

Education, Children's Services and Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Tuesday 10 July 2012

7.00 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G01C - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Membership

Councillor David Hubber (Chair)
Councillor the Right Revd Emmanuel
Oyewole (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Columba Blango
Councillor Sunil Chopra
Councillor Rowenna Davis
Councillor Rosie Shimell
Councillor Cleo Soanes
Reverend Nicholas Elder
Colin Elliott
Leticia Ojeda
Nick Tildesley

Reserves

Councillor James Barber
Councillor Chris Brown
Councillor Poddy Clark
Councillor Darren Merrill
Councillor Althea Smith

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Contact Julie Timbrell on 020 7525 0514 or email: julie.timbrell@southwark.gov.uk

Members of the committee are summoned to attend this meeting

Eleanor Kelly

Acting Chief Executive

Date: 2 July 2012



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Ground Floor Meeting Room G01C - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

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	To note the Minutes of the open section of the Education and Children's Services scrutiny sub committee meeting held on 23 April 2012.	
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Update on the visioning exercise for the Adult Learning Service, from Head of Policy, Corporate Strategy.

Report of the workshops held prior to 16 January and the last workshop held on 18 June from Adrian Whittle Head of Culture Libraries Learning and Leisure.

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PART B - CLOSED BUSINESS

DISCUSSION OF ANY CLOSED ITEMS AS NOTIFIED AT THE START OF THE MEETING AND ACCEPTED BY THE CHAIR AS URGENT.

Date: 2 July 2012



EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee held on Monday 23 April 2012 at 7.00 pm at Ground Floor Meeting Room G01B - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT:

- Councillor David Hubber (Chair)
- Councillor the Right Revd Emmanuel Oyewole
- Councillor Sunil Chopra
- Councillor Adele Morris
- Councillor Rosie Shimell
- Councillor Althea Smith
- Councillor Cleo Soanes
- Reverend Nicholas Elder
- Colin Elliott
- Leticia Ojeda
- Nick Tildesley

**OTHER MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

**OFFICER
& PARTNER
SUPPORT:**

- Colin Gale: Free Healthy School Meals project lead
- Chris Davies, independent chair of Southwark Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB)
- Ann Flynn, SSCB development manager
- Julie Timbrell, Scrutiny project manager
- Ihona Hirving, CVS
- Fern Edwards, CVS
- Duton Alade Odomoso, Adult Education service user

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Sunil Chopra and education representative Colin Elliott.

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

2.1 There was none.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

3.1 There were no disclosures of interests or dispensations.

4. MINUTES

4.1 The chair reported that Councillor Catherine McDonald, cabinet lead for children's services, had contacted him to request corrections to the minutes, but had not specified the changes she would like. The chair reported that he had invited the cabinet lead to submit details for consideration.

4.2 The minutes were agreed as an accurate record, subject to any amendment.

5. REVIEW OF PARENTING SUPPORT - PART 2 : FINALISE REPORT ON SUPPORT FOR PARENTS & CARERS OF DISABLED CHILDREN

5.1 The chair drew members' attention to a written comment made by a parent on the draft report. The parent said that she was very impressed with the report and suggested that an additional recommendation be added; that Southwark make provision for parents of disabled children to find meaningful employment, whilst fulfilling their caring responsibilities. The chair recommended this was included. The report was agreed with this amendment.

RESOLVED

The report was agreed with the additional recommendation that support be given to parents and carers to get back into employment:

Promote provision for parents of disabled children to find meaningful employment, whilst also fulfilling their caring responsibilities. Parents recommended a pilot developed by the London Borough of Wandsworth.

6. SAFEGUARDING - ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTED BY INDEPENDENT CHAIR

6.1 Chris Davies, Independent Chair of Southwark Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) and Ann Flynn, SSCB development manager, introduced the report. The safeguarding chair reported that the council had demonstrated its commitment to safeguarding when it lost the children's safeguarding manager and filled that position in a timely and appropriate way.

6.2 He explained that one of the board's functions is to identify high-level risks in the system. Last year the board identified the NHS as a risk because of a high level of turnover of staff and systems change because of the introduction of the NHS

and Community Care Bill, particularly the local move to clinical commissioning. He reported that early on the board identified this change programme as a significant risk to our safeguarding work, but because of the strong commitment and effective leadership of our health colleagues locally, the board has been reassured that the effectiveness of the council and health colleagues working together on safeguarding is being sustained.

- 6.3 The Independent Chair went on to detail that locally safeguarding in health services are moving to Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, as managers of community services, and to the Business Support Unit and Southwark Clinical Commissioning Committee (SCCC), as GPs assume their new role as clinical leads. He went on to explain that the board has been building relationships with the SCCC and local GPs and had seen a growing commitment and understanding of the importance of safeguarding.
- 6.4 The Independent Chair explained that the board does not carry out direct safeguarding work, but has a significant role in supporting frontline practitioners who work to support and safeguard children and their families. He reported that he was particularly pleased with progress in training and that this was now quality assured.
- 6.5 The last time the Independent Chair had visited the scrutiny committee he spoke about the high volume of safeguarding referrals. He referred to this and explained that the board had focused on this area over the last year to ensure that social workers were not flooded and this has led to improved referrals. He reported that fewer cases which turn out not to need a response are now being referred, and more appropriate alternative help is being put in place for many of these, but the service is not overwhelmed.
- 6.6 A member asked how referrals had been reduced and improved and it was explained that the Common Assessment Framework had been used to encourage service users and practitioners to come together and provide more local support where possible. There had been an emphasis on early support, even before a formal assessment had been made.
- 6.7 The Independent Chair said that the board is now asking all partners to come and account for their work on safeguarding and other partners are asked to participate in challenging and asking questions.
- 6.8 The safeguarding team explained that they have resolved to work more closely with adult safeguarding as this is a time of huge stress and increased safeguarding risk.
- 6.9 He reported that private fostering is reasonably common in Southwark and the board think there is major underreporting of this, as the legislation is not very well understood. The Independent Chair said that there is also the issue of child trafficking, which is hard to quantify, but he said that given the nature of Southwark's population, and the degree of flux, it is likely to be present to some degree.
- 6.10 Child neglect is one of the areas that the board is considering exploring thresholds

for intervention, the Independent Chair explained. Child sexual exploitation and particularly the grooming of young vulnerable girl is an area of particular concern.

- 6.11 The Independent Chair reported that safeguarding training is now on a more secure, planned and assured basis, with the new partnership between the Board and the Council's Organisational Development Service
- 6.12 The safeguarding team explained that there had been a big investment in domestic violence prevention and the team have decided to audit this work and would like to send an early draft to the committee to consider.
- 6.13 The chair of committee thanked the safeguarding team for their presentation and remarked that CVS are reporting on their work supporting families shortly. He asked how integrated CVS is with the safeguarding work. The safeguarding manager responded that she had assisted with CVS training.
- 6.14 A lay member commented that the training programme had been of very high quality and commended the recent training on domestic abuse. He also went on to comment that often practitioners in Early Years are often not highly trained so this is particularly valuable.
- 6.15 A member raised concerns about girl gangs grooming other girls into prostitution. The safeguarding team said that the grooming of girls by other girls had not been identified as a specific risk; however, they have been identifying concerns around the use of rape and sexual abuse to initiate girls into gangs. The team is working to identify particularly vulnerable girls, for example siblings. The approach has been to build resilience so that girls are more able to be assertive, know their rights and so reduce the risk of exploitation. The member responded that she is in contact with a voluntary provider in Peckham doing good work with girls at risk and that she would like the safeguarding team to follow up this contact outside of the meeting.
- 6.16 Members raised concerns about witchcraft and child abuse, in both church and the wider community, commenting that this is a national issue and there was a recent child death. Members pointed out that many churches have good safeguarding procedures, such as CRB checks and training; but there is also a need for officers and ministers to improve practices in faith communities. Officers said that they try to work with families on cultural beliefs and are clear that some things are acceptable in this country and some things are not. Members expressed particular concern for children who may be at risk because they belong to a faith group that believes in spirit possession, and the Independent Chair agreed that these concerns would be pursued and that this would be reflected in the next annual report.
- 6.17 A member asked how acceptable parenting is defined and representation for parents during any hearings. The Independent Chair commented that parenting standards are often not clearly defined and are a matter of judgement; for example there is no set age when a child can babysit but there is a need for a competent carer. He went on to explain that judgements about acceptable behaviour are not left to one person and that the team try to ensure that there is a network of support. For any court hearing there would need to be full representation.

RESOLVED

Officers will contact the community group based in Peckham, to follow up concerns raised about girl gangs grooming other girls into prostitution.

It was recommended that officers do more to address the risk of harm from witchcraft and spirit possession in their child protection and safeguarding work. Members advised that there is a particular need for engagement work with faith group communities and leaders, and that more is done to ensure that those in authority meet certain training standards and have the appropriate checks; e.g. CRB checks.

7. CSV (COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS)

- 7.1 Ihona Hirving and Fern Edwards from CVS introduced their work on the Parent Mentoring Project. They explained that when they presented to the committee six months ago the project was in its infancy. CVS has now received funding for 8 regions to work with families. These are families in need, but not the highest level of need. Ihona explained that they have now trained 141 volunteers nationally. In Southwark 25 volunteers have participated in training and 12 are ready to volunteer.
- 7.2 CVS staff explained that the needs of families are varied and support could be to help families get their children up on time and to school, for example. Sometimes families on the higher end of need could present safeguarding issues. CVS trains volunteers initially and does top up training. Families are monitored for progress, and this is motivating for both families and professionals.
- 7.3 There have been three families matched in Southwark, staff reported. It was explained that sometimes families do disengage if the time is not right, or sometimes the match between volunteer and families does not work. On the whole, CVS reported, the matches have been very positive, for example one family has redecorated their flat that was in disarray.
- 7.4 The chair invited members to ask questions and members asked if volunteers get discouraged if families drop out and what happens to families that disengage. CVS staff responded that this has not been their experience as it is explained to volunteers that often it might not be the right time to work with a particular family. They went on to explain that families that disengage are referred back to social services. Families are kept in constant contact and offered other forms of support; such as parenting support. CVS explained that this is a voluntary, rather than compulsory, initiative.
- 7.5 A member asked if families can self refer and CVS explained that this is not possible at the moment as someone needs to have overall responsibility and the referrals come through the parent partnership. The chair thanked CVS for their presentation and invited them to keep the committee updated.

RESOLVED

CVS were invited to return in a few months time.

8. REVIEW OF UNIVERSAL FREE HEALTHY SCHOOL MEALS : FINALISE REPORT

- 8.1 The chair opened the item by referring to the recent visits to Surrey Square, Albion and John Donne primary schools and the reports circulated. Cllr Althea Smith requested her name be added to the visit to John Donne School. Members commented that the presentation by Surrey Squares on their service had been very impressive.
- 8.2 Members discussed resources and the chair commented that the head of Albion had said that she did not consider resources to be of big concern. Colin Gale, Free Healthy School Meals project lead, commented that Albion has a high level of free school meal take up and promoted 100 % take up of school meals.
- 8.3 A member commented that his school had taken meals in-house and while fresh food is not more expensive there is high staff costs associated with preparation.
- 8.4 Members commented that there are quite a few children with no recourse to public funding and schools have had to do separate fund raising so children do not go hungry; the universal free school healthy meal programme had provided some assistance.
- 8.5 Members praised the questionnaire used at John Donne School.
- 8.6 A member commented that she was still unconvinced about free school meals, and queried whether this programme had led to healthier school meals. The Free Healthy School Meals project lead commented that he is working with governors and school staff to ensure that they are meeting nutritional standards. He explained that all schools needed to meet these, apart from Academies. He went on to explain that he can't visit all 70 schools and colleges to ensure standards are met, but he is promoting this. He reported that three catering providers have met the Food for Life standards, which means they have the appropriate software.
- 8.7 The Free Healthy School Meals project lead went on to explain that the programme is seeking to ensure that kitchens have the physical capacity to provide the increased level of school meals and this often gives the schools more resources; for example one school was provided with a dishwasher which helped with staff costs. He explained that his role is there to ensure standards are good.
- 8.8 A member commented that that the programme needs to go a step further and said that a whole school approach is really important; for example a parent bringing the chef recipes for jollof rice can help with involving parents in the school community. Members agreed that the social education of eating together and using a knife and fork is also very important. A member commented that in their school parents and children have two choices; at home or a school meal.

- 8.9 The Free Healthy School Meals project lead commented that they are seeking to promote the Food for Life awards as these take schools above the most basics standards. He reported that he will be conducting focus groups with parents and children after Easter and will then be able to provide the committee with these findings.
- 8.10 Members expressed concern about takeaway chicken shops near to schools and the chair reminded members of the recommendations to restrict fast food in the recent review report completed by the committee on childhood obesity and sports provision for secondary and primary age children. Members also noted that the Peckham and Nunhead Area Action Plan is piloting restrictions.

RESOLVED

Invite the Food for Life Partnership to present at the next meeting of the new administrative year.

Visit one more school that uses an outside caterer.

9. ROTHERHITHE SCHOOL AND SOUTHWARK FREE SCHOOLS

- 9.1 The chair noted that there had been no significant developments.

RESOLVED

This item should be kept as an item for regular updates.

10. ADULT EDUCATION

- 10.1 The chair reported that the strategic director for environment, Gill Davies, had reported to him that officers were seeking to find a date to set up an additional consultation meeting with services users on Adult Education. A visioning report will be completed in the next couple of months and officers would like to share this with the committee.
- 10.2 The project manager reported that Save Southwark Adult Learning had circulated a papers to members and this had been tabled (attached to the minutes) .
- 10.3 Service user, Duton Alade Odomoso, commented that the service had just received a good ofsted report. He commented that it is important to note when a good job is being done. He went on to say that local people are accessing training and this is valuable. The chair thanked him for his contribution.

RESOLVED

The additional meeting/workshop to consult with current and former users of the Personal and Community Development Learning (PCDL) courses should happen as soon as practically possible.

The wider visioning for the service should come to scrutiny once this has been completed by officers.

Save Southwark Adult Learning Campaign Submission to Scrutiny Committee 23 April 2012

This document should be read in the context of previous submissions to the Council and this scrutiny process. For your information, a copy of a deputation speech from 26 January 2011, when the first effects of the changes were felt, is added below as an appendix.

HOW ADULT LEARNING CAME TO BE AT RISK

Southwark policy on adult learning was radically changed after accepting the premise that in order to cover costs, and thereby supposedly safeguard adult learning provision, fees for Southwark's adult learning arts, leisure and fitness/wellbeing classes needed to be raised substantially. Putting aside for the moment the social hardship imposed by this change, a serious problem with the logic behind this premise is that higher fees would likely mean fewer learners, and, as the cost per learner (as opposed to cost per class) is typically small, net income would likely fall rather than rise - unless, of course, the result was a cut in the number of classes. As the fall in learner numbers would put classes at risk, a fall in classes would be likely, and substantial savings made, but at the cost of reducing adult learning provision, ie the obverse of the stated intention. Even if the real intention all along was to cut expenditure, whatever the cost adult learning, there is still a problem in the argument: a reduction in adult learning classes would not significantly decrease building running costs or admin and management costs, and so savings are severely limited. Are these savings worth the effective destruction of Southwark's adult learning arts, leisure and fitness/wellbeing classes?

OUR PROPOSAL

An obvious alternative was, and still is, readily available. Keep the same price structure, but increase learner numbers per class by attracting back previous learners (instead of alienating them as is currently the case) and carrying out outreach marketing. Learners have already offered to help promote classes at festivals etc. As the cost of additional learners to an already running class is typically small, if this strategy was pursued effectively, income would increase with little inflation of cost, and classes could become net earners for Southwark - with the extra benefit of safeguarding and developing adult learning in the community. This is quite achievable. Adult learning provided by Southwark has been notoriously under-promoted in the past and there is scope for increasing adult learner numbers - if a sensible price structure can be agreed.

THE HARDEST HIT

Southwark's current price strategy is an extreme measure with the poorest being hardest hit. Before the price changes, a learner entitled to concessionary rates would pay £46.40 for each 10-week three-hour class taken – that's £1.55 per hour. Full-fee learners would pay £110.00 per term, or £3.70 per hour. Now, after the imposition of unfair price changes, learners pay these fees for just one class for one term; after that, for terms two and three of the same course, or for any other class taken, the learner on concessions (and the full-fee learner) faces a 'repeat' fee of £165 per class taken, or £5.50 per hour. Some classes have reduced hours, but at the same hourly rate: for instance, a 20-hour course will cost £31 for the first term, rising to £110 for terms two

and three and for other classes taken. But this is still prohibitive and many of those dependent on concessions have been driven away from adult learning altogether. Those unable to travel to other providers, such as disabled or elderly learners, have had their classes effectively cut and their lives made qualitatively poorer. Those not entitled to concessions also face a price rise in terms 2 or 3 or for other classes taken. The ‘rationing’ of one subsidised course per learner per year

GROUNDLESS JUSTIFICATIONS

Southwark’s officers have put forward a series of unsound reasons for the imposed fee hikes, all of them geared towards the idea that the service had no choice.

1. First it was claimed that the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) had insisted on these price changes. However, an SFA representative attending an earlier scrutiny meeting stated that this was not true.
2. It was then argued that economic necessity had forced the changes, but other adult education providers have **not** made such changes (more on this below).
3. It was then argued that Southwark had opted to provide ‘taster’ courses in order to encourage learners to take up places with other providers. If this was a serious intention then it would be expected that learners would be guided by tutors to other providers in the area and the success of this would be monitored and evaluated. This is not happening.

MORE MISSED OPPORTUNITES

Anecdotal evidence suggests that tutors have been given no instruction or guidance by management to help learners move on to other providers or that any monitoring or evaluation has taken place. A quick glance at Southwark’s ‘partner providers’, though each valuable resources in their own right, suggests that this was never an achievable policy. In a way, this is a missed opportunity, because it is a very good idea to extend the provision of the type of course available at the Thomas Calton Centre to other parts of Southwark. One of the Centre’s great strengths is that it provides adult learning to a local community and helps bind that community together. But rather than make a serious attempt to increase adult learning opportunities in other parts of Southwark, a valued resource is in the process of being dismantled in Peckham.

OUR EVIDENCE

We have submitted in previous statements to the committee and to council, as well as to management and to Veronica Ward, many examples of the destructive, unwanted, unfair and unnecessary effects of the new course rules and fee hikes. WE also gave evidence on the social, personal, health and environmental benefits of adult learning for pleasure and creative development – both in statistics and in individual statements. We refer you to these previous submissions. We have repeatedly asked for specific figures on enrolments and class closures in arts/crafts/dance/movement/history but management consistently conflated the figures with basic skills/vocational course numbers and so the figures are skewed. We therefore do not have access to the full figures on learner numbers and course closures but we have anecdotal evidence.

- 1. In January 2012 learner numbers in arts and crafts were down approximately 66%.**
- 2. In the Spring term 2012, one art class tutor who normally teaches two classes lost a whole class as only two learners had registered for that**

course. That tutor's other class had 4 learners and was told to close at half term, but two other learners joined, so it finished the term.

3. **One disabled student has been unable to afford the high prices and cannot return to her ceramics class. As her mobility is affected by her disability, she has been unable to sustain attendance at a course she registered on at City Lit.**
4. **Two students with physical and learning disabilities have been prevented from returning to an art class they had been attending for many years, because of the fees hike.**
5. **One student says: "I have not been back to classes In Southwark for almost one year. I do keep in touch with [a former fellow student] and I hear that the class continues, despite only 6 students. I just feel that the imposition of higher fees in order to continue a class makes no sense at all. The value of a class is also in the relationships that you build on as well as developing a skill. The higher fee to continue does NOT encourage continuing attendance."**
6. **Another student says: "I did one course there and would have loved to do lots more but as someone on benefits I could not at all afford the high fees that I'd have had to pay since the changes. Even worse was that a repeat learner - you pay even more than the normal non-concession price. Absolutely out of my price range. "**
7. **Another says: "Southwark adult learning service says it offers a fairer future for all, but people claiming benefits are not treated fairly due to the repeat learner fee not having a concession fee."**
8. **Another says: "I was a member of Thomas Calton for several years and put some effort into increasing attendance and providing materials for the class to encourage students. I was one of the oldest students in the class and believe that the arts have a unique place in promoting physical and psychological health. For while I attended council meetings where it was explained to me that Southwark supported several opportunities outside of Adult Education. The policy therefore was for students to attend for the shortest possible time and move on. I moved on. "I think that office staff do not understand the criteria for fee reduction. "In addition, to be questioned about ones finances in a public area i.e. reception is not private and confidential. "I am sorry for those who have been unable to move on and have to manage with the loss of relationships made and the social isolation."**

COMPARISONS WITH OTHER PROVIDERS

An alternative to the high-price policy is viable, as is evident amongst other local-authority adult-learning providers. Lambeth does not restrict reduced fees to one course but applies them to all course taken. In fact, Lambeth is far more generous in its concessionary rates than Southwark was prior to the fee hikes. At Lambeth

College, those on mean-tested benefits pay a flat fee, typically about £30 per term - and those on low incomes pay a concessionary fee of about £35. Lewisham College also doesn't have any nonsense about 'repeat fees' though are not as generous as Lambeth. Those on concessions typically pay about £50 for a 10-week course. Compare this to Southwark who, as noted above, charge those on very low incomes £110 to £165 for comparable courses.

Southwark Adult Learning is unrealistically priced even in comparison to the 'high end' adult learning colleges. City Lit typically charges just over £80 concessionary fees for their arts and leisure courses, these are not limited to just one course, and usually provide materials. Some courses which use few materials are as little as £29 for a 12-week course. Nor does Morley College restrict the number of concessionary fees available to those on benefits and typically charges around £100 for an 11-week daytime course, with materials.

CONCLUSION

There is a clear, viable alternative to Southwark's high price strategy. That is to set prices comparable to similar providers and make a concerted effort to promote and advertise classes and thereby raise learner numbers. At the moment, even the basics are not being done in Southwark. Each of the providers mentioned above has a dedicated, well-thought-out website where potential learners can find out about courses and access learning resources. Southwark has just a single page tucked away on its general website with a link to a one-term list of courses! Were Southwark to take promoting classes seriously there would be great scope for increasing learner numbers - and this is how classes can be made to cover costs.

At a time when unemployment is rising and fear is growing amongst a very deprived population in Southwark, Adult Learning could be offering a vital beacon of enrichment, empowerment and hope.

Appendix

Deputation statement made to Council on 26 January 2012-04-17

Adult Learning in Southwark is, as we speak, fighting for survival.

Let us make clear at the outset that we are not concerned with basic skills classes. We are not questioning Southwark's commitment to basic skills, or to provision of good facilities, given the current investment in improving the Thomas Calton Adult Learning Centre. So please don't emphasise the robust basic skills service in order to undermine the points we are raising. It's not relevant.

We are here to ask you now for urgent steps to be taken to **save** courses in arts, crafts, fashion & textiles, health and fitness, dance, local history, woodwork and upholstery.

The enormous rise in fees – of up to nearly 300% for those on benefits - and the introduction of a minimum 'new learner' rule have already had a devastating effect on these courses, just as we warned Veronica Ward they would, when we met her in November .

We don't have the full picture because the Adult Learning Centre won't divulge the full profile of course closures. However, through the experiences of the learners and tutors we are in contact with, we have learned that:

Last term, the following courses closed::

1. Keep fit
2. therapeutic art
3. Evening ceramics
4. drawing.

These closures resulted from classes needing 8 new learners to run, and due to fee rises being unaffordable for individuals and for a charity which funded the attendance of some special needs learners.

This term – and again these are only the ones we know about – the situation is this:

1. Many health and fitness classes, including several pilates classes, have closed.
2. Out of a total of 18 courses in fashion and textiles, ONLY ONE course, in soft furnishings, is running.
3. Two out of four wood carving courses have closed due to not having enough new learners,
4. The Therapeutic Art course has closed
5. Felt making has closed – there were NO enrolments.
6. Two out of four ceramics courses have closed.

. Tutors' and students' offers to help promote the service and bring in new learners, by putting up posters in local cafes and centres, and by holding stalls at events, have been turned down. There is an alarmingly strict grip on outreach and advertising. In fact, even before these draconian rules started,

courses were often only filled by tutors and students going out of their way to recruit.

People get to know about it mostly by word of mouth. The list of classes is usually provided late and is not always accurate. The enrolment procedure is chaotic.

The service is heading for annihilation, which is a tragic loss for Southwark, and for the people who rely on classes for skills, development, social contact, training and well-being

The changes have not been forced on Southwark by the Skills Funding Agency

Southwark council have insisted that the enormous rise in fees for those on low incomes and the imposition of a rule to close all classes which do not attract eight new learners each term, has been forced on them by the Skills Funding Agency. This is simply not true.

It is true that the Skills Funding Agency provide funding only for learners for one course, but it is Southwark Council who has decided that a course should last only one term. And the eight new learners rule is a bureaucratic nightmare dreamt up by Southwark officers alone. It's obviously expendable because it was summarily reduced to four new learners at the end of last term.

Contrary to Southwark's claim, the Skills Funding Agency guidelines explicitly state that those eligible for concessionary fees should remain so for the whole academic year. Limiting reduced fees to one term is quite against the spirit of those guidelines. In effect, Southwark receives funding for a whole academic year per learner but pass on only one term of that to the learner.

Limiting a course to one term makes no sense for the vast majority of art, keep fit or leisure courses, where the benefit lies in continuity and development. You don't learn a skill, or keep fit, in one hit. These courses should last the whole academic year and the concessionary fees should apply to all three terms. Anything less is pure discrimination against those on benefits, and amounts to active social exclusion, utterly in conflict with any equal opportunities policy.

Those entitled to concessions returning for a second term at the Thomas Calton Centre, in art say, now have to pay a fee of £137 for a two and a half hour class, or £165 for three hours. (That's IF there are enough new learners to keep the class going) Southwark's closest comparator, Lambeth College and Greenwich Community College allow reduced fees for all three terms. At Lambeth, an art course costs about £30 per term for those entitled to concessions. Greenwich Community College charges those on means tested benefits £1 per hour – for the whole year. A comparable course at Morley College, a well set up and prestigious institution near Waterloo would cost

£100. City Lit, in central London, charges about £80. Neither Morley nor City Lit limit their concessionary fees to one term

Imposing unrealistically high fees and excluding people saves hardly any money at all, as an additional learner in a class incurs few, if any, additional costs. But, if the learner is deterred by high fees then the college foregoes that learner's fee payment. The net result is a loss of money.

Southwark's fees are clearly quite ludicrously high. Those on low incomes will go elsewhere, or more likely will have to drop out of learning all together. This is not only grossly unfair and damaging to adult learning, it is very bad economics.

The eight new learners rule

The eight new learners rule is a nightmare of bureaucratic thinking. The way to safeguard adult learning is to attract new learners to classes. Rather than discuss with students and tutors a sensible way to do this an arbitrary rule has been imposed that requires each course to enrol eight completely new learners each term or be closed. This is simply madness.

It is not physically possible for those courses which attract a high number of learners to add eight to their number each term. The classrooms are not big enough! Those courses which are failing to attract new learners or retain existing learners need a sensible strategy for attracting new people not immediate closure.

This can all change. Not through the summary closure of classes, but by students, tutors and Southwark Council working together to celebrate and promote the excellent work which is done.

The way forward

The students, staff and tutors at the Thomas Calton Centre and the other Southwark centres for Adult Learning want to work with Southwark Council to safeguard our classes against the coming budget cuts which we know will effect all adult education institutions.

But by imposing these ill thought out and damaging changes this current academic year Southwark Council are making enemies of the very people who should be their close allies. Even now despite the already alarming number of class closures it is not too late.

PLEASE:

Allow the reduced fees to run over all three terms

Drop the ridiculous new learners rule and work with us to get back the people already lost this term.

Please put aside summary class closures and ludicrously high fees. With the fees back to sensible levels the learner's class reps from last term can meet

with Adult Learning management as matter or urgency to find ways of getting closed classes up and running again. And over the coming months we can find new ways to celebrate and promote Adult learning in Southwark.

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-committee

Response to submission from Save Southwark Adult Learning Campaign dated 23rd April 2012

Introduction

The submission from Save Southwark Adult Learning Campaign (SSALC) consists primarily of issues that have been addressed a number of times over the last two years, both through correspondence and in four sessions at the Scrutiny Sub-committee over a period of 12 months (14th March 2011, 11th April 2011, 19th October 2011 and 7th March 2012). In addition to this, a number of letters and e-mails on this matter have been received and answered. Officers have also met with representatives of the campaign group and three learner consultation meetings have been held as part of the current review of Adult Learning.

Officers involved in these meetings have included the Head of Culture, Libraries, Learning and Leisure (CLLL), the Adult Learning Service Manager, the Quality and Contracts Manager and the Divisional Accountant for CLLL. The Cabinet Member has also met with the campaigners on more than one occasion.

The current submission raises a number of issues. These are:

1. Southwark's Adult Learning is at risk

This is not the case. The service is funded for the coming academic year at a similar level to the current year. In addition to this, the number of learners is increasing. In 2010/11 there were 548 part time learners pursuing qualifications with a further 3,893 part time learners, learning for personal and social development. This represents a doubling of individual learners over the last three years.

In addition to the external funding secured from the Skills Funding Agency for re-developing the building (£750K), the Council committed a further £250k from its own capital programme to ensure continued support for adult learning at the Thomas Calton Centre.

The most recent OFSTED inspection of the service (May 2012) rated it as "Good" overall, an improvement on the previous rating of "Satisfactory" Specific areas of service are inspected and graded by OFSTED. The March 2012 inspection gave Grade 2 (Good) as their judgement for:

- Overall effectiveness of provision
- Capacity to improve
- Outcomes for learners
- Quality of provision
- Leadership and management (including equality and diversity)
- Learning for qualifications
- Learning for social and personal development

The OFSTED report notes that outcomes for learners have “significantly improved” since the previous inspection. It particularly notes the improved success rates for learners on courses for qualification, improving to 83% from 66%, whilst the overall success rates for the service run at 82%. This is 5% above the national average for the level of our learners.

Rather than being at risk, the service is improving, increasing the number of learners it serves and is being invested in by both the Council and the Skills Funding Agency.

2. The service is under-promoted

The service is promoted in a number of ways. These include:

- A new course brochure each term
- Inclusion on the Hot Courses website
- Inclusion on the Floodlight website
- Presence on the Council’s website
- Brochures distributed to libraries, community organisations, leisure centres and other community locations
- Occasional targeted campaigns including use of adshels on bus stops, newspaper advertising, promotions in shopping centres
- Participation in both National Adult and Family Learning weeks
- Occasional additional weekend provision to enable families and individuals to sample different types of learning

The submission makes specific mention of the service website and that it is difficult to find within the overall Council website. The Council’s policy is for there to be a single website presence for Southwark rather than many disparate websites that are difficult to manage and maintain. Each new term the Adult Learning Service is featured on the front page of the website with a banner leading to more detailed information on courses. However, it is accepted that the website presence could be improved and officers are in discussion with Communications colleagues about how best to do this.

The OFSTED report notes that “learners generally find it easy to get information about courses available”

3. Student’s and learners offer to promote courses has been rejected

This is not the case. Tutors are actively involved in promoting courses and are encouraged to do so by team leaders and more senior management. Evidence of this includes service staff involved in recent promotions at Canada Water Library, Tooley Street and in organising the recent weekend taster courses at the Thomas Calton Centre.

Following discussion at earlier Scrutiny Sub-committee meetings, and a meeting between Management of the service and service users at the Thomas Calton Centre, the Head of Culture, Libraries, Learning and Leisure invited ideas from the campaigners. None have been received. We continue to be happy to welcome ideas for promotion.

4. Borough wide provision of courses

The submission is dismissive of ALS work with other providers to ensure good learning opportunities are provided across the borough, stating “a quick glance at Southwark’s partner providers, though valuable resources in their own right, suggests that this was never an achievable policy”.

The recent OFSTED report notes that “Southwark Adult Learning Service (SALS) and its partners work very well together, jointly improving outcomes for learners. Good partnerships provide learners with a rich variety of learning opportunities. These play a strong part in enabling SALS to reach learners from specific communities and other unrepresented groups”.

The submission raises specific concerns about arts related provision in the borough. The OFSTED report notes that SALS currently funds arts related provision at the Aylesbury Every Woman Centre (SE17), at the Flux Studios (SE5) and at Southwark Muslim Women’s Association (SE15). Please note this organisation is not exclusively used by Muslim women, in fact several courses have significant non-Muslim majorities). SALS also commissions a performing arts programme from the Council’s own arts team.

In addition to this, the service currently funds gardening and horticultural courses at Walworth Garden Farm (SE17) and various family learning courses (which usually focuses on arts related activity) at the Centre for Learning in Primary Education (various venues), Learning Unlimited (various venues), London Wildlife Trust (various venues) and Red Kite Learning (SE1). All of this is in addition to the arts offer at the Thomas Calton Centre.

The OFSTED report also notes that:

“The range of provision is good, meeting the needs and interests of learners well”

“The range of subjects and courses is good, whilst avoiding duplicating provision of other providers”

5. There is no support for learners wishing to progress to other courses or learning

Advice on progression and on other suitable learning is available within the Thomas Calton Centre both from individual tutors and from specifically trained staff who visit individual classes.

The recent OFSTED report notes that “Information officers visit many, but not all, courses to inform learners about the information, advice and guidance services available to them”

Since the inspection, a new approach to providing this information is being implemented with visits to all courses now planned as well as checks being made to

ensure that tutors have comprehensive information available to them when advising learners.

6. Morley College and City Lit (specialist designated institutes)

The submission refers to Morley College and City Lit being able to make courses available at relatively lower rates than SALS. Although this is not the case in all subject areas, it is important to note that both of these providers have “Specialist Designated Institute” (SDI) status which means that they are subject to different funding regulations to non SDI providers such as SALS. This gives them greater flexibility. They also have access to other funding streams not currently available to SALS.

7. Cost of courses

This issue has been discussed at each of the Scrutiny sub-committee meetings referred to above and detailed answers have been given in writing to specific points regarding funding on a number of occasions. Examples of these are attached.

The recent OFSTED report comments specifically on value for money within the service, stating that “SALS provides excellent value for money. It has significantly improved the quality of provision whilst extending the range and reach of services at a time of financial austerity”.

Current review

The Council is currently reviewing its overall approach to Adult Learning, the provision of training opportunities and other support for local people to improve skills and access work. The review also takes into account the wide range of alternative non-Council provision available in Southwark in order to ensure good geographical spread and avoidance of duplication.

Response to Draft Report for Parents and Disabled Children

I contributed to this report, by highlighting to the committee the problems I have had accessing a statement of special educational needs for my son diagnosed with Autism (high functioning Asperger's Syndrome) who was subsequently permanently excluded from a Southwark Academy school.

I would like to update the panel on my progress so far. My son started school on Monday 12 March 2012. After a 6 month absence from formal school education, (I wish to point out that my son was being educated provisionally by an organization called the 'complete works' for the interim). It was always my intention for my son to be placed in a school, as he is a very bright boy.

I found myself with another fight on my hands ensuring that not only that his statement of special educational needs was sufficient, but also requesting that the education authority pay the educational fees for his school which is an independent school, placed outside the borough in Lewisham.

Needless to say I have concerns that had my son not been placed in the correct learning environment none of this would have happened. I am trying very hard not to be too bitter, but I am still upset that my child missed over 6 months of formal schooling, and missed out on all the social aspects that school life maintains.

I was very impressed with the draft report and the only recommendation I can make is that Southwark should make provision for parents of disabled children to find meaningful employment, whilst also fulfilling their caring responsibilities. Such a model is being implemented trialed within the London Borough of Wandsworth. Their family and information service has been running a small pilot to help parents of children and young people with additional needs go back to work.

For further information please see website:

wandsworth.childremservicedirectory.org.uk/sports-events-news.htm

Update on the review of adult learning

To date the service and the scrutiny committee has been looking at the review of the Adult Learning Service, which covered among other things - relationship with other providers and the future direction of the service. Most recently on the 18th June the third in a series of workshops with users of the service and VCS providers was held. A report detailing the main points raised is being presented to the Committee.

The original scope of the review was focussed on the Adult Learning Service, however, there are also strong links to other forms of adult learning provision within the council and by other providers, as well as links to learning for young people. In addition, responsibility for adult learning strategy has recently been allocated to the Corporate Strategy division, while responsibility for management of the council's service remains within service departments.

We are using this opportunity to scope a wider review of youth and adult learning, looking at youth and adult learning across the council and beyond. The rationale for a wider scope is to ensure that the cross cutting issues are appropriately captured and to ensure that the review considers matters from the perspective of the citizen and their journey of life long learning. However, it is clear that there are four distinct aspects to look at: learning for young people; adult learning; wellbeing; and pathways to employment.

Work is underway to scope the review, including what the process will look like and timescales. This work starts from the above rationale and the information gathered in the workshops will help scope the review, as well as forming an important part of the evidence. It will be important to be clear on the scope because this will not be a service level review of the Adult Learning Service, but a review of what our strategy is, the outcome of which will provide the framework for any service level decisions.

The lead officer for the review is Claire Webb, Head of Policy, Corporate Strategy

Write up from adult learners workshops 16 January 2012

Attendees were asked three questions:

1. What did you want to get from your course?
 2. What is helping to meet your needs and what impact is it having?
 3. Is there anything else that would help meet your needs?
-

Session 1 – skills for life

Around 50 - 55 people attended, split into 3 groups

What did you want to get from your course?

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I want to work in a bank ▪ To help with everyday maths tasks ▪ To help my kids with their maths work ▪ English language ▪ To get a formal certificate in maths ▪ To feel young again, to achieve a goal and to look forward to a brighter future ▪ English and maths, and to help young people after school ▪ A second chance – I didn't do well at GCSE ▪ I have gaps in learning from school in college that I want to fill, I want to go to university ▪ I want to be a teacher. It was tough learning among teenagers ▪ To help with shopping tasks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Learning English, numeracy ▪ Achievement of goals ▪ New friends ▪ To communicate better in English with my family, and the community ▪ Helps me with my career choice ▪ Confidence ▪ Finding out about university courses, access ▪ Employment ▪ Paving the way for further education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Better qualification ▪ Confidence ▪ Better understanding ▪ Reading/writing/spelling ▪ Close to home and school ▪ Disabilities independence ▪ Better job prospects/support in looking for jobs ▪ Helping with children with homework – school forums ▪ Help other activities in life – Church, G.P., and School Forms. Letters. ▪ Understanding new systems ▪ Makes your achieve. Confidence (with doctor) ▪ Local accessibility

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I want to get a job, I want to build my confidence ▪ I want to improve myself – as a write. I want to be able to challenge things ▪ Skills in English and maths – for job, home and university 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adult only crèche access. Safety with ICT
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What is helping to meet your needs and what impact is it having?

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ They make it enjoyable ▪ Can go at own pace ▪ Teacher student ratio is better than at other places, can focus better ▪ Good being with similar ages (not youngsters) ▪ Close to the school so easy to pick up kids, fit in around work etc. Important if encouraging women to get back into work ▪ I can track my progress ▪ Can get more done in a shorter space of time, good for busy mums ▪ Everyone is friendly and relaxed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 3 mums couldn't come without the crèche ▪ The family / playscheme classes have had a very positive impact ▪ Teachers are excellent ▪ Learning (teaching) is at a pace suitable for adults ▪ Maths and English are better for adults ▪ Computer access for internet ▪ Fast track courses are very good ▪ Local to children's school, so I can attend ▪ Career advisor is used a lot ▪ Skills increased 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local: Location accessible, good transport links – easily to get here ▪ Use crèche ▪ Encouragement from teacher ▪ Meeting friends – socialise/have fun ▪ Sometimes don't want to go home! ▪ Teacher helps if don't understand encourage to ask questions and gain more knowledge ▪ More contact with the tutor compared to other colleges ▪ Personal contact (closer relationship) ▪ Good access for people with disability –

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The teachers are different – happy to help, encouraging ▪ Good teachers, good relationships, trust them, can say that you don't understand ▪ Family learning is good, and can meet other mums ▪ Pick up lots of other skills like how to approach people ▪ Impact on my writing for work ▪ Learn lots of other things e.g. science, life ▪ Sense of goal and structure in life ▪ Learn how to communicate with people ▪ I have something to say now. It has helped so much with my confidence ▪ Feeling happy ▪ I can now put myself forward 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Helping for my job with SEN children ▪ More focused ▪ Easy transport and walking makes it possible to come ▪ Confidence increased a lot 	<p>feel safe her, plus easy access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Good inclusion for everyone ▪ Frequent classes but smaller class size e.g. 15-16 at TTC compared to 25-30 in several colleges ▪ Not hectic like a college with teenagers or younger people ▪ Choosing to come to learn – free classes ▪ Gives self worth/ self value ▪ Confidence goes up ▪ Achieving on accreditation/qualification/a goal ▪ Family learning - learning together – creating a learning environment/ethos in the family ▪ No stigma as an adult going back to learning
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Is there anything else that would help meet your needs?

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Other classes – catering, flowers, science, computer, language, music, sign language, ICT, parenting ▪ More ESOL ▪ I could teach you Spanish [one someone said they wanted Spanish classes] ▪ Longer classes e.g. the whole day – so I can make maximum use of my day release ▪ Maintain what we have ▪ Library on site – which has the right books and so we can stay focussed [when asked why not use Peckham library] ▪ Someone to talk to and help with things like applications or how to volunteer ▪ Extra homework and other support outside of classes ▪ Go beyond level 2 i.e. level 3 is key for jobs ▪ Advertise better e.g. library, local press, shops, GPs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short clips of ESOL on the website ▪ Basic clips of Literacy 1 by the trainer ▪ Keep the college running please, as we have difficulty with learning at teenager colleges ▪ Interactive tool on Southwark website ▪ More and better advertising of Thomas Chalton centre ▪ Work placement to practice what we learn ▪ More sessions in the evening ▪ More languages – we would join language exchange groups ▪ More days/ hours are need for ESOL fluency ▪ More time is needed for Literacy and Numeracy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More funding for other courses e.g. GCSE English ▪ Homework club – access to computers ▪ More hours for some of the classes ▪ More equipment e.g. computers ▪ More heaters! Monday morning is very cold ▪ Have a cafe

Session 2 – arts and culture based

Around 25 - 30 people attended, split into 2 groups

What did you want to get from your course?

Group 1	Group 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Full time work was coming to an end and wanted to retrain for leisure▪ To learn new and interesting things▪ Social network▪ For health – fitness and emotional▪ To keep active after retirement and be active in the community▪ To link into what else is available▪ Wanted to improve my writing▪ To mix with a wider group of people that you would do otherwise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Increase concentration and focus▪ Art & craft (disability group)▪ Having more structure to life (man with severe depression doing ceramics)▪ Learning basic skills▪ Making money – over £700 by man with severe depression, over £100 by disability group▪ Meeting other people – so less depression▪ Confidence building▪ Making repairs to garments, soft furnishing▪ Sewing – bags for use by disability group▪ Developing skills – useful for my business▪ Making items for sale

What is helping to meet your needs and what impact is it having?

Group 1	Group 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Being part of a team ▪ Routine in your life – a commitment, a reason to get out of the house ▪ Wood work is on of the few facilities in London, a very rare assets ▪ Finishing a garment and being pleased ▪ Fulfilment ▪ Improving my memory – learning small routines, co-ordination etc ▪ A long-time relationship with the courses ▪ Our diverse community can come together on a common objective ▪ Motivation ▪ Creativity ▪ Job opportunities are important ▪ To better myself ▪ Its social – come to meet people ▪ It local/long distance to other people ▪ Life long skills, not just a passing activity ▪ Chance to make a difference/help society ▪ Skills and inspiration, and save money making my own things ▪ Cross referencing of ideas – you learn form other students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supportive staff good with our needs and skills ▪ We can learn at our own pace ▪ Competent trainer who is also very pleasant ▪ Facilities can be used by participants ▪ Social time is very important ▪ Therapeutic for people with severe depression ▪ Easy access to the Thomas Chalton centre ▪ Availability of kilns and other specialised equipment ▪ Loyalty to the Thomas Chalton Centre it is unique ▪ Exhibitions are recommended – with social opportunities as a result

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Help each other ▪ Its local ▪ Prices are affordable ▪ We have an off shoot group that does performances ▪ Some have started their own business [woodwork]. It gives basic skills and can take the next step 	
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Is there anything else that would help meet your needs?

Group 1	Group 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What do the population want – survey? ▪ Should speak to other types of learners e.g. those after work ▪ Wider range of courses ▪ Meeting all needs- disabilities including learning disabilities ▪ If repeat you have to pay more, its too expensive for some ▪ Advertise more – in the station, signs in the road so people know its here, local shops, hospitals, GPs, Southwark Life, add onto other comms ▪ Price ▪ Use lottery funding? ▪ A class cancelled due to too few people – get more people ▪ Better information on change of building or classroom, if cancelled 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For the Woodwork course 30 hours is too restricted and not enough ▪ For the Ceramics course 30 hours is too restricted and not enough ▪ Courses cannot be continued by students for another term without excessive fees – Be open about the cost of the course – students can work out a way of funding the course for themselves, it's so good ▪ Good teachers should be retained by secure classes, eg the Japanese teacher ▪ More dialogue with class and student rep's ▪ Enrolment process is very dogmatic & needs to be simplified ▪ Continuers should be able to re- enrol at end of term

<p>etc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An open day to the public to show what we can do ▪ Child care isn't known about ▪ Simplify and reduce the form filling- too many forms, multiple requests for information and takes up valuable class time ▪ Courses are designed to continue but its costs to continue ▪ Make use of empty buildings ▪ Get patrons ▪ Management isn't visible – its gets pushed down to the tutors ▪ Internal comms isn't right – customer questions should be a priority ▪ Open up to other organisations e.g. CAB – to use the centre, promote it ▪ Should be able to transfer, rather than cancel then have to enrol again ▪ Speed and communication ▪ Can book rooms for free through Princess Di Trust – if a charity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to feedback form management, and to Southwark needs to be improved ▪ Administration needs to be improved – there is a 1 year calendar for Lewisham. Also the term dates are wrong in the Southwark booklet ▪ On site visits by senior management to classes will give an accurate picture ▪ The booklet is not on display at libraries and museums, and other public locations ▪ Courses look unpopular if not promoted ▪ National Target of 30 hours for adult learning is restricting skills, and is discriminatory ▪ The disabled returners to classes are discriminated against – they pay 2 ½ times as much as able returners ▪ The elderly have been falling away, also disabled due to cuts in concessions ▪ The Head of the service should be in residence ▪ Repeat learners are discriminated against, if favour of new learners ▪ There should be an email mailing list for students ▪ Numbers attending courses are a false indicator of desire for courses – many are from North London
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Write-up from adult learners' workshop 18th June 2012

This workshop was held in response to a request from the Scrutiny Sub-committee to hold an additional session as part of the earlier series of meetings held with learners and partner providers.

Attendees were asked three questions:

1. What did you want to get from your course?
2. What is helping you to meet your needs and what impact is it having?
3. Is there anything else that would help meet your needs?

10 people attended

What did you want to get from your course?

- Lots of new skills
- To learn to develop new skills, to be part of an ongoing learning community
- To have a space to produce art and explore my creativity
- A new career in crafts
- A creative outlet, mental well-being, new skills, new friends, a place to belong
- Friends with mutual interest in sculpture
- Support and encouragement in singing, knowledge of techniques for helping voice, increase in musicianship
- A few years ago I did a cabinet making course and that enabled me to go on to do work in that area
- Continuity, progression, ability to come here

What is helping you to meet your needs and what impact is it having?

- Excellent teaching
- I am more competent at writing – enjoy the classes
- Excellent tutors, meeting other people and sharing skills
- New direction, good for mental health, community growth
- Excellent teaching, community spirit, care and support, disability access (previously) affordable fees, help with developing career
- Having an excellent tutor
- Only one class so far but enjoyed it. Supportive and encouraging teaching. Enjoyed being with other learners.

Is there anything else that would help meet your needs?

- Stop repeat fees
- Promote classes better
- Abolish unique learner system
- Accountability in the adult learning service
- The fee structure means I can only do one course for one term which debars me from developing and being part of a learning community
- Change the fee structure and get rid of repeat fees
- The prices are too high, the fee structure is unfair – I need to learn skills for more than one term – I cannot afford the repeat learner fee. After attending various courses in Southwark for 25 years I now no longer attend one because of cost. The courses provided me with a valuable space in my week to concentrate on something that was very important to me and I miss it very much
- If I could take on more courses such as carpentry and still afford it on jobseekers, and if I felt this was a place I could progress in – basically remove the repeat fees, as I can't afford it but really want a new career
- Better promotion of courses
- Stop repeat fees
- Abolish unique learner
- Learner reps on the Education Committee and within the service
- More accountability
- I would like to see the centre developed as a real community service
- I would like to see accountability in terms of a community/ student representative on the Thomas Calton Management Board and the scrutiny committee
- Stop repeat fees

- Opportunity for progression
- Better publicity for what's on – only came across the brochure by chance
- Piano/ keyboard needed if music and singing is to be taught
- Give information about adult education on the Southwark Council website
- Change/ review fee structure
- Publicise courses, more courses, make centre more open
- I want to get access to more woodworking/ creative/ arts courses – be able to build and develop my skills. At the moment this centre is not available to me because of repeat fee structure.

Item No.	Classification: Open	Date: 10 July 2012	Meeting Name: Education, Children's Services and Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Report title:		Southwark Schools for the Future: New School Rotherhithe and Free Schools	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Project Director, Southwark Schools for the Future	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Education, Children's Services and Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee note the briefing provided below.

BACKGROUND - NEW SCHOOL ROTHERHITHE

2. In 2007 Southwark's Outline Business Case (OBC) established the case for a new 5 form entry (750 place) secondary school with a further 150 place sixth form to meet the needs of an expanding population in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe that would be delivered as part of Phase 3 of Southwark's Building Schools for the Future (BSF).
3. In April 2010 Partnerships for Schools provisionally allocated £19.6m to fund the delivery of a new school in Rotherhithe.
4. In July 2010 Southwark was informed that all our projects, including New School Rotherhithe, were unaffected by the cuts to the BSF programme that were announced.
5. In October 2010 Partnerships for Schools (PfS) - the government's delivery agent for capital investment programmes in schools, informed the council that projects referred to as 'unaffected' in July would be subject to a value for money review to be carried out on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE).
6. In November 2010 the DfE wrote to the council advising us of their decision to no longer support New School Rotherhithe. The Council continued to argue the case to the DfE and PfS that there was a need to deliver the New School Rotherhithe to meet current local demand and anticipated future boroughwide need.
7. In April 2011 Southwark was invited by PfS to submit revised and current Pupil Place Planning data. This submission was made on the 18 April 2011 and it reiterated the need for investment to create new places.
8. This Pupil Place Planning submission concluded that new Year 7 places will be required boroughwide from September 2016, with 5 FE (forms of entry) required by 2019/20 – 150 Year 7 places. It is considered by the Council that these places should be provided in SE16 to respond to and support the ongoing regeneration in the area.

