support provided to parents in the *choice of educational placements* for their children;
- What advocacy or independent representation is available to parents e.g. where there is dispute or challenge in relation to assessments / or decisions of their child with SEND.

3. Update the Commission on service demand and current waiting times for Speech & Language Therapy and Educational Psychology to support children with SEND?

- To outline the plan and or priorities among the strategic partnership (health, education, social care) to help reduce waiting times to maintain service accessibility.

Attending

- Cllr Caroline Woodley