

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
27 July 2021

Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse

Report of the Head of Legal and Governance

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To review progress in fulfilling the recommendations from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse and implementing the associated action plan.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to review progress in completion of the action plan arising from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

3 Background information

- 3.1 The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) was established in 2015 to consider the growing evidence of historical institutional failures to protect children from child sexual abuse, and to make recommendations to ensure the best possible protection for children in the future.
- 3.2 The Inquiry included looking into historical failures to protect children in the care of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Councils. Findings from this aspect of the Inquiry were published in July 2019 and there were two specific recommendations to the Council.
- 3.3 This Committee considered the Council's response to these findings and recommendations and the development of an associated action plan in September 2019, speaking to the Leader of the Council and the then Corporate Director for Children and Adults. The action plan was subsequently approved by Executive Board in November 2019.
- 3.4 In September 2020 this Committee reviewed progress in fulfilling the recommendations arising from IICSA and the associated action plan. While recognising the progress made, the Committee noted that a number of actions still needed to be completed and heard from the Corporate Director for People that these outstanding actions would be integrated into the overall improvement plan for the Service. One of the areas of learning from the Inquiry has been that these issues relate to everything that Children's Services does and therefore work needs to be embedded throughout the Service rather than standalone as a separate piece of work. While accepting this, in terms of scrutiny the Committee decided to schedule a further review specifically of the implementation of the outstanding actions from the action plan.

- 3.5 A paper reporting on progress and completion of the action plan is attached as an appendix to this report and the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People and Corporate Director for People will be attending the meeting to answer questions about this.
- 3.6 The Committee is asked to consider whether it is satisfied that the Council has done what it said it will do in response to the findings from IICSA and whether lessons learnt have been incorporated into practice so that, at this time, there is no need for further specific scrutiny of these issues.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 Report on the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse from Corporate Director for People and Lead Officer

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

- 5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

- 6.1 Reports to, and minutes of meetings of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee held on 26 September 2019 and 24 September 2020.
- 6.2 Report to, and minutes of the meeting of Executive Board on 22 November 2019
- 6.3 Report of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse 'Children in the Care of Nottinghamshire Council's July 2019

7 Wards affected

- 7.1 All

8 Contact information

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