9. On 10 October 2011 the DfE advised that a 700 place University Technical College (UTC) for 14-19 year olds based at Southwark College's Bermondsey site will proceed to the pre-opening stage of the UTC development process with a view to it being open in September 2012.
10. The DfE also advised of their provisional agreement to fund a new Free School sponsored by the Compass School Trust which intends to offer 500 mixed secondary places.
11. On the 21 December 2011 the Department for Education advised the Authority in a letter that, in light of the Local Authority's pupil place planning submission, it considered a further 100 secondary places were required in addition to those that would be delivered through Compass and the UTC.
12. The letter invited the Council to 'work with the Department and Compass to consider whether an expanded Free School could be the most appropriate solution to addressing basic need in the area, or whether the additional places could be provided through expanding an existing school. If the latter route proves to be more sensible, ...the Department would be prepared to release funding to the Authority for this purpose.'
13. All schools, including Compass, were advised of the content of the additional places letter and invited to express an interest in expansion. The City of London Academy, St Michael's Catholic College and Compass responded to this invitation.

UPDATE

COMPASS

14. Compass School have yet to identify a site and this non-identification of a site, both permanent and temporary, is a significant risk to the school opening as proposed in September 2013.
15. This ongoing uncertainty may result in Compass not progressing and consideration may need to be given as to how additional places could be delivered within the existing estate.

UTC

16. The DfE has approved the deferral of the opening of the UTC to September 2013. The UTC proposals are not currently progressing as a result of the ongoing uncertainty surrounding the future of Southwark College and the potential for this to result in the non-availability of the site or the necessary ancillary facilities for the UTC. Even with the quick resolution of the site issues a September 2013 opening is unlikely to be achievable.

100 PLACES

17. Discussions and recommendations in regard to the delivery of the 100 additional places are not being progressed at this time as it is considered that these should be delivered in the context of the delivery of all the identified required places. These other proposed expansions are currently at risk due to site availability

issues and should they not proceed the delivery of 100 places at a particular school may undermine site potential and funding for expansion there or elsewhere if required.

SOUTHWARK FREE SCHOOL (Primary)

18. In 2011 Southwark Free School (SFS) secured Department for Education pre-opening approval to open in September 2012. At the time of this approval the school was proposed to be established at a site in Great Dover Street.
19. In March 2012 SFS initiated a public consultation process seeking feedback from local stakeholders in regard to proposals to establish a 420 place primary school at 399 Rotherhithe New Road. The current status of this site acquisition is unknown.
20. The preferred site is not in a condition that would enable the school to be established in September 2012 and Partnerships for Schools are therefore also seeking to identify a temporary site. No temporary site has been confirmed but a September 2012 opening date is still targeted by SFS and PfS. The school was not included in the 2012/13 admissions arrangements.

HARRIS FREE SCHOOL

21. Harris Federation has also secured pre-opening approval to open a 420 place primary school on the site of the Academy @ Peckham site in September 2012 and this school was included in Southwark's admissions arrangements

AUDIT TRAIL

Report Author	Sam Fowler	
Version	Final	
Dated	25 June 2012	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Cabinet Member	Yes	No
Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team	29 June 2012	

Item No. 13.	Classification: Open	Date: 19 June 2012	Meeting Name: Cabinet
Report title:		Response to the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-committee's Review of Childhood Obesity and Sports Provision for Secondary and Primary Children	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
Cabinet Member:		Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle, Cabinet Member for Children's Services	

FOREWORD – COUNCILLOR DORA DIXON-FYLE, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The service seeks and welcomes feedback which enables it to improve the health and well-being of the children, young people and adults of Southwark, and we continue to identify areas for improvement. The education and children's services scrutiny sub-committee's report and recommendations are received in this context. The recommendations will support the service and ensure that all families in Southwark receive the support and information they may need to live healthy lifestyles.

Of the 55 recommendations of the sub-committee we are already performing 47 as part of our commitment to reducing the levels of childhood obesity, 8 are for partner agencies to deliver. Of the 47 remaining the response to the recommendations in the main report detail of how these will be progressed with comments on what we will do to support those recommendations that are for partner agencies to deliver.

Children's services recognises that there are many complex inter-related factors which lead to childhood obesity including biology, physical activity, societal influences and the food environment. With this in mind the children's trust requested a joint review be carried out, using a 'community lens', to better understand the complex picture facing our communities. The findings of the review that took place between September 2011 and March 2012 will inform further work on reducing childhood obesity. The review will be published shortly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Agree the response to the recommendations of the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee.
2. Agree the action plan attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee

3. On 12 July 2010, the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee decided to conduct a review of childhood obesity and sports provision for secondary and primary children. The review's findings and 55 recommendations were presented to cabinet on 17 April 2012. Cabinet agreed that the recommendations be noted. There are twenty eight recommendations that the chair and vice chair have identified as priorities and which are shown as shaded on the report. Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle, cabinet member for children's services was

asked to bring back a report to cabinet, in order to respond to the overview and scrutiny committee, by June 2012.

Report summary

4. The aim of the review was to make recommendations to the cabinet for improvements to the education of children on healthy eating and the dangers of obesity, and to examine whether sports provision is adequate.
5. Evidence was gathered from officers from Southwark Council and Public Health; Bacon's College's schools sport partnership submitted a written report; the sub-committee's education representatives gave evidence and evidence was also gathered from the Council Assembly themed debate: 'Sports and Young People'. This included a range of one to one interviews conducted through outreach and community council and council assembly debates, deputations and questions.
6. The report contained 55 recommendations, these, broadly, include steps to: implement healthy eating and physical activity policies among the early years sector and to restrict the licensing of new hot food takeaways.
7. Children's services broadly accept the recommendations made by the sub-committee. This report contains a detailed response to each of the 55 recommendations and a summary action plan is included in Appendix 1.

Response to recommendations

8. The report and its recommendations complement the on-going work Children Services and its local partners are engaged in. It is encouraging to note that we are already doing the vast majority of recommended actions, and will ensure that the foci highlighted by report are maintained and/or increased going forward.
9. It must be noted that a number of the recommendations fall out with the control of the council, such as those relating to schools, which control their own budgets. The council will continue to work with its partners to promote healthy lifestyles.
10. In addition, the outcome from the children's trust's joint review will provide further opportunities to develop and enhance support for the borough's children, young people and families. The review took a community focus to better understand the viewpoint of our communities and stakeholders, and seek solutions from the 'bottom up', engaging our communities in this priority. Its final report is due to be published imminently.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Recommendations from sub-committee/response

11. The education and children's services sub-committee made 55 recommendations, to which responses are set out below. There are twenty eight recommendations that the chair and vice chair have identified as priorities and which are noted in this report as marked "priority".

Early Years

Recommendation 1 (priority)

Implement NICE guidance (2010) for maternal obesity 'Weight management for before and after pregnancy'. Local authority leisure and community services should offer women with babies and children the opportunity to take part in a range of physical or recreational activities, that are affordable,

accessible, with provision made for women who wish to breastfeed and, where possible, crèche provision.

Response

There has been significant investment in promoting healthy eating/living in the early years, including the promotion of NICE guidance by health professionals. Specifically a maternity and early years multi agency group has been set up to promote and implement best practice. In Children's Centres parents and young children have access to a range of physical and recreational activities as well as breastfeeding cafes.

Recommendation 2 (priority)

Develop and implement consistent healthy eating and physical activity policies across Southwark Children's Centres and other early year's settings including child minders, private and voluntary nurseries that promote breastfeeding and ensure compatibility with the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework and Caroline Walker Trust nutrition guidelines.

Response

All centres have healthy eating policies and support from the community nutrition team, and there are a range of programmes across the network such as breastfeeding clinics, cook & eat, let's get walking and fitness classes such as pilates or salsa. Southwark are piloting the Eat Better Start Better programme ahead of National rollout to audit healthy eating practice in Early years settings, and train staff on implementing the national voluntary guidelines for food and drink.

Recommendation 3

Develop and carefully promote courses using professional chefs on cooking, shopping and nutrition through aspirational marketing to appeal to parents and carers in Sure Start Children's Centres and other early years' settings.

Response

Healthy Eating programmes are delivered in Children's Centres led by the community nutrition team. Through the Eat Better Start Better programme a range of early years practitioners are being trained to deliver such practical nutrition courses to parents with support from community nutritionists who use Change4Life campaign resources to help parents with shopping and cooking on a budget. Our view is that this method is likely to be more sustainable than using professional chefs

Recommendation 4

Encourage all nursery staff, including catering staff, to attend under 5's physical activity and nutrition training to support implementation of policies. Extend also to anyone caring for a child under 5.

Response

Early years settings are being trained through the Eat Better Start Better programme, including some catering staff. The next stage of the programme is to roll out their learning to parents using their settings. Grub4ilife has operated in Early Years centres which supports training of nursery chefs to produce quality meals and implementation of food policy. NICE guidance on physical activity for under 5's and 5-11yr olds will be included in Healthy Weight training offered.

Recommendation 5

Implement the 'Eat better, Start better' or HENRY programme in Sure Start Children's Centres, and other early years' settings, and ensure it is embedded in early years' practice.

Response

The "Eat Better, Start Better" programme is a national pilot that Southwark succeeded in applying for and the HENRY training is a bought-in service. Eat Better Start Better provides an audit tool with which early years practitioners can review food provision and practice in settings; this process will be rolled out to a range of settings by quality improvement officers and undertaken by nutritionists in Children Centres reviewing Children Centre food policy. HENRY is specialised training commissioned by Southwark PCT for health visitors to skill them in motivational interviewing on child obesity in under 5s (this may be carried out through their work in children centres, clinics and home visits).

Recommendation 6 (priority)

Develop initiatives which target parental obesity of both mothers and fathers as a priority.

Response

Parents in early years settings have been offered training to start up healthy activities including buggy walks. Parents are also being targeted from the top 10 schools for obesity to participate in Shop, Cook and Eat programmes, access physical activities and sport through Get Active London and MEND programmes which take a whole family approach to healthy weight.

Recommendation 7 (priority)

Undertake a pilot early years local weighing programme with a children's centre. Build on the Health Visitor practice of weighing children at 2 years and use this as a way of particularly targeting at risk parents and children and then signposting them to nutritional and exercise advice & programmes.

Response

We have established an early years healthy weight group which is exploring how to build on the measurement work health visitors already carry out; it is intended that this work is developmental, rather than a full programme, so is in keeping with the pilot idea in this recommendation.

Schools and the Universal Free School Meals**Recommendations for schools****Recommendation 8**

Ensure a whole school approach to implementing the universal free school meals programme by involving all staff, children, parents, governors and the wider school community in developing a plan.

Response

A substantial amount of investment has been committed to improving the health of school children through the Free Healthy School Meals (FHSM) initiative which includes promoting whole-school approach. A programme has been developed offering whole school support to 10 schools initially.

Recommendation 9

Promote the uptake of school meals and nutrition based standards by working towards, or achieving, at least the Bronze Food for Life award and ideally the Silver award.

Response

Schools are encouraged to work towards Food for Life Partnership Awards. The FHSM programme includes the promotion of the nutrient and food based standards.

Recommendation 10 (priority)

Ensure that all primary and secondary school meals are nutritious and tasty at the point of delivery. Promote training for governors, who have responsibility for school meal provision.

Response

Governors are responsible for ensuring the meals provided meet the school food based standards and the nutrient standards for school lunch. However, Children's Services staff (governor training) and FHSM with staff from public health are providing training to governors. A session was delivered in November 2011 and another session is scheduled for June 2012.

Our schools are generally strong promoters of healthy eating and living, and the council strongly encourages where it can within the context of schools controlling their own budgets. For example, to support schools the council has developed a healthy school toolkit for headteachers and governors, which is accessible on the Southwark website.

Recommendation 11

Promote health literacy in schools throughout the curriculum, including PSHE classes.

Response

This is within the schools remit and Southwark schools are generally strong promoters of healthy eating and living, and the council strongly encourages where it can within the context of schools controlling their own budgets for example through the promotion of health literacy. Schools are offered support with health colleagues to develop a whole school approach to promoting health and wellbeing and advise schools on NICE Guidance on food and physical activity to support curriculum development. Healthy literacy is widely promoted and shared through the schools Change4Life network and Change4Life sports clubs.

Recommendation 12 (priority)

Make links between growing food, urban agriculture and nutritional education. Connect with local allotments and city farms. Grow food at the school.

Response

This is the responsibility of schools however through the FHSM programme, schools are advised how to ensure that lunches are nutritious, including encouraging schools to grow their own food and use sustainable food sources. They are encouraged to sign up to best practise programmes such as the Food for Life Partnership and follow sustainable practices.

The open spaces strategy expects proposals for new housing developments to include proposals to improve allotment provision or other food growing opportunities, especially in the north of the borough, as well as providing advice and support to promote urban agriculture.

Health have worked with Southwark Schools in Bloom programme to demonstrate links between food growing and good nutrition. Resources are available to share through Southwark Council and Southwark PCT website.

Recommendation 13 (priority)

Increase the quantity and quality of sport and physical activity throughout the school day including curriculum, lunchtime and after school.

Response

Within the context of schools controlling their own budgets, the council strongly encourages schools where it can to increase the quality and quantity of sport and physical activity throughout the school day.

The council has currently funded until April 2013, sports coaching and delivery in schools and within the community setting for 8-16 year olds. Sports coaching takes place within the school day (20-30 hours per week which includes after school organised games) and there are sessions on estates, youth centres and open spaces in early evening, school holidays and weekends.

All of the coaches have multiple industry recognised qualifications to deliver a wide range of sports for young people to participate in school and out. In addition to this the community sports development team are up skilling and working on building capacity with a number of voluntary sector organisations to deliver sport in schools. An example of this is the works being done with Peckham Pride basketball Club.

The community sport team will work with others to secure future funding and support.

Recommendation 14 (priority)

Provide at least 3 hours of sports provision and that includes a 45 minutes of constant cardio-vascular movement, through developing in house expertise or via Southwark's 'Superstar Challenge'. Time spent travelling to and from the activity should not be counted

Response

The community sport team own and deliver the Southwark Superstar Challenge Project. The Superstar Challenge is a specialist, successful yet resource heavy programme with outcomes based around health benefits, education and weight loss of young people. This is different to other projects which normally focus on attendances and participation targets.

Recommendation 15

Invest in training staff in coaching skills, through in house expertise, linking with outside expertise or via the Bacon's partnership.

Response

The council continues to invest in the skills of coaches and staff to ensure that they are able to deliver courses and activities which impact upon the health and wellbeing of young people.

Recommendation 16

Encourage active and outdoor play in schools during playtime.

Response

Through the Council and London Schools Sports Partnership programmes pupils are encouraged and coached in activities which can be transferred to the playgrounds during break times. The 'Superstar Challenge' is one of the best ways to educate pupils on the benefits and fun of leading an active and healthy lifestyle.

Recommendation 17 (priority)

Improve links with voluntary sports clubs and consider providing free or subsidised space and championing their activities

Response

Children's Services promote links between schools and voluntary groups and fund a wide range of activities through youth commissioning.

One of the main roles of the Community Sport Development Team is improve links with voluntary sports clubs, increase their capacity to deliver sport and deliver projects aimed at these clubs within the borough. Examples of such projects include national ('Sportivate' and 'Sports Makers'), regional ('Get Active London' and 'FreeSport') and local ('Legacy Makers') projects in addition to coordinating 'Proactive Southwark' the Community Sport and Physical Activity Network.

The Community Sports Team has an allocation of free or subsidised sports space at the leisure centres and Burgess Park Community Sport Centre which it works with the voluntary sector, Parks and Fusion to utilise and thus champion the activities of local clubs.

Work is also ongoing with a number of clubs housed at the Council's sports grounds. Assistance with funding, networking opportunities and training are a few examples of the work being carried out to ensure the sustainability of the clubs going forward.

Local Authority and Partners**Recommendation 18**

Provide an option for schools to buy in the 'Superstars Challenge'; integrating the 'Superstars Challenge' with the free school meal offer may be an ideal opportunity to embed this initiative in schools.

Response

The Community Sport Team own and deliver the Southwark Superstar Challenge Project. The Superstars Challenge is a specialist, successful yet resource heavy programme with outcomes based around health benefits, education and weight loss of young people. This is different to other projects which normally focus on attendances and participation targets.

Recommendation 19 (priority)

Provide training for governors, who have responsibility for school meal provision, in ensuring tasty meals at the point of delivery, meeting high nutritional standards and an increasing uptake of school meals.

Response

Agreed. We will consider the option to offer governors training on healthy eating for schools to purchase in addition to that being offered in partnership with colleagues from health.

Recommendation 20

Promote the Food for Life standards to all schools.

Response

There has been substantial investment in improving the health of school children through the FHSM programme, which includes a Southwark council FHSM toolkit with guidance for all schools on how to work towards Food for Life Partnership Award.

Recommendation 21 (priority)

Provide an option for schools to buy in coaching from Bacon's College to enable teachers to gain the skills to become effective coaches and understand health literacy.

Response

Southwark's schools are generally strong promoters of healthy eating and living. All schools have the option to buy in the services of the London PE and Schools Sports Network based at Bacon's College (formally the Bacon's School Sports Partnership).

The Network is currently delivering a Change4Life health and wellbeing programme with primary schools and parental workshops on 'Health Literacy' are being delivered in June 2012.

Schools also have the opportunity to access a wealth of teacher training sessions to increase participation, improve skills and developed excellence for various age groups and abilities.

Recommendation 22 (priority)

Work with Bacon's College to ensure that the learning developed by the Bacon's Partnership Health and Wellbeing programme on health literacy is captured and available for schools to utilize through a pack, Inset day, or other suitable method.

Response

The Health and Wellbeing programme is integrated into a package of whole school support for 10 priority schools and delivered through Change4Life sports clubs in these schools. Information about the programme will be made available to all schools via webFronter.

Recommendation 23

Continue to maintain investment in MEND (Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do-it!) programme so that children can be referred to this from the child weighing programme, and in other ways.

Response

The NHS PCT Health Improvement Team are continuing to fund MEND which will run for at least this financial year and are working with the clinical commissioning group to secure sustainable funding.

Recommendation 24 (priority)

Promote partnership work between sports clubs and schools.

Response

There has been substantial investment in improving the health of school children through the FHSM programme, which includes promoting links between schools and sports clubs.

Olympic and Paralympics values are demonstrated through work plans with the Community Sport Team and the School Games programme. Work is underway to align the Inclusive and Active 2 strategy with sports club activities and physical activity promoted through the GET SET network and Change4Life in schools. Public Health, London South Bank University and Community Sports Team are developing a piece of work on behalf of Proactive Southwark to support schools and communities to better engage with and promote sports and physical activity offered by local groups and clubs via the online Get Active London directory. This will encourage schools and clubs to be aware of what each other are offering at a very local level.

Recommendation 25

Promote active travel - ensuring every school has a healthy travel plan that encourages active travel i.e. walking and cycling to school.

Response

The council's Sustainable modes of travel strategy 2011 sets out how the council plan to promote sustainable travel for children and young people in the borough and includes the objective 'Develop, implement and monitor travel plans in all schools and further education institutions.' By 2011, 104 schools in Southwark had completed a travel plan.

Recommendation 26

Provide pedestrian and cyclist training for schools.

Response

The Transport plan 2011 includes the policy: 'Continue to support improving skills and knowledge to travel sustainably'. Southwark offers free cycle training in schools to all primary school children (focused on year five and six pupils). In 2010/11 507 students were trained at school and a further 117 children / young people were trained as part of the general cycle training programme. The council also offers free pedestrian training to schools and in 2010/11 training was delivered at 41 schools reaching over 2,000 students.

Recommendation 27

Promote a greater understanding of health through the child weighing programme. Consider screening more effectively for metabolic health by working with school nurses to develop other measures, such as waist measurements. Seek to create a dialogue on this.

Response

We have established an early years healthy weight group which is exploring how to build on the measurement work health visitors already carry out. An initial view on the recommendation to expand the child measurement programme to include screening for metabolic health - there is limited scope to expand, although consideration will be given to providing follow-up screening for older children (i.e. year 6) for early onset type 2 diabetes and other obesity-related conditions

Recommendation 28 (priority)

Provide schools with details of urban agriculture opportunities including links to allotments and city farms and information on how to link this to nutritional education and physical activity.

Response

The open spaces strategy expects proposals for new housing developments to include proposals to improve allotment provision or other food growing opportunities, especially in the north of the borough, as well as providing advice and support to promote urban agriculture.

Recommendation 29 (priority)

Evaluate the Universal Free Healthy School Meals programme effectively. There is an international and national need for research that helps identify effective methods to reduce health inequalities and childhood obesity; and that tracks the cost and outcomes of programmes.

Response

The programme's evaluation framework has three main aims:

1. To evaluate the impact of the FHSM programme on the take up of school meals.

2. To evaluate the contribution of the programme to tackling the high levels of childhood obesity.
3. To evaluate the contribution of the programme in mitigating the effects of child poverty, with particular focus on those children newly identified as eligible for a government free school meal as a result of the programme.

Nutrition

Recommendation 30 (priority)

Create a healthier environment for our children and young people by restricting the licensing of new hot food takeaways (A5) that sell low nutrient, calorie dense food e.g. within 400m boundary or 10min walking distance of schools, children's centres, youth-centred facilities. High concentrations of fast food outlets are currently in Peckham town centre, Queens Road Peckham, Walworth Road.

Response

The planning department is currently consulting on the proposal that the proportion of units which are hot food takeaways (A5 Use Class) does not rise above 5% in the Peckham town centre and Nunhead local centre protected shopping frontages. In addition:

- No more than two A5 units should be located adjacent to each other and;
- No less than two-non A5 units should be located between a group of hot food takeaways.

It is also consulting on the proposal to establish a 400 metre exclusion zone for new hot food takeaway use around secondary schools in the area action plan area.

Recommendation 31 (priority)

Support the development of a greater diversity of local food outlets that sell healthy food, particularly near schools after school so children have better options.

Response

Within planning regulations we encourage diversity of food outlets and the establishment of 'healthy food' businesses but within limited powers – unfortunately we cannot control nature of business once planning permission is obtained.

Recommendation 32

Restrict or place conditions on the licensing of cafes and other food outlets that mainly or exclusively sell food high in calories and low in nutrients. Consider particularly rigorous conditions when outlets are near schools and open during lunch hour or after school.

Response

We have no powers to restrict new hot food takeaways. We are committed to promoting healthy food outlets and environmental health officers visit approximately 1,000 premises per year and are currently promoting the Healthier Catering Commitment. The Healthier Catering Commitment is a voluntary scheme for food outlets in London based on the principle that small changes can make a big difference. The scheme is being piloted across twenty Boroughs in London (including Southwark) by catering businesses in partnership with environmental health and public health teams.

Recommendation 33 (priority)

Use planning and other methods at the local authority's disposal, to promote the establishment of businesses that make available healthy food. For example groceries, market stalls, food cooperatives and supermarkets that sell fruits and vegetables, whole foods etc.

Response

As part of the Markets and Street Trading strategy the council is committed to improve existing and identify new trading areas that include healthy food and vegetable pitches that meet the demographic and economic requirements of the local community.

Recommendation 34

Redefine food safety standards to reflect current threats to health and use environmental health officers to promote healthier eating.

Response

Public health nutritionists continue working with the Environmental health officer to supplement the current health and safety checks with the Healthier Catering Commitment programme, a London wide scheme promoting healthier takeaway meals in line with healthier catering commitments guidelines for London. So far eleven businesses have signed up and eight have been awarded the Healthier Catering Commitment certificate.

Recommendation 35 (priority)

Set high standards of nutrition in public spaces e.g. schools, offices, sports centres, day centres and libraries.

Response

School governors are responsible for ensuring that nutritional standards are met at schools and they have been supported by the Public health nutritionist and the FHSM programme. Some sports centres have been engaged through the Healthier Catering Commitment scheme and so far Camberwell and Dulwich leisure centres have been awarded the Healthier Catering Commitment certificate. Early years nutrition team have been working in libraries to support families around nutrition.

Urban Agriculture**Recommendation 36 (priority)**

Promote urban agriculture, for example allotments and city farms. Use the planning process and spatial documents to help this.

Response

Strategic policy 11 of the Council's adopted Core Strategy sets out the council's approach to improving, protecting and maintaining a network of open spaces and green corridors that will provide food growing opportunities. The council does this by continuing to protect important open spaces, including allotments from inappropriate development. The council also promotes green corridors, gardens and local food growing in new development. The draft open space strategy sets out further guidance on the use of open spaces for allotments and community food growing.

Public Health have funded five Estates to develop growing spaces within the estate for mixed use (flowers and food growing) as part of the Olympic Health activities.

Physical activity and sport

Recommendation 37 (priority)

Continue with the Southwark Community Games wider programme. Ensure it is additionally targeted at very precise areas of population in local neighbourhoods.

