

Task and Finish Group – Streams of Funding to Support Children in Care and Care Leavers

Attendance: Councillors Maureen Hunt, Carole da Costa, Christine Bateson and Amy Tisi, Andy Carswell, Kevin McDaniel, Lin Ferguson and James Norris.

Apologies: Councillor John Story

Actions

- James Norris to investigate the financial implications of the Council Tax exemption being extended to those up to the age of 25.
- Timescales for future meetings/discussions to be determined by Lin Ferguson and Kevin McDaniel.

Main points:

- 1) Better understanding of numbers of children in care or care leavers; and their personal circumstances, such as if they were in debt or had no surviving family members
- 2) Improved understanding of current funding provision and how this compares to other Local Authorities
- 3) Virtual College has been implemented and involved in discussions on Council's economic development
- 4) Collaboration with Ways2Work network to improve employment and training opportunities
- 5) Council Tax exemption in place for care leavers up to the age of 21. Members asked if this could be extended
- 6) Discussion on possible work experience placements/opportunities within the Council

The meeting began at 2pm and finished at 3pm.