

Corporate Parenting Board

26 September 2016

Report of the Director of Children's Services

Annual Advocacy Report 2015-16

Summary

1. The aim of this report is to provide an overview of advocacy statistics and issues raised by children and young people in care, subject to child protection plan or wanting to make a complaint, during 2015-16.

Background

2. The Children's Rights and Advocacy Service (known as Speak Up) promotes children's rights entitlements and provides advocacy for children and young people who are in care, on a child protection plan or wanting to make a complaint against the council, in line with the Local Authority's statutory duties. The service provides issue-based advocacy and only exists for the time it takes to resolve the specific issue. It is a confidential service and is independent from Children's Social Care, in line with the National Standards for the provision of Children's Advocacy Services (2002).

Consultation

3. See Annex A.

Options

4. See Annex A.

Analysis

5. See Annex A.

Council Plan

6. See Annex A.

7. Implications

- **Financial** There are no financial implications to consider.
- **Human Resources (HR)** There are no HR implications to consider.
- **Equalities** There are no issues relating to equalities to consider.
- **Legal** There are no legal implications to consider.
- **Crime and Disorder**) There are no issues relating to crime and disorder.
- **Information Technology (IT)** There are no IT implications.
- **Property** There are no issues relating to property.
- **Other** No other known implications.

Risk Management

8. There are no risks to consider.

Recommendations

9. Members are not being asked to endorse any recommendations but to be briefed on the work of Speak Up.

Contact Details

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Report
Approved



Date 16.09.16

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annexes

Annex A –Annual Advocacy Report, 2015-16