

Time commenced – 6.01pm
Time finished – 8.32pm

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE BOARD 18 DECEMBER 2012

Present: Councillor Whitby (Chair)
Ian Jennison and Councillors Bailey, Bolton, Campbell,
J Khan, Martin, and Williams

In Attendance: Councillor Rawson

42/12 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received for Alison Brown, Dave Wilkinson and Councillor F Winter.

43/12 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

44/12 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Campbell wished it to be noted that he was a member of the NASUWT.
Councillor Whitby wished it to be noted that he was a foster carer.

45/12 Minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2012

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair, subject to the following additions.

That under 40/12, the Privately Financed Initiative (PFI) was known as the Priority School Building Programme and that along with Lees Brook Community School the following had been identified as part of the initiative:

- Asterdale Primary School
- Carlyle Infant School
- Cavendish Close Junior School
- Chaddesden Park Infant School
- Chaddesden Park Junior School
- Reigate Primary School
- Woodlands School

That under 40/12, Members noted that local residents had complained to Councillors and Council officers about the mess around Noel-Baker School caused by the building work.

46/12 Call-in

There were no items.

47/12 Revenue Budget Proposals 2013/14 – 2015/16

The Board received a report on Revenue Budget Proposals 2013/14 – 2015/16 from the Strategic Director of Resources. It was reported that the Council had proposed three year budget plans in response to Government cuts and in line with the Council's budget strategy agreed by Council in September 2012. Members noted that the latest forecast required savings of £62 million over three years to balance the budget.

It was reported that the budget proposals were currently under consultation until 4 January 2013 and the outcomes from this consultation exercise and the final proposals would then be presented for approval to Council on 30 January 2013.

Members considered the budget proposals relevant to the Children and Young People Directorate.

Members were concerned by the proposed removal of the counselling service and felt it would have a substantial impact. Members noted that the counselling service was well used, but there was no statutory requirement to deliver it.

It was reported that there was a proposal to remove Primary Mental Health Workers. Members felt that the need for this type of service was increasing, not decreasing and appealed to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People that the posts not be removed. Members also asked the Cabinet Member to make representations to the Health and Wellbeing Board on this matter.

Members noted that savings would be sought through a reduction in the Parenting Support Programme. Members felt that the numbers of people requiring this type of support were increasing and were concerned about where they would go in the future.

Members were interested in the proposal to have a joint commissioning service with adults and public health and felt that this provided a good opportunity to work with young people and deliver savings.

It was reported that there would be a review of youth provision to a level of that required to ensure the statutory requirement of targeted youth support was met. It was explained that this would involve a reduction in sessional youth workers. Members noted that if income could be generated from existing buildings, there would be a future opportunity to increase the numbers of sessional youth workers to support community development work. Members felt that any future plans to increase sessional youth workers had to fit around what young people wanted and should be specific to individual wards.

Members raised concerns around the proposal to close the youth 'one stop shop' (Space) and transfer statutory services to other Council buildings. Members felt that

Space served a very important purpose and were concerned about the knock on effect of its closure. Members recognised the usefulness of having lots of different services in one central location and recommended that the Cabinet Member worked with partners to maintain the service in that way.

It was reported that there was a proposal to remove cooks from children's homes and meals would be prepared by other established staff in the homes. It was explained that this was to do with normalising the environment and teaching life skills. Members felt that this proposal could distract care home staff from their professional duties and were concerned that food quality could be affected. Members noted that a recommendation was being planned on this issue as part of the Topic review on Children's Homes

Members were worried about the proposed loss of the Clinical Psychologist for looked after children, when the contract came to an end. It was reported that it was hoped that the health service and Clinical Commissioning Group would provide the service. Members were concerned about a potential gap from one service finishing and a new one being commissioned. Members recommended that the looked after children psychology budget proposal be reviewed.

It was reported that there was a proposal to change the way therapeutic services were delivered and possibly recommission from other providers. Members noted that this was related to the child sex abuse service provided at Leopold Street. Members were very concerned about any loss in service and recommended that the business model for Leopold Street be reviewed to explore how the service could be maintained and prioritised.

Resolved;

- 1. to recommend that the business model for Leopold Street be reviewed in the next three months to explore whether the service can be maintained and thus be prioritised;**
- 2. to recommend that the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People works with partners to maintain the services at SPACE in the city centre and that a report on this matter be brought to the Children and Young People Board in three months time; and**
- 3. to recommend that the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People does not remove the primary mental health workers and that the looked after children psychology service budget proposal be reