



## Corporate Parenting Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Corporate Parenting Committee held on Thursday November 26 2009 at 1.00 pm at Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

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**PRESENT:** Councillor Lisa Rajan (Chair)  
Councillor Veronica Ward  
Councillor Althea Smith

**OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT:** None.

**OFFICER SUPPORT:** Rory Patterson (assistant director of specialist services & safeguarding), Chris Saunders (head of children looked after service), Eleanor Parkin (children services), Moira Laydon (advisory team children looked after), Anne-Marie Buchanan (educational psychologist), Bola Roberts and Paula Thornton (constitutional team)

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lewis Robinson, Barrie Hargrove, Barbara Hills and Sarah Feasey.

### 2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

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

### 3. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were no urgent items.

### 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no disclosures of interests or dispensations.

**5. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on September 24 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed by the chair.

**6. REPORT OF THE SOUTHWARK ADOPTION AND FOSTERING SERVICE**

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the annual report provided for corporate parenting committee on the Adoption and Fostering Services April 1 2008 – March 31 2009 be noted.

**7. CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER: PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT**

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the report be noted and the measures adopted to address performance in relation to long-term stability be endorsed.

**8. CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER - 2008/09 ACADEMIC YEAR GCSE RESULTS**

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the 2009 GCSE results for Southwark looked-after children be noted.
2. That the celebration and award ceremony (class of 2009) held on Thursday October 29 2009 be noted. The committee recorded their thanks to officers involved in this event for their hard work and effort contributing to the success of the evening.

**9. CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE - WORKPLAN 2009-10**

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the following changes be made to the committee's work plan for 2009/10:

**February 11 2010**

- Apprenticeship report from Head of Organisational Development.
- Children Missing from Care.
- Children Looked After performance report – latest figures.
- Report on best practice from other authorities and how best corporate parenting committee can support children and young peoples needs.
- Feedback/update from Speakerbox event including issue of name change of

- committee.
- The Pledge.
- “Tell it as it was”.

### **March 25 2010**

- Children Looked After Performance Indicators 2009-10 Quarter 4
- Partnerships Strategy and Action Plan to support children and care leavers accessing employment, education and training - invites to key figures in apprenticeship schemes including 14-19, Head of Southwark Works and Connexions to hear views.

### **10. ADOLESCENT AND AFTERCARE SERVICE, COACHING SCHEME FOR CARE LEAVERS, EMPLOYMENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING CARE LEAVERS**

The success of the mentoring and coaching scheme was noted and the evening organised for participants of the scheme. It was requested that members of corporate parenting committee be invited to the next evening to be organised (where children looked after meet with their matched mentor). It was noted that Councillor Rajan would write to all councillors to make them aware of the scheme in operation.

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the revised and ongoing remit of the Adolescent and Aftercare Service for Looked After Children and Care Leavers aged 13-21 be noted.
2. That a report relating to the coaching scheme being delivered for care leavers be received.
3. That a report concerning support for care leavers in achieving education, employment and training opportunities be received.
4. That a report is presented to the next meeting in February 2010 by the head of organisational development on the current apprenticeship scheme, how to secure apprenticeships and the approaches that might yield the best results for children in care/care leavers.

(Note on Apprenticeship report. There was a wide ranging discussion on related issues to this item including identifying who leads on large building contracts to ensure that the children looked after could be included as a target group)

The meeting closed at 3.30pm

**CHAIR:**

**DATED:**