Response

The Council continues to fund the Southwark Community Games (secure to March 2013 with no drop in provision this year). The Team work with the Safer Southwark Partnership, neighbourhood Housing Associations and youth services to identify where their coaching programme can be most beneficial and have the most impact. An example of this is working on an estate such as Fours Squares in Bermondsey. This was identified by the community safety team as an area of high anti social behaviour. This led to a Fun Day being held on the estate in April 2012 which was very well attended (400 people) and many young people were signed up to a range of activities such as sport and arts.

Recommendation 38

Continue to use the LBS Olympic brand to promote physical activity and sport.

Response

There are a number of events and programmes that are being delivered by the Council this summer which maximise the interest in sport and physical activity that the Olympics and Paralympics is renowned for generating. The Community Sport Team and Fusion are involved in a number of events and projects which aim to tap into this and ensure that people are signposted to the right activity or facility. The Community Sport Team are currently working on 7 Olympic related work strands such as delivering 10 community Olympic Events (Boundless Festival, Dulwich Parkrun), The London Youth Games and Olympic Values Teaching Resource aimed at yr5 and 6 primary school to name but a few. Fusion are also delivering their Olympic and Paralympics events programme which include The Leisure Passport Scheme and Olympic challenges programme.

Recommendation 39 (priority)

Collate information on Southwark wide provision of sports and physical activity and publish this widely. Ensure the public can easily access information on provision by Southwark Council, leisure providers, voluntary clubs and private sector providers. Enable this to be accessed on the website and through other portals, using available resources. Link with the LBS Olympic brand.

Response

The Get Active London 'widget' is now live on the Southwark website and the Community Sport Team and Southwark NHS are encouraging local clubs and organisations to provide information on this website for the local community. Southwark is currently topping the table compared with other London boroughs for the number of activities which can be found on the Southwark part of the Get Active website (approx 700 activities), meaning that there is a wealth of information for residents to tap into. The site received 2689 hits last year and the team are working to increase this by 25% this year.

The Community Sport Team along with the Southwark NHS Public Health Team, also have a remit to communicate both the Get Active Portal programme and Change4Life. The mechanism used to do this is through the Southwark ProActive Community Sport and Physical Activity Network, which is a quarterly meeting with all partners across the borough who work within or with the sport and physical

activity sector which includes community and voluntary organisations. Through this network the Council have committed further resources to promote these programmes and the project is in developmental stages.

In addition, work is ongoing in a number of other areas to develop increased awareness of sport and physical activity opportunities across the borough. Some of which include regular reviews of the sports and leisure centre webpages, introduction of the Community Sport monthly news letter, regular links with publications such as Southwark Life and frequent press releases.

Recommendation 40 (priority)

Continue to support the capacity of voluntary sectors organizations and facilitate partnership building, within available resources. Help champion local sports clubs.

Response

The main way in which the Council facilitates partnership building is through the coordination of the 'Proactive Southwark' Community Sport and Physical Activity Network. This is attended by all partners across the borough who work within the Sport and Physical Activity sector including community and voluntary organisations. There are also a number of sub groups which tackle specific areas such as disability sport.

The Community Sport Team coordinates and delivers national projects aimed at voluntary sports clubs within the borough such as 'Sportivate' and 'Sports Makers' which provide funding and volunteer training. Also regional projects such as 'Get Active London' and 'FreeSport' which provide a network of activities as well as local projects such as 'Legacy Makers'.

In addition to this Fusion's Community Sport Manager also works with a number of local organisations and Council Departments (for example Contact a Family, National Governing Bodies for Sport and Looked After Children)

Recommendation 41 (priority)

Prioritise the maintenance and provision of sports facilities in parks and green spaces, particularly green spaces in deprived areas. Where possible increase the provision of outside gyms and other sports facilities. Ensure good urban design so that spaces feel safe and are located near transport hubs.

Response

The council already widely promotes sport in parks and open spaces including developing ten outdoor gyms and outdoor table tennis as well as upgrading sports pitches and facilities across the borough's parks.

Strategic policy 11 of the council's adopted Core Strategy sets out in further detail the council's approach to improving, protecting and maintaining a network of open spaces and green corridors that will provide sport and leisure opportunities. The council will do this by continuing to protect important open spaces, including sports grounds from inappropriate development. It will also require new developments to provide space for children's play, gardens and other green areas and helping to improve the quality of and access to open spaces and trees, particularly in areas deficient in open space.

The draft open space strategy sets out further guidance on the current provision of sports facilities in the borough. The document also sets out how the council will seek to improve the quantity and quality of open spaces in the borough, including through measures such as improved safety and accessibility.

The draft open space strategy can be found on our website at; http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/856/planning_policy/2535/open_space_strategy

Recommendation 42 (priority)

Maintain Peckham Pulse to a high standard.

Response

Standards are continually improving as a result of regular monitoring and performance review of the centre according to the terms and condition of our contract with Fusion. There is currently an ongoing programme of planned maintenance and a capital bid for improvement works to the centre.

Officers continue to work with Fusion to increase participation and improve access to the centre for young people. The contract as a whole increased visits by young people by 15% in 2011/12.

Recommendation 43

Promote a diverse range of sports, particularly for women.

Response

Through projects such as the 'Us Girls' initiative the community sports team delivers a number of women's only sessions to encourage sports participation by this target group. These range from more typical activities such as aerobics to football session with Millwall Community Scheme.

Recommendation 44

Ensure that Fusion invests in lifeguard training for women, as a priority, so it can ensure that it only uses female lifeguards for its women-only swim sessions. Once this has been achieved Fusion should promote this widely.

Response

Fusion continue to proactively aim to recruit female lifeguards. Fusion have at various intervals in the contract offered free National Pool Lifeguard Courses for women with a view of employing candidates upon successful completion of the course. It is an area that is being monitored.

Recommendation 45 (priority)

Ensure universal sports provision is accessible for disabled people

Response

The Council has a number of tools and structures in place to ensure that the services we provide are accessible to disabled people. At a policy level, as part of the wider ProActive network, the Southwark Disability sub group (includes a number of organisations working with people with disabilities) meet on a quarterly basis with the aim of sharing information and improving access to physical activity.

Other ongoing work includes improving access to facilities through the investing in leisure programme and the development of services within each leisure centre by the centre's Disability Champion.

Additionally the Community Sports Team deliver multi sports session at Southwark College, a disability programme of events at the London Youth Games and special inclusive events celebrating the Paralympics such as Boundless.

Recommendation 46

Ensure planning applications for new developments always prioritises the need for people (including those whose mobility is impaired) to be physically active as a routine part of their daily life.

Response

The Council has a number of tools and structures in place to ensure that the services we provide are accessible to disabled people. At a policy level, as part of the wider ProActive network, the Southwark Disability sub group (which includes a number of organisations working with people with disabilities) meet on a quarterly basis with the aim of sharing information and improving access to physical activity.

Other ongoing work includes improving access to facilities through the investing in leisure programme and the development of services within each leisure centre by the centre's Disability Champion.

Additionally the Community Sports Team deliver multi sports session at Southwark College, a disability programme of events at the London Youth Games and special inclusive events celebrating the Paralympics such as Boundless.

Recommendation 47

Ensure pedestrians, cyclists and users of other modes of transport that involve physical activity are given the highest priority when developing or maintaining streets and roads.

Response

Policy 7.1 of the Council's Transport Plan supports a road user hierarchy that places pedestrians at the top followed by cyclists.

Recommendation 48

Plan and provide a comprehensive network of routes for walking, cycling and using other modes of transport involving physical activity; particularly in deprived areas.

Response

Strategic policy 2 of the council's adopted Core Strategy sets out the council's approach to encouraging walking, cycling and the use of public transport rather than travel by car. The council will do this by planning places and development to reduce the need to travel and to support priority for active modes of travel, whilst maximising the use of public transport and minimising car use. The council will direct large developments to areas that are very accessible by walking, cycling and public transport and improve access to mixed use town and local centres.

The council's draft open space strategy also promotes a network of green links across the borough and will take this forward through the forthcoming Local Plan documents.

Recommendation 49

Ensure public open spaces and public paths can be reached on foot, by bicycle and using other modes of transport involving physical activity.

Response

Strategic policy 11 of the Council's adopted Core Strategy sets out the council's approach to improving, protecting and maintaining a network of open spaces and green corridors that will provide sport and leisure opportunities. The council will do this by requiring new developments to improve access to open spaces and trees, particularly in areas deficient in open space.

The council's draft open space strategy sets out further guidance on how we will improve the accessibility of our protected open spaces. The draft open space strategy can be found on the website at;
http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/856/planning_policy/2535/open_space_strategy

Policy 4.1 of the Council's Transport Plan supports the promotion of active lifestyles and recognises the value in public spaces as a way of doing this as well as supporting the update of active modes of travel.

The transport plan also notes 'Southwark benefits from many small parks, green spaces and quiet side streets and these have the potential to be developed as 'green links', providing an attractive alternative to our main traffic routes. Small scale improvements can make a real difference and we are working with local communities to identify how we can create more opportunities for local walking and cycling trips in their neighbourhoods.'

Recommendation 50

Promote walking and cycling and other modes of transport involving physical activity in spatial planning documents; particularly in deprived areas.

Response

Strategic policy 11 of the Council's adopted Core Strategy sets out the council's approach to improving, protecting and maintaining a network of open spaces and green corridors that will provide sport and leisure opportunities. The council will do this by requiring new development to improve access to open spaces and trees, particularly in areas deficient in open space.

The council's draft open space strategy sets out further guidance on how it will improve the accessibility of our protected open spaces including providing a network of green links across the borough. The draft open space strategy can be found on our website at;

http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/856/planning_policy/2535/open_space_strategy

The council will also include more detailed policies in protecting and improving open spaces in our area based documents such as the Peckham and Nunhead Area Action Plan.

Recommendation 51

Incorporate active design codes in neighbourhood planning, housing strategies and building codes.

Response

Strategic Policy 12 of the Council's adopted Core Strategy sets out our approach to achieving the highest possible standards of design for buildings and public spaces. The council will do this by expecting development to conserve or enhance Southwark's historic environment and requiring tall buildings to have an exemplary standard of design. The council will continue to use the Southwark Design Review Panel to assess the design quality of development proposals. The council will continue to require Design and Access Statements with applications and encouraging Building for Life Assessments and heritage impact assessments.

The council have more specific design policies set out in the Southwark Plan 2007 which are used to determine planning applications including policy 3.12 Quality in design, policy 3.13 Urban design, policy 3.14 Designing out crime.

The council have detailed and area-specific design policies and guidance in documents such as the draft Peckham and Nunhead Area Action Plan and the adopted Elephant and Castle Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

The Residential Design Standards SPD contains guidance on housing design and we encourage developers to use design codes and principles such as Building for Life and Secured by Design.

Working with residents at greater risk

Recommendation 52

Enhance healthier eating knowledge and behaviour amongst at risk populations, working with relevant geographic and ethnic communities.

Response

This is being addressed through our Healthy Weight Strategy; we work to enhance awareness with at-risk groups. BME community groups are currently being targeted via faith communities to specifically address West African diet and lifestyle, and also working with the British Heart Foundation to target BME women (e.g. Coin St 'Heart Felt' conference in May 2011 engaged 120 BME women). Regular nutrition support is made available to Southwark Muslim Women's Association and community groups working in areas with greatest health inequalities.

Recommendation 53 (priority)

Support people with learning disabilities and mental ill-health, as well as the carers and staff that work with them to encourage healthy eating and physical activity.

Response

Through our Healthy Weight Strategy; we work to support people with learning disabilities and/or mental ill-health. We are currently researching learning difficulties specific resources, and designed bespoke training and support for carers and adults with learning disabilities.

Working with the whole population

Recommendation 54

When refreshing Southwark's Healthy Weight strategies, consider evidence from the whole community approach, from France, EPODE ('Ensemble, Prévenons l'Obésité Des Enfants', or 'Together, Let's Prevent Childhood Obesity') and incorporate that where relevant and possible.

Response

Agreed. The evidence from EPODE will be considered when the Healthy Weight Strategy is revised.

Recommendation 55 (priority)

Ensure that links between Southwark's 'Healthy Weight Strategy'; Physical Activity Strategy and Food Strategy are made so that initiatives are mutually strengthening.

Response

Agreed. There are links between these strategies to ensure the various initiatives make a positive impact.

Community impact statement

12. The responses to the recommendations detailed in this report and the action plan apply to many sections of the community. A great deal of work is being carried out by the council and its partners to ensure that children, young people and their parents from diverse sections of the community are encouraged and supported to lead healthy lives.

Resource implications

13. No additional resources are being requested to deliver the recommendations of this report.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance

14. This report requests that cabinet notes and agrees the response to the recommendations set out under paragraph 11 and the Action Plan contained within Appendix 1. With the exception of those which fall outside the council's direct control, the adoption of some of the recommendations and any initiatives and actions relating to them may, in due course give rise to some particular legal implications, in respect of which appropriate advice should be sought and obtained from the Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance as required.
15. The decision to adopt the recommendations is one of a number of matters expressly reserved to the cabinet for decision under the council constitution and is consistent with national and corporate policy objectives.

Finance Director

16. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 13 above.

REASON FOR URGENCY

17. In accordance with the overview and scrutiny procedure rules set out in the Council's constitution, the Cabinet shall consider and provide a written response to a scrutiny sub-committee's report within 2 months. The scrutiny report was considered by cabinet at its meeting on 17 April 2012.

REASONS FOR LATENESS

18. It was not possible to circulate this report 5 clear working days in advance of the meeting because of the need for consultation over the cross-cutting issues covering other cabinet portfolio areas.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee meeting papers and minutes	160 Tooley Street SE1 2QH	Scrutiny Team

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Recommendations from review of childhood obesity and sports provision Action Plan 2012/13

AUDIT TRAIL

Cabinet Member	Dora Dixon-Fyle, Cabinet Member for Children's Services	
Lead Officer	Romi Bowen, Strategic Director, Children's Services	
Report Authors	Natasha Sharmah, Policy Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	12 June 2012	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	Yes	Yes
Finance Director	Yes	Yes
Cabinet Member	Yes	Yes
Date final report sent to Constitutional Officer	12 June 2012	

Recommendations from review of childhood obesity and sports provision Action Plan 2012/13

No.	Recommendation	Owner	Target date	RAG Assessment
	Early Years			
1.	Implement NICE guidance (2010) for maternal obesity 'Weight management for before and after pregnancy'. Local authority leisure and community services should offer women with babies and children the opportunity to take part in a range of physical or recreational activities, that are affordable, accessible, with provision made for women who wish to breastfeed and, where possible, crèche provision.	Early Intervention and Prevention team/Health improvement team	Ongoing	On target
2.	Develop and implement consistent healthy eating and physical activity policies across Southwark Children's Centers and other early year's settings including child minders, private and voluntary nurseries that promote breastfeeding and ensure compatibility with the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework and Caroline Walker Trust nutrition guidelines.	Early Intervention and Prevention team/Health improvement team	Ongoing	On target
3.	Develop and carefully promote courses using professional chefs on cooking, shopping and nutrition through aspirational marketing to appeal to parents and carers in Sure Start Children's Centres and other early years' settings.	Early Intervention and Prevention team/Health improvement team	Ongoing	Amber
4.	Encourage all nursery staff, including catering staff, to attend under 5's physical activity and nutrition training to support implementation of policies. Extend also to anyone caring for a child under 5.	Early Intervention and Prevention team/Health improvement team	Ongoing	On target
5.	Implement the 'Eat better, Start better' or HENRY programme in Sure Start Children's Centres, and other early years' settings, and ensure it is embedded in early years' practice.	Early Intervention and Prevention team/Health improvement team	Ongoing	On target
6.	Develop initiatives which target parental obesity of both mothers and fathers as a priority	Health improvement team	Ongoing	On target
7.	Undertake a pilot early years local weighing programme with a children's centre. Build on the Health Visitor practice of weighing children at 2 years and use this as a way of particularly targeting at risk parents and children and then signposting them to nutritional and	Early Intervention and Prevention team/Health improvement team	Ongoing	On target

Childhood Obesity and sports provision Action Plan 2012-2013

No.	Recommendation exercise advice & programmes.	Owner	Target date	RAG Assessment
	Schools and the universal free school meals			
8.	Ensure a whole school approach to implementing the universal free school meals programme by involving all staff, children, parents, governors and the wider school community in developing a plan.	Free-School Meal project team/Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target
9.	Promote the uptake of school meals and nutrition based standards by working towards, or achieving, at least the Bronze Food for Life award and ideally the Silver award.	Free-School Meal project team	Ongoing	On target
10.	Ensure that all primary and secondary school meals are nutritious and tasty at the point of delivery. Promote training for governors, who have responsibility for school meal provision	Free-School Meal project team/Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	No control
11.	Promote health literacy in schools throughout the curriculum, including PSHE classes.	Free-School Meal project team/Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	No control
12.	Make links between growing food, urban agriculture and nutritional education. Connect with local allotments and city farms. Grow food at the school.	Free-School Meal project team	Ongoing	No control
13.	Increase the quantity and quality of sport and physical activity throughout the school day including curriculum, lunchtime and after school.	Sports and Leisure Services Team	Ongoing	No control
14.	Provide at least 3 hours of sports provision and that includes a 45 minutes of constant cardio-vascular movement, through developing in house expertise or via Southwarks 'Superstar Challenge'. Time spent travelling to and from the activity should not be counted	Sports and Leisure Services Team	31/3/2014	No control
15.	Invest in training staff in coaching skills, through in house expertise, linking with outside expertise or via the Bacon's partnership.	Sports and Leisure Services Team	Ongoing	No control
16.	Encourage active and outdoor play in schools during playtime.	Sports and Leisure Services Team	Ongoing	No control
17.	Improve links with voluntary sports clubs and consider providing free or subsidised space and championing their activities	Sports and Leisure Services Team	Ongoing	On target
18.	Local Authority and Partners Provide an option for schools to buy in the 'Superstars Challenge'; integrating the 'Superstars Challenge' with the free school meal offer	Sports and Leisure Services Team/Health	Ongoing	On target

Childhood Obesity and sports provision Action Pan 2012-2013

No.	Recommendation	Owner	Target date	RAG Assessment
19.	may be an ideal opportunity to embed this initiative in schools. Provide training for governors, who have responsibility for school meal provision, in ensuring tasty meals at the point of delivery, meeting high nutritional standards and an increasing uptake of school meals.	Improvement Team Free-School Meal project team/Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	Amber
20.	Promote the Food for Life standards to all schools.	Free-School Meal project team/Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target
21.	Provide an option for schools to buy in coaching from Bacon's College to enable teachers to gain the skills to become effective coaches and understand health literacy.	Sports and Leisure Services Team	Ongoing	On target
22.	Work with Bacon's College to ensure that the learning developed by the Bacon's Partnership Health and Wellbeing programme on health literacy is captured and available for schools to utilize through a pack, Inset day, or other suitable method.	Sports and Leisure Services Team/Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target
23.	Continue to maintain investment in MEND (Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do-it!) programme so that children can be referred to this from the child weighing programme, and in other ways	Sports and Leisure Services Team/Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target
24.	Promote partnership work between sports clubs and schools.	Sports and Leisure Services Team	Ongoing	On target
25.	Promote active travel - ensuring every school has a healthy travel plan that encourages active travel i.e. walking and cycling to school.	Transport Team	Ongoing	On target
26.	Provide pedestrian and cyclist training for schools.	Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target
27.	Promote a greater understanding of health through the child weighing programme. Consider screening more effectively for metabolic health by working with school nurses to develop other measures, such as waist measurements. Seek to create a dialogue on this.	Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target
28.	Provide schools with details of urban agriculture opportunities including links to allotments and city farms and information on how to link this to nutritional education and physical activity.	Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target
29.	Evaluate the Universal Free School Meals programme effectively. There is an international and national need for research that helps identify effective methods to reduce health inequalities and childhood obesity; and that tracks the cost and outcomes of programmes.	Free-School Meal project team/Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target

Childhood Obesity and sports provision Action Plan 2012-2013

No.	Recommendation	Owner	Target date	RAG Assessment
30.	Nutrition Create a healthier environment for our children and young people by restricting the licensing of new hot food takeaways (A5) that sell low nutrient, calorie dense food e.g. within 400m boundary or 10min walking distance of schools, children's centres, youth-centered facilities. High concentrations of fast food outlets are currently in Peckham town centre, Queens Road Peckham, Walworth Road.	Planning team	Ongoing	On target
31.	Support the development of a greater diversity of local food outlets that sell healthy food, particularly near schools after school so children have better options.	Planning team/ Environment Health and Trading Standards Team	Ongoing	On target
32.	Restrict or place conditions on the licensing of cafes and other food outlets that mainly or exclusively sell food high in calories and low in nutrients. Consider particularly rigorous conditions when outlets are near schools and open during lunch hour or after school.	Licensing Team/Environment Health and Trading Standards Team	31/03/2014	Red
33.	Use planning and other methods at the local authority's disposal, to promote the establishment of businesses that make available healthy food. For example groceries, market stalls, food cooperatives and supermarkets that sell fruits and vegetables, whole foods etc.	Planning team	31/03/2014	Red
34.	Redefine food safety standards to reflect current threats to health and use environmental health officers to promote healthier eating.	Health Improvement Team/Environment Health and Trading Standards Team	Ongoing	On target
35.	Set high standards of nutrition in public spaces e.g. schools, offices, sports centres, day centres and libraries.	Free School Meals Programme Team/Health Improvement Team	31/03/2014	Amber
36.	Urban Agriculture Promote urban agriculture, for example allotments and city farms. Use the planning process and spatial documents to help this.	Planning and Transportation team/Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target
37.	Physical activity and sport Continue with the Southwark Community Games wider programme. Ensure it is additionally targeted at very precise areas of population in local neighbourhoods.	Sports and Leisure Services Team	Ongoing Ongoing	On target On target
38.	Continue to use the LBS Olympic brand to promote physical activity and sport.	Sports and Leisure Services Team	Ongoing	On target

Childhood Obesity and sports provision Action Pan 2012-2013

No.	Recommendation	Owner	Target date	RAG Assessment
39.	Collate information on Southwark wide provision of sports and physical activity and publish this widely. Ensure the public can easily access information on provision by Southwark Council, leisure providers, voluntary clubs and private sector providers. Enable this to be accessed on the website and through other portals, using available resources. Link with the LBS Olympic brand.	Sports and Leisure Services Team/Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target
40.	Continue to support the capacity of voluntary sectors organizations and facilitate partnership building, within available resources. Help champion local sports clubs	Sports and Leisure Services Team/Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target
41.	Prioritise the maintenance and provision of sports facilities in parks and green spaces, particularly green spaces in deprived areas. Where possible increase the provision of outside gyms and other sports facilities. Ensure good urban design so that spaces feel safe and are located near transport hubs.	Planning and Transportation team	Ongoing	On target
42.	Maintain Peckham Pulse to a high standard.	Sports and Leisure Services Team	Ongoing	On target
43.	Promote a diverse range of sports, particularly for women.	Sports and Leisure Services Team	31/3/2014	On target
44.	Ensure that Fusion invests in lifeguard training for women, as a priority, so it can ensure that it only uses female lifeguards for its women-only swim sessions. Once this has been achieved Fusion should promote this widely.	Sports and Leisure Services Team	Ongoing	Amber
45.	Ensure universal sports provision is accessible for disabled people	Sports and Leisure Services Team	Ongoing	On target
46.	Ensure planning applications for new developments always prioritises the need for people (including those whose mobility is impaired) to be physically active as a routine part of their daily life.	Planning and Transportation team	Ongoing	On target
47.	Ensure pedestrians, cyclists and users of other modes of transport that involve physical activity are given the highest priority when developing or maintaining streets and roads.	Planning and Transportation team	Ongoing	On target
48.	Plan and provide a comprehensive network of routes for walking, cycling and using other modes of transport involving physical activity; particularly in deprived areas.	Planning and Transportation team	Ongoing	On target
49.	Ensure public open spaces and public paths can be reached on foot,	Planning and	Ongoing	On target

Childhood Obesity and sports provision Action Pan 2012-2013

No.	Recommendation	Owner	Target date	RAG Assessment
	by bicycle and using other modes of transport involving physical activity.	Transportation team		
50.	Promote walking and cycling and other modes of transport involving physical activity in spatial planning documents; particularly in deprived areas.	Planning and Transportation team	Ongoing	On target
51.	Incorporate active design codes in neighbourhood planning, housing strategies and building codes.	Planning and Transportation team	Ongoing	On target
52.	Enhance healthier eating knowledge and behaviour amongst at risk populations, working with relevant geographic and ethnic communities.	Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target
53.	Support people with learning disabilities and mental ill-health, as well as the carers and staff that work with them to encourage healthy eating and physical activity.	Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target
	Working with the whole population			
54.	When refreshing Southwark's Healthy Weight strategies, consider evidence from the whole community approach, from France, EPODE ('Ensemble, Prévenons l'Obésité Des Enfants', or 'Together, Let's Prevent Childhood Obesity') and incorporate that where relevant and possible.	Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	Amber
55.	Ensure that links between Southwark's 'Healthy Weight Strategy'; Physical Activity Strategy and Food Strategy are made so that initiatives are mutually strengthening.	Health Improvement Team	Ongoing	On target

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**EDUCATION, CHILDREN'S SERVICES & LEISURE SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2012-13**

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