



## **CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE**

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the meeting of the CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE held on TUESDAY FEBRUARY 3 2009 at 2.00pm in the Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

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**PRESENT:** Councillor Veronica Ward (vice-chair in the chair).  
Councillors Adedokun Lasaki and Althea Smith.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Chris Saunders (head of children looked after service), Rory Patterson (assistant director of specialist children's and safeguarding), Jill Easty (legal officer), Paul Angeli (business manager for assessment & safeguarding support), Sally Masson (scrutiny officer) and Richard Blakeley (constitutional officer).

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lisa Rajan (chair), Abdul Mohammed, Lewis Robinson, John Friary and Caroline Pidgeon.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Veronica Ward (vice-chair).

### **2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS**

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

### **3. MEMBERSHIP**

Barbara Hills was noted as the replacement co-opted member from Southwark Primary Care Trust.

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

There were no urgent 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 to 3)

**RESOLVED:** The open minutes of the meeting held on November 19 2008 were agreed as the correct record.

**7. CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER: PERFORMANCE REPORT** (see pages 4 to 17)

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

**RESOLVED:** That the children looked after performance report be noted.

**8. REDUCING THE NEED FOR CHILDREN TO ENTER CARE** (see pages 18 to 30)

The business manager for assessment & safeguarding support introduced the report. Members asked questions.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the report on the draft strategy for reducing the need for children to enter care be noted.
2. That an annual update on the strategy for reducing the need for children to enter care be circulated to committee members.

**9. PARTICIPATION ACTION PLAN** (see pages 31 to 48)

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

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the strategy (Appendix 1) to promote participation of looked after children in the London Borough of Southwark be noted.
2. That the participation action plan for 2009/10 (Appendix 2) be noted.

**10. SOUTHWARK JOINT AREA REVIEW OUTCOMES FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN** (see pages 49 to 88)

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

- RESOLVED:**
1. That the key findings and actions for looked after children arising from the Southwark Joint Area Review (JAR) inspection be noted.
  2. That the children looked after service be congratulated for its good performance in the Joint Area Review.
  3. That the action plan following the Southwark Joint Area Review be circulated around the committee.
  4. That the “important weaknesses” identified of long term stability of placements, absence of written commissioning strategy and underdeveloped partnership with the Youth Offending Team be included in the committee’s workplan for future consideration.

**11. ADOLESCENT AND AFTERCARE SERVICE** (see pages 89 to 94)

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

- RESOLVED:**
1. That the establishment of Adolescent and Aftercare Service for looked after children and care leavers aged 13 to 21 be noted.
  2. That the progress in numbers of care leavers attending university be noted.
  3. That the service delivery and performance to ensure looked after children and care leavers are in education, employment or training be noted.

**12. CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2009-10** (see pages 95 to 96)

There were no further items for the committee workplan.

The meeting ended at 3.50pm.

**CHAIR:**

**DATED:**