

Corporate Parenting Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Corporate Parenting Committee held on Monday 21 July 2014 at 2.00 pm at Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Victoria Mills (Chair)
Councillor Evelyn Akoto
Councillor Jasmine Ali
Councillor Radha Burgess
Councillor Eliza Mann
Councillor Kieron Williams

OFFICERS PRESENT: Rory Patterson, Director, Children's Social Care
Jackie Cook, Head of Social Work Improvement and Quality Assurance
Jane Scott, Team Manager, Specialist Children Services
Rachael Flagg, Principal Strategy Officer
Paula Thornton, Constitutional Team
Kenny Uzodike, Constitutional Team

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Kath Whittam, Barbara Mills and Carolyn Martin.

2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

The members listed as present were confirmed as the voting members for the meeting.

3. ELECTION OF A VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED

That Councillor Eliza Mann be elected as the vice-chair of the committee for the 2014/15 municipal year.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2014 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair.

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

There were none.

6. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no disclosures of interests or dispensations.

7. PRESENTATION ON CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER

RESOLVED:

1. That the presentation be noted.

8. 2012/13 PROVISIONAL END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT - LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the director, children's social care for future performance reports include more data, scenarios and case studies (with the anonymity of children/young persons retained). The committee wished to see more examples and context to the statistical evidence.
3. In discussion, the following issues were raised for inclusion in future reports to the committee by the director, children's social care:
 - Factors affecting long term stability of placements and social workers
 - Additional information on the benchmarking data
 - The correlation between children missing from placements and poor educational performance
 - Distinction between out of borough residential placements and in borough residential placements

- Information on the percentage of initial care plans that end up as long term care plans.

9. CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE WORK PLAN 2014/15

RESOLVED:

1. That the report work programme be noted.
2. That in addition to the programmed reports, the following be listed as items on the agenda for the next meeting of the committee:
 - The link between out of borough placements and children missing from care
 - Report back from Speakerbox meeting (which are due to meet with the committee in October 2014)
 - Factors affecting long term stability of placements (including common causes of multiple placements).
3. That the following areas of interest also be included in the work programme:
 - Transition from Care to independent living (availability of independent living accommodation) (February 2015)
 - The effect of the recent developments in public health (transfer from NHS to council) on children in care
 - Teenage pregnancies among children in care
 - Progress reports and the measures of success for children in care
 - Feedback on work currently being undertaken by the department to improve the service
 - Education – how achievement levels can be further improved
 - Adoption challenges
 - Mentorship by members of the committee
4. A meeting be arranged with the committee and Speakerbox in October 2014 and that a follow up report is submitted to the November meeting of the committee.

Meeting ended at 4:20pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: