



CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the meeting of the CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE held on WEDNESDAY JUNE 18 2008 at 4.00pm in the Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

PRESENT: Councillor Lisa Rajan (chair).
Councillors Ade Lasaki, Caroline Pidgeon, Lewis Robinson, Althea Smith and Veronica Ward (vice-chair).

ALSO PRESENT: Chris Saunders (head of children looked after service), Rory Patterson (assistant director of specialist children's and safeguarding), Sarah Feasey (legal officer), Shola Yemi (designated nurse, children in care), Everton Roberts (constitutional officer) and Virginia Wynn-Jones (constitutional officer).

1. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

The membership set out in the summons was noted.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor John Friary.

3. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

Those members listed as being present were confirmed as the voting members for the meeting.

4. NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS AS URGENT

There were no late items.

5. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no disclosures of interests or dispensations.

RECORDING OF MEMBERS' VOTES

Committees and community councils procedure rule 1.8 (4) allows a member to record her/his vote in respect of any motions and amendments. Such requests are detailed in the following minutes. Should a member's vote be recorded in respect to an amendment, a copy of the amendment may be found in the minute file and is available for public inspection.

The committee considered the items set out on the agenda, a copy of which has been incorporated in the minute file. Each of the following paragraphs relates to the item bearing the same number on the agenda.

6. MINUTES (see pages 1-4)

RESOLVED: That the open minutes of the meeting held on March 26 2008 be agreed as the correct record and signed by the chair.

7. CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE – WORKPLAN 2008-09 (see pages 5-8)

The chair decided that this item should be discussed after items 8 to 12.

The assistant director of children's specialist services and safeguarding introduced the report. Members discussed the workplan items.

RESOLVED: 1. That the work of the corporate parenting committee in 2007-08 be noted.

2. That the workplan for the 2008-09 municipal year be as follows:

September 4 2008:

Joint Area Review

GCSE examination results

Care matters implementation plan and review

Children looked after (CLA) performance indicators 2007-08 and 2008-09 Quarter 1

November 19 2008:

Report on adoption and fostering services

Update on statistics on university entrance for CLA

Educational attainment in Southwark (including 'virtual head teacher' programme)

CLA performance indicators 2008-09 Quarter 2

February 3 2009:

Report on teenage and aftercare service

Report on alternatives to care

Annual report on delivery of the participation strategy and action plan

CLA performance indicators 2008-09 Quarter 3

April 2 2009:

Presentation on apprenticeship scheme

Report on services for immigrants and unaccompanied minors

8. APPOINTMENT OF NON-VOTING, CO-OPTED MEMBERS AND INVITATIONS TO ATTEND MEETINGS (see pages 9-10)

The assistant director of children's specialist services and safeguarding introduced the report. Members asked questions.

RESOLVED: 1. That the committee continue with two non-voting co-opted members for 2008-09.

2. That Southwark Primary Care Trust and Young Southwark be invited to appoint non-voting co-opted members to the Corporate Parenting Committee for the 2008-09 year.
3. That the committee continues to meet twice yearly with Speakerbox.

9. TRENDS IN CARE POPULATION (see pages 11-16)

The assistant director of children's specialist services and safeguarding introduced the report. Members asked questions.

- RESOLVED:**
1. That the report on trends in care population be noted.
 2. That the action being taken to reduce the overall numbers of children in Southwark's care be endorsed.
 3. That the issue identified in respect of adoptive placements for black African children (paragraph 13 of the report) be reported back to the Committee following officer investigation.

10. HEALTH OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN, SUBSTANCE USE AND TEENAGE PREGNANCY (see pages 17-38)

The head of children looked after services introduced the report. Members asked questions.

- RESOLVED:**
1. That the strategies to address specific health needs of looked after children be noted.
 2. That Southwark's progress in developing targeted services for looked after children be noted.
 3. That it be noted that the integrated services to promote the health needs of looked after children was recognised by the Joint Area Review inspectors as an example of a high quality service developed jointly between the PCT and specialist services.

11. THE CHILD TRUST FUND UPDATE (see pages 39-41)

The assistant director of specialist children's services and safeguarding introduced the report. Members asked questions.

- RESOLVED:** That the executive member for children's services be recommended to agree an annual £100 top-up payment to the Child Trust Fund for all CLA in Southwark.

12. SPEAKERBOX UPDATE (see pages 42-48)

The head of children looked after services introduced the report. Members asked questions.

RESOLVED: That the progress of the Speakerbox action plan be noted.

The meeting ended at 5.45pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: