

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**13<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

### **TRANSITION SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE LEAVING CARE IN REDDITCH**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Joe Baker, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Regulatory Services.
Portfolio Holder Consulted	No (though Councillor Baker participated in the vote on the Notice of Motion to Council on 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2018 which proposed that this matter should be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee).
Relevant Heads of Service	Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services
Ward(s) Affected	All wards.

#### **1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

This report provides Members with an opportunity to consider a referral that has been received from Council calling for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to undertake a review of transition support for young people leaving care in Redditch. Members are asked to identify their preferred approach to scrutinising the matter in further detail.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is asked to **RESOLVE** to approve one of the following options:

- 1) Subject to developing appropriate terms of reference a Task Group be established to investigate transition support for young people leaving care in Redditch.**
- 2) Subject to developing appropriate terms of reference a Short, Sharp Review be established to investigate transition support for young people leaving care in Redditch.**
- 3) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee should review the subject of transition support for young people leaving care in Redditch at consecutive Committee meetings.**
- 4) An alternative approach to scrutiny, to be identified and clearly specified during the meeting, be taken in relation to this matter.**

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### **3. KEY ISSUES**

#### **Background**

- 3.1 At the meeting of the Council held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018 Members considered a Notice of Motion that had been submitted proposing action that could be taken by the Council to provide transition support for young people leaving care in Redditch.
- 3.2 During the Council meeting an amendment was proposed to the Motion which called for the matter to be investigated further through the Overview and Scrutiny process. This amendment was endorsed by every Member present at the meeting (further information about the debate regarding this matter can be found at Appendix 1 to this report).

#### **Financial Implications**

- 3.3 There are no direct financial implications for the Council.

#### **Legal Implications**

- 3.4 Paragraph 9.2 of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules requires the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider a matter referred by the Council at either the first or second ordinary meeting of the Committee following the referral. This is the first such meeting since the referral was made.
- 3.5 Paragraph 9.5 of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules requires the Committee to respond, as soon as its work programme permits, to requests to review particular areas of Council activity from the Council. However, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee can determine how this matter is scrutinised.

#### **Service / Operational Implications**

- 3.6 The Notice of Motion called for the outcomes of the investigation into transition support for young people leaving care in Redditch to be reported to Council in six months' time. A review of this subject will therefore need to conclude by July 2018.
- 3.7 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to note that as agreed in 2016/17 whilst meetings of the working groups continue to take place there are only sufficient officer resources to facilitate one Task Group or Short Sharp Review at any one time. The Civil Contingencies Short, Sharp Review is scheduled to be completed in March 2018. Therefore there would be capacity after 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 to undertake a Task Group or Short, Sharp Review of this matter.

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### **Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 3.8 The Council highlighted the particular vulnerability of young people leaving care during their debate about the Motion. There was general consensus during the meeting that a scrutiny investigation of this matter would be worthwhile as the findings could help to improve the lives of young care leavers living in the Borough.

### **4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

No specific risks have been identified.

### **5. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Extract from the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

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