



Corporate Parenting Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Corporate Parenting Committee held on Tuesday 24 February 2015 at 2.00 pm at the Council Offices, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Victoria Mills (Chair)
Councillor Evelyn Akoto
Councillor Jasmine Ali
Councillor Radha Burgess
Councillor Eliza Mann
Councillor Kath Whittam
Councillor Kieron Williams
Barbara Hills (Co-opted)

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Barrie Hargrove

OFFICER SUPPORT: Rory Patterson, Director, Children's Social Care
Dr. Beatrice Cooper, Designated Doctor for Looked After Children
Angela Brown, Designated Nurse for Looked After Children
Jane Scott, Team Manager, Specialist Children Services
Jackie Cook, Head Of Social Work Improvement And Quality Assurance, Children's and Adults' Services
Elaine Gunn, Principal Strategy Officer
Paula Thornton, Constitutional Team

OTHERS: Fabrizio Proietti, St. Christopher's Project
Angela Harris, St. Christopher's Project

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies for absence were received. All voting members were present.

2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

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

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

Further to a request made at the 3 November 2014 committee the chair agreed to hear a presentation from St. Christopher's project.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no disclosure of interests or dispensations.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the chair.

PRESENTATION FROM ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PROJECT

The committee received a presentation from the St. Christopher's fellowship, a children's charity that has been providing high quality care to vulnerable children and young people since 1870. The project provides high quality interventions for children and young people going missing from home and care and conduct independent return interviews.

RESOLVED:

1. That the committee receive a report back in 3 - 4 months time on further performance data (to be determined), comparing those who go missing to the general care population. Members of the committee to confirm the data that they would like included in the report by email to Rory Patterson, director, children's social care. For example, it was suggested that this data might include whether any health issues had been identified following medical examination of children who return from being missing.
2. To receive a report back in 1 year in order to review the process.

6. ANNUAL REPORT FROM DESIGNATED DOCTOR FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted and the importance of good health and health care for looked after children acknowledged.
2. That the committee continues to ensure that the life chances of looked after children are maximised in terms of health, educational attainment, and access to training and employment, to aid the transition to a secure and productive adulthood.
3. That an annual report on the health of looked after children be received by the

committee.

4. The following issues were identified for further updates/inclusion in the action plan:
 - Improving completion rates for health assessments (aim for 95%)
 - Work in improving immunisation rate and understanding what practical barriers are to accurate data capture
 - Mental health training for foster carers
 - Work in improving implementation of health care plan recommendations
 - Care leavers to be added to action plan and included in annual report to committee
 - Education healthcare plans and the need to ensure that health and education staff working better to identify and manage issues. The need to ensure that plans already in place, rather than waiting for the school to intervene.
5. That committee receive an update to the next meeting on the appointment of the medical advisor.
6. It be noted that the cabinet would be receiving a report on obesity setting out the council's strategy and that looked after children would be included.
7. That Councillor Barrie Hargrove, cabinet member for public health, parks and leisure, to follow up the issue with regard to the Fusion leisure centre cards for looked after children.

7. THE EFFECT OF THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PUBLIC HEALTH (TRANSFER FROM NHS TO COUNCIL) ON CHILDREN IN CARE

The committee discussed the need to raise the profile of the needs of looked after children in public health and the development of an action plan to improve the public health outcomes for children in care.

RESOLVED:

1. That the information presented in the report on the effect of public health transfer from the NHS to the council on children in care be noted.
2. That the committee receive an update report to the July 2015 meeting.

8. TEENAGE PREGNANCY AND LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN (LAC) YOUNG PEOPLE

RESOLVED:

1. That the contents of the report regarding teenage pregnancy and looked after children / young people be noted.
2. That Councillor Victoria Mills, cabinet member for children and schools request that the teenage pregnancy board look at what is happening in the care population as against the non-care population and work being done generally in this area,

including those children not in education, employment, or training to establish trends and what preventative support was provided and its impact.

9. TRANSITION FROM CARE TO INDEPENDENT LIVING

It was agreed to defer this item for a meeting to be arranged March/April 2015.

10. INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER'S (IRO) ANNUAL REPORT 2013/14

It was agreed to defer this item for a meeting to be arranged March/April 2015 and that the independent reviewing officers would be invited to the meeting.

11. WORK PLAN 2014/15

RESOLVED:

1. That the committee receive a report on destination data, if possible to the next meeting to be arranged March/April 2015.
2. In terms of the agenda for the July 2015 the following items were confirmed:
 - The experiences/practices of other local authorities in improving educational outcomes
 - Update report on public health as outlined in item 7
 - Report on care leavers to include information on the health services they access (including ongoing support).

Meeting ended at 4.45pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: