

Branch Committee- 4th November 2013

Wellbeing, Care & Learning

Children's Side

The four reviews which were outlined at last Branch Committee are on-going. These were –

Safeguarding

School Improvement Service

Commissioning and Procurement

Business Management

Staff engagement will begin within some of these areas in the next few weeks.

Children's Residential Care Staff

Back pay issues still on-going, there have been various options outlined to staff which have not been acceptable. The latest letter from management was issued w/c 14th October.

We have asked that each home elect a member to contact us directly with the views of the staff, we will then meet with staff to discuss. Legal advice is also being sought regarding the issue.

Cheviot View

The next meeting of the Options Feasibility Group is scheduled for 4th November there should be more detail on the proposals regarding Thomas Bewick School at this point.

Travel Issues

Social Workers who were recently transferred to the Civic Centre have expressed concerns regarding the parking site etc. they have been allocated. We are currently having further discussion to look at any alternative options etc.

Schools

Outlined last Branch Committee that there had been a delay on the Academy Order for Thomas Walling – this has now come through and a meeting is

scheduled for staff with HR and Trade Unions on 21st November to discuss TUPE arrangements. We have already met with staff when this was first under discussion and we will be attending on 21st.

Children's Services DJC

This was held on 16th October. A lot of input from Teaching Unions regarding Strike Action on 17th October, Teaching Pay Policy and Appraisal/Performance.

Bump Redundancies were discussed for Teaching and Support Staff. Work has been on-going on this with HR.

Facility Time in schools and the DfE Consultation were discussed with a positive response from Local Authority to the benefit of facility time.

Mick McCracken gave an update on Residential Care Back Pay – see previous.

Unison raised the availability of vaccination for flu for Support staff. A presentation had been given within Adults DJC by Dr Dawn Scott – Acting Director of Public Health.

Children's Services Shop Stewards Meeting

This was held on 22nd October, minutes will be going out soon and the next meeting is due 19th November.

Lynda Hardie