



ST HELENS
BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

23rd September 2020

Report Title:	Apprenticeships for Children We Look After Task and Finish Group Interim Report
Cabinet Portfolio	Developing Young People
Cabinet Member	Councillor Sue Murphy
Exempt Report	No
Reason for Exemption	N/A
Key Decision	No
Public Notice issued	N/A
Wards Affected	All
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Borough priorities Please mark X for any priority supported by this report	Ensure children and young people have a positive start in life	X
	Promote good health, independence and care across our communities	
	Create safe and strong communities for our residents	
	Support a strong, diverse and well-connected local economy	
	Create a green, thriving and vibrant place to be proud of	
	Be a modern, efficient and effective Council	

1. Summary

This reports on the Apprenticeships for Children We Look After Task and Finish Group's report to Cabinet.

2. Recommendations for Decision

Cabinet is recommended to:

- i) Receive the Apprenticeships for Children We Look After Task and Finish Group Interim Report for consideration;
- ii) Provide a response to the recommendations in the Interim Report to be presented to the Children and Young People Services Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 7th December 2020.

3. Background /Reasons for the recommendations

- 3.1 The Children and Young People Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel commissioned a task and finish group to review apprenticeships for children looked after by St Helens Council as part of its work programme for 2019/20. The Task and Finish Group carried out research and held a meeting with officers to develop its conclusions and recommendations as set out in the report. The Task and Finish Group's report was approved for submission to Cabinet by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on 20th July 2020.
- 3.2 Since the report was approved the Council's Scrutiny Committee Structure has been amended, with responsibility for issues within the former Children and Young People Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel's remit now within the remit of the Children and Young People Services Scrutiny Committee. As such, Cabinet's response will go to the Children and Young People Services Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.3 The Council's Constitution provides rules regarding the submission of reports by Overview and Scrutiny to Cabinet and the provision of a response to reports by Cabinet; as set out in Sections 8 and 9 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules contained in Part 4 of the Constitution. In summary, the Constitution requires Overview and Scrutiny to submit reports to Cabinet, with a

response from a member of the Cabinet, nominated by the Leader, and officers to be provided within one month of receiving the report.

- 3.4 The report to the Cabinet meeting on 23rd September 2020 acts as the submission of the report to Cabinet. The response will be considered at the Children and Young People Services Scrutiny Committee meeting on 7th December 2020 where the nominated Cabinet Member and Officers will be requested to present the response.

4 Implications

- 4.1 Legal Implications - The recommendations for Cabinet to consider this report and provide a response adheres to the rules within the Constitution and comply with legislation relating to overview and scrutiny as outlined above.

4.2 Community Impact Assessment (CIA) Implications

- 4.2.1 Social Value - It is noted that the recommendations within the Task Group Report relate to creating and promoting employment opportunities for young people who are looked after by the Council or are care leavers.

- 4.2.2 Sustainability and Environment - It is unlikely that the implementation by Cabinet of any of the recommendations within the Task Group Report will result in impacts on sustainability or the environment.

- 4.2.3 Health and Wellbeing - As employment and career prospects can be seen as a key determinant of health (particularly mental health) then the recommendations within the Task Group Report relate specifically to supporting and promoting the health and wellbeing of children looked after by the Council and care leavers.

- 4.2.4 Equality and Human Rights – Equality and Human Rights implications will have to be considered if Cabinet chooses to accept and implement any of the recommendations within the Task Group Report.

- 4.3 Customers and Resident - Implications on the customer/resident have not been taken into consideration for the purposes of submitting the Task Group Report to Cabinet for consideration. Children the Council looks after or care leavers who are residents may be affected by changes to service provision should any of the recommendations be accepted and implemented.

- 4.4 Asset and Property - It is not expected that the implementation of any of the recommendations within the Task Group Report would have an impact on the Council's asset base or its occupation.

- 4.5 Staffing and Human Resource - Some of the recommendations within the Task Group Report would have workforce implications if accepted. Consultation with Senior HR Officers will need to take place if the relevant Task Group recommendations are accepted and implemented by Cabinet.

- 4.6 Risks - No risks have been identified within the Task Group Report. Consideration of risks should be carried out as part of Cabinet's consideration of the recommendations within the Task Group Report to inform the decision to accept/support the recommendations or not.

- 4.7 Finance - Some of the recommendations within the Task Group Report will have financial implications if they are accepted and implemented by Cabinet. These implications will need to be considered by Cabinet when deciding whether to accept/support the recommendations or not.
- 4.8 Policy Framework Implications - The Task Group Report includes some recommendations related to new or existing policies and strategies. If the recommendations are accepted/supported then Cabinet and Officers will be required to develop new policies/strategies or update existing ones.

5 Background papers

Overview and Scrutiny Commission Agenda and Minutes of meeting held on 20th July 2020

6 Appendices

Apprenticeships for Children We Look After Task and Finish Group Interim Report