

Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Tuesday 23 February 2016

7.00 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Membership

Councillor Jasmine Ali (Chair)
Councillor Lisa Rajan (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Sunny Lambe
Councillor James Okosun
Councillor Sandra Rhule
Councillor Charlie Smith
Councillor Kath Whittam
Kay Beckwith
Martin Brecknell
Lynette Murphy-O'Dwyer
Abdul Raheem Musa
George Ogbonna

Reserves

Councillor James Barber
Councillor Catherine Dale
Councillor Renata Hamvas
Councillor Sarah King
Councillor Rebecca Lury

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Access to information You have the right to request to inspect copies of minutes and reports on this agenda as well as the background documents used in the preparation of these reports.

Babysitting/Carers allowances If you are a resident of the borough and have paid someone to look after your children, an elderly dependant or a dependant with disabilities so that you could attend this meeting, you may claim an allowance from the council. Please collect a claim form at the meeting.

Access The council is committed to making its meetings accessible. Further details on building access, translation, provision of signers etc for this meeting are on the council's web site: www.southwark.gov.uk or please contact the person below.

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

Chief Executive

Date: 15 February 2016



Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Tuesday 23 February 2016

7.00 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Order of Business

Item No.	Title	Page No.
PART A - OPEN BUSINESS		
1.	APOLOGIES	
1.	NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT	
	In special circumstances, an item of business may be added to an agenda within five clear working days of the meeting.	
3.	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS	
	Members to declare any interests and dispensations in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meeting.	
4.	MINUTES	1 - 9
	To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the open section of the meeting held on 18 January 2016.	
5.	CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN & SCHOOLS ANNUAL INTERVIEW	10 - 11
	The themes for the annual interview with the Cabinet Member for Children and Schools, Cllr Victoria Mills, is attached.	

6. CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE MENTAL HEALTH STRATEGY & WELL-BEING TRANSFORMATION PLAN

Southwark Children & Young Peoples Mental Health Strategy & Well-being Transformation Plan 2015 - 2020 is to follow.

7. REVIEW: KIDS COMPANY

8. WORK-PLAN

9. REVIEW: FGM

DISCUSSION OF ANY OTHER OPEN ITEMS AS NOTIFIED AT THE START OF THE MEETING.

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: 15 February 2016

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following motion should be moved, seconded and approved if the sub-committee wishes to exclude the press and public to deal with reports revealing exempt information:

“That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1-7, Access to Information Procedure rules of the Constitution.”



Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee held on Monday 18 January 2016 at 7.00 pm at Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Jasmine Ali (Chair)
Councillor Lisa Rajan
Councillor Sunny Lambe
Councillor James Okosun
Councillor Sandra Rhule
Councillor Charlie Smith
Councillor Kath Whittam
Martin Brecknell
Lynette Murphy-O'Dwyer

**OFFICER
PARTNER
SUPPORT:** & Francouis Boudouin SGTO Youth Forum
Kheron Kenardo Creative Futures/ SGTO Youth Forum
Billy Harding SGTO Youth Forum
Fumi Coto SGTO Youth Forum
David McLean SGTO Youth Forum Campaigns & Research Officer
Sam Bailey – Youth Futures
Julie Timbrell, Scrutiny project manager
Sam Bailey – Youth Futures
Boyhood to Manhood

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 There were apologies for absence from George Ogbonna.

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

2.1 There were no urgent items of business.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

3.1 There were no disclosures of interests or dispensations.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

The summary of decisions of the meeting held on 21st October 2015 were agreed as a correct record.

5. INTERVIEW OF THE INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF SOUTHWARK SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S BOARD, ANNUAL REPORT & SERIOUS CASE REVIEW

RESOLVED:

- The committee recommended that the care leavers service work with third sector organisations to help to improve the proportion of care leavers in education, training or employment.
- The Safeguarding board will provide the work plan of the shadow board of young people
- The chair will present on the committees work on FGM at the Safeguarding conference on FGM in March.
- A note will be sent of the committee's discussion to the Safeguarding Independent chair.

6. YOUTH SERVICE BUDGET

RESOLVED

The chair will :

- ask the cabinet member responsible for budget if the timetable can be amended so that more young people could attend the 2 February Overview & Scrutiny Committee budget meeting and hear what is being said about the budget for children and young people's services.
- feed back the key points of the discussion to cabinet lead (see attached issue log)

7. YOUNG PEOPLE'S VOICE

These minutes cover the combined session on both Item 7: Young People's voice: comment on demise of Kids Company and the following Item 8: Voluntary & Community groups working with young people:

- Young people flying under the radar / without status
- Demise of Kids Company and alternative provision

Fuma Coto from SGTO Youth Forum said that since Kids Company shut down she has not spoken to anybody. She added that and while she was able to go forward building on the support she had received from her Kids Company mentor , and because she was part of other groups and so did have opportunities , she was concerned about other people who did not have such a network. She commented she did receive a hamper at Christmas because of her former link with Kids Company.

Kheron Kenardo from Always Creative said that he had also not been contacted following the end of Kids Company. He reported that he had been contacted by the media, which showed that his contact details were readily available. He said that he is in contact with over 50 young people who were former users of Kids Company and many of those have also not been contacted. He added that some of the young people he knows from Kids Company are at high risk from sexual exploitation and gangs.

Fuma said she was particularly concerned about young mothers.

A Boyhood to Manhood worker reported that her organisation was given some money to engage with young people following the ending of Kids Company. She said many of the young people they came across did either have problems with their immigration status or were reluctant to engage. She explained that some people they came across were going to Kids Company for the wrong reasons: for cash. Boyhood to Manhood workers reported that they had wanted a list of young people from the council; however they did not receive that.

A member remarked that the Strategic Director, David Quirk Thornton, had indicated that although Kids Company had provided a list of many young people, after a series of meetings , Kids Company had not provided a list of young people 'without status' .

Kheron commented that he does have a list and a network that could have helped. He commented that the hampers that Fuma referred to came from a Lambeth food trust, that the details they had of former people who used Kids Company. He said that the people who received these hampers, many of whom were young mothers, very much appreciated these . The high value of placed on these by the young

mothers and other recipients demonstrates the great need that is out there. He commented that Lambeth Council put in place a good arrangement to contact and support former users of Kids Company.

Boyhood to Manhood workers emphasised that they had a limited 8 week project to go out and work with young people and their remit was more general and not focused on particular young people. The worker also commented that their organisation had started around the same time as Kids Company, however Boyhood to Manhood, like other local community groups, did not get funding at the scale that Kids Company had formally received. They commented that if they had received that amount of money then they would have had much more capacity. Boyhood to Man also commented that Kids Company was not linked in with the wider community and voluntary sector and workers were never seen as local events.

Kheron commented in the figure of £80,000 which was reported to have been made available and asked for more clarity on the spending. He referred to the report published in the previous scrutiny papers [this says that the Cabinet Office approved £82,500 to support Southwark and the local voluntary sector <http://modern.gov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s57291/Report%20on%20Kids%20Company.pdf>]

Boyhood to Manhood workers emphasised that although they were given some additional funding via this pot, the amount and short time frame of the project limited their capacity.

Kheron said that this is another example of where consultation with young people would have been really important to plan an effective response. Members commented that this would have been difficult for officers to undertake given many of the young people who were former users of Kids Company were not known.

There was discussion amongst the committee on the need to provide clarity on immigration status and the support available. A member commented that children in need were always entitled to statutory help, whatever their immigration status. However, other members cautioned that the age and previous dealing with immigration authorities might impact on the support available and the risk of deportation. The committee thought it would be helpful for former users of Kids Company to receive clear information on their status and rights, opportunities to receive statutory support or other help to regularise their position. Helpful information might then be able to be distributed via the networks that the young people present had referred to.

The committee discussed the steps the Strategic Director had outlined that the council had taken to provide support for former users of Kids Company. A member commented that this had not been successful for the young people mentioned here. Another member commented that he was concerned that about the young people referred to and the problems reported, particularly given the problems of contacting people, particularly if the council did not receive all of the contact

details. He asked the young people if they were willing to be a conduit. Kheron responded that we absolutely would be and also commented that often young people only trust their peers. He added that Creative Futures was very much developing a peer support network and undertook to assist in getting in contact with people associated with Kids Company.

SGTO Youth Forum officer said that the forum representatives at the recent cabinet meeting had requested a regular round table meeting with the lead member for children's services to do things like this.

The Youth Futures worker suggested that it would be very helpful for young people and youth groups to come together. She also flagged up that her organisation was also provided with some funding to do some additional work with young people following the end of Kids Company. She commented that there is a growing and large volume of young people attending the Youth Futures club nights, with increasingly higher needs. Youth Futures are having problems finding affordable premises.

Boyhood to Manhood commented that Kids Company also had a duty to ensure that the young people were adequately signposted to alternative support when their service ended, and that Kids Company bears half the responsibility for any failures in this happening adequately.

The chair summed up by saying she will be briefing the strategic director, David Quirke Thornton, based on the notes of this session.

RESOLVED

- Request a clear briefing from officers to provide clarity for former Kids Company users who are experiencing problems with their immigration status. The purpose is to enable young people to be clear on their entitlement to statutory assistance, and any help available to regularise their immigration status and receive support.
- The chair will raise the issues discussed on Kids Company with the Strategic Director immediately following the meeting.

8. VOLUNTARY & COMMUNITY GROUPS WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

This item is was taken with item 7 – see above minutes.

9. FGM REVIEW

RESOLVED The interim draft report will come to the next meeting.

10. WORK PLAN

The workplan was noted.

Education and Children’s Services Scrutiny Meeting

18.01.16

Issues arising from discussion on young people’s services

Who	Issue	Follow up	
	<p>Youth representatives concerned that the Youth Service budget proposals will cut the current service from over 3.3 million, and reduce the budget to 0.8 million, which has been presented as 73 % cut. They complained that they were told rather than consulted about the budget plan, and only subsequently has there been some engagement. The representatives said that they did not think it was right that the Youth Council had not been consulted in advance, or allowed to speak at Council Assembly</p>	<p>Check accuracy of facts these figures don’t appear to relate back to draft budget?</p>	
	<p>A Youth Council representative said when they heard about the proposed cuts they had just been about to conduct outreach with young people . One representative said that if they had been consulted early on then they could have engaged other young people about the best way to make cuts, and his main complaint was the lack of consultation. Another representative said a cut of 73 per cent cut was disproportionate.</p>	<p>The deputation on cuts to youth services was taken at the Cabinet.</p> <p>2 February there will be an OSC meeting and that this will provide an opportunity hear about the budget including Youth Services</p> <p>JA to cabinet member responsible for budget if the timetable can be amended so that more young people could attend the OSC meeting and hear what</p>	

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Meeting

18.01.16

Issues arising from discussion on young people's services

		is being said about the budget for children and young people's services.	
	The young people said at cabinet they were given limited time to present and questions at Cabinet. Cllr Mills did say she would re start the termly meetings with the Youth Council. The young people said they did not feel it had been an open process and they were disappointed that they had not being given the opportunity to do the deputation at council assembly.		
	The SGTO youth forum said they had not heard back from the cabinet lead following the cabinet meeting - an email had been sent. The chair pointed out it was the Christmas and New Year. Hugo acknowledged this might have impacted and confirmed that the council and former cabinet lead had previously engaged well with young people.	Chair to raise concerns directly with Cllr Mills	
	Young People complained that they were not sufficiently respected; given the over 6000 people voting them, to not be then give an opportunity to speak at council assembly		
	Youth Forums: commented on the potential impact that cuts could have on development and the impact on crime.		

Education and Children’s Services Scrutiny Meeting

18.01.16

Issues arising from discussion on young people’s services

	<p>Government funding causing these cuts , however it was appreciated that the council has to take decisions on how to best to do this with least impact , nevertheless it was felt that such a large cut on youth services does needs to considered to see if right</p> <p>Debate on above points and perceived lack of consultation</p>	<p>Voice of young people important – scrutiny committee to offer help in future engagement</p> <p>Need to understand the budget on youth grant and government funding for Local Government services.</p>	
	<p>A request was made by a person in the gallery – he asked for a finance meeting be held with young people to look at reserves and the balance between capital and resources?</p>		
	<p>Is there a finance impact assessment and equality impact assessment? If so could this be shared with the young people</p>		

Item No: 5	Classification OPEN	Date: 23 February 2016	Meeting Name: Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Report Title:		Cabinet member interview	
Ward(s) or Group affected:		All	
From:		Scrutiny project manager	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Councillor Victoria Mills, Cabinet Member for Children and Schools annual interview with the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee scrutiny sub committee is scheduled for 23 February 2016.
2. This will be on all aspects of the cabinet lead's portfolio.

THEMES

3. Members of the committee have chosen five themes to structure the interview around:
 - I. **Tertiary education both in schools and college - especially in relation to vocational education**
 - II. **Youth Service/future generations**
 - III. **School places to cover the increasing birth rate from immigration**
 - IV. **White working class attainment**
 - V. **Elements from the Cabinet member for Children & Schools portfolio:**
 - youth offending
 - universal services for people aged 0-19
 - early intervention
 - child protection and specialist services for most vulnerable children, young people and their families
 - raising the quality of children's services
 - school place provision and admissions
 - expanding affordable childcare and nurseries

- raising school standards and attainment
- services for young people
- youth fund
- capital investment in schools
- safeguarding children
- corporate parenting including fostering and adoption
- Southwark Childcare Commission

This page is intentionally blank

**EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015-16**

AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)

NOTE: Original held by Scrutiny Team; all amendments/queries to Julie Timbrell Tel: 020 7525 0514

Name	No of copies	Name	No of copies
Sub-Committee Members			
Councillor Jasmine Ali (Chair)	1	Kerry Crichlow, Director Strategy & Commissioning, Children's & Adults' Services	1
Councillor Lisa Rajan (Vice-Chair)	1	Merrill Haeusler, Director of Education, Children's & Adults' Services	1
Councillor Sunny Lambe	1	Yolanda Houston, Headteachers Executive Business Manager	1
Councillor James Okosun	1	Chris Page, Principal Cabinet Assistant	1
Councillor Sandra Rhule	1	Aine Gallagher, Labour Political Assistant	1
Councillor Charlie Smith	1	Niko Baar, Liberal Democrat Political Assistant	1
Councillor Kath Whittam	1	Julie Timbrell, Scrutiny Team SPARES	10
Education Representatives			
Martin Brecknell	1		
Lynette Murphy O'Dwyer	1		
Abdul Raheem Musa	1		
George Ogbonna	1		
Council Officers			
David Quirke-Thornton, Strategic Director of Children's & Adults Services	1		
Shelley Burke, Head of Overview & Scrutiny	1		
Sarah Feasey, Legal Services	1		
Eleanor Parkin, Policy Officer, Children's & Adults' Services	1		
Rory Patterson, Director, Children's Social Care, Children's & Adults' Services	1		
Barbara Hills, General Manager, Community Children's Service, Evelina House	1		
<u>Electronic agendas (no hard copy)</u>		Total: 34	
Reserves		Dated: December 2015	
Councillor James Barber	1		
Councillor Catherine Dale	1		
Councillor Renata Hamvas	1		
Councillor Sara King	1		
Councillor Rebecca Lury	1		