

Children's Services and Education Scrutiny sub-committee 4 October 2010

Questions for Cllr Catherine McDonald, Cabinet Member

- 1 In your manifesto you promised to 'guarantee every child a place in a local primary'. How do you define 'local' and will this apply to late applications for admission as well?

Cllr Adele Morris

- 2 What progress have you made so far in devolving 20% of the youth services budget to young people?

Cllr Rosie Shimell

- 3 How many Youth Community Council meetings have you visited? How do you feel these are working in practice?

Cllr Rosie Shimell

- 4 What impact has the Southwark Judgment had on the Children's Services budget? Was the money allocated last year sufficient to support the increased demands on social services?

Cllr David Hubber

- 5 Are there any vacancies in the children's social worker support teams? Please give the recruitment and retention figures for the past six months.

Cllr David Hubber

- 6 What progress has been made to set up the promised Commission on Teenage Pregnancy?

Cllr Adele Morris

- 7 What are the latest figures on teenage conceptions? What new measures will you put in place in addition to those initiated by the previous administration, to reduce the teenage conception figures?

Cllr Adele Morris

- 8 How do you intend to cut youth offending rates in the borough? What is your view of the effectiveness of the Youth offending Team?

Cllr David Hubber

- 9 What ideas do you have to tackle youth gang membership and gang-related crime in the borough?

Cllr David Hubber

- 10 When will every school pupil in Southwark receive free school meals? Will this scheme be piloted in a few schools first and how much will it cost?

Cllr Rosie Shimell

- 11 How many children in Southwark are obese or overweight at Reception stage? What do you believe would have the biggest impact on reducing childhood obesity levels?

Cllr Adele Morris

- 12 How will you increase the use of Surestart centres and services by disadvantaged families?

Cllr Rosie Shimell?

- 13 To what extent do you feel there is scope for increasing the use of volunteer mentors to support parents who are struggling with raising their families in challenging circumstances?

Cllr David Hubber

- 14 You and I recently attended a meeting of Southwark Anti-Homophobic Forum where the main topic was the need to tackle more effectively homophobic bullying in schools. To what extent do you think this is a subject that should receive high priority and have you any ideas about how the council could help to improve the situation?

Cllr David Hubber

- 15 Do you agree that there have been vast improvements in the educational results, particularly GCSEs, in Southwark in the past eight years and how do you envisage this upward trend can be maintained?

Cllr David Hubber

- 16 Could you tell us please what you have done to make the most of the new government's pupil premium?

- 17 Are Southwark schools safe from Building Schools for the Future cuts?

Can you give us an update on the projects that were signed recently?

Cllr Cleo Soanes

- 18 Do you believe that the improvement in educational attainment in Southwark was directly related to increased investment under the Labour Government and are you concerned that cuts in education spending could damage attainment?

Cllr Cleo Soanes

- 19 Do you think that making every council home warm dry and safe will have an impact on educational attainment and opportunities for young people?

Cllr The Right Revd Emmanuel Oyewole

- 20 There is going to be 25% cut across the Borough. Do you think it is about time we think seriously about the impact the cut will have on the young people?

Cllr The Right Revd Emmanuel Oyewole

- 21 Do you think we're encouraging the young people to get involve in criminality by not providing sufficient services and facilities for them?

Cllr The Right Revd Emmanuel Oyewole

- 22 Why are not the Councillors going out to meet/engage the young people in the Borough?

Cllr The Right Revd Emmanuel Oyewole

- 23 Why are we just working with the Youth Community Council members or established groups, what about the rest in this category?

Cllr The Right Revd Emmanuel Oyewole