

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
17 MAY 2016
OUT OF AREA PLACEMENTS
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To explore the work taking place in Nottingham to support children in care with out of area placements.

2 Action required

The Committee is asked to:

- 2.1 Consider Nottingham City Council's use of out of area placements for looked after children;
- 2.2 Use the information received at the meeting to scrutinise the use of out of area placements;
- 2.3 Identify any potential areas for further scrutiny for inclusion in the work programme.

3 Background information

- 3.1 Local authorities have a statutory duty to ensure that there is sufficient accommodation to meet the needs of looked after children in their community however, there are many reasons why some looked after children live away from their home authority. Some may need to live out of area to help keep them safe from harm or from dangerous influences closer to home. Others may need specialist care that is not available in all local authority areas, or long-term foster placements that are in very short supply in many areas.
- 3.2 The Committee might want to focus on the following aspects:
- Are there any pre-existing collaborations between agencies and what benefits do they provide?
 - How does the Council monitor or review the quality of care provided out of area and whether progress is made by children and young people in their care?
 - How is information shared with agencies when children and young people move out of area?
 - How does the Council ensure that children and young people placed out of care who are unable to live with their families are not further disadvantaged?

4 List of attached information

4.1 None.

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 None.

7 Wards affected

7.1 Citywide.

8 Contact information

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