

12 November 2020

Cllr Jacquie Russell
**Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and Chairman of the
Corporate Parenting Panel**

Dear Jacquie,

**Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Committee – Children
First Improvement Programme.**

At the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Committee meeting on 5 November 2020 members considered the above item. As at each meeting, the Committee was considering the progress made on the improvement journey and whether the evidence provided demonstrated sufficient progress and assurance that outcomes are improving for our children and young people.

The Committee made a series of recommendations for your consideration and response:

1. Is satisfied that the evidence provided demonstrates progress is being made on the improvement journey and improving outcomes for children and young people.
2. Highlights the importance of partnership working to ensure the best outcomes for children and families and requests that this continues to be a key area of focus and recognised area of risk.
3. Requests further data and information on the number of referrals, children under child protection plans and coming into care since the start of the pandemic and the impact this is having on the service is included in the update report presented at the 7 January Committee meeting.
4. Would welcome a view from the Corporate Parenting Panel on the quality of health support for children looked after.
5. Supports that co-production work with children and young people is carried out as part of the transformation agenda to ensure the voice of the child is at the centre of the development of the service.
6. Requests that updates on staff engagement work are included in future update reports to the Committee

The Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Committee is next meeting on Thursday 7 January and therefore I would be very grateful if you could provide any written response you wish to make to this letter by Friday 18 December 2020 to Katherine.delamora@westsussex.gov.uk, so that it can be considered by the Committee at that meeting.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Stephen Hillier
Chairman of the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Committee

CC Vince Clark, Children First Transformation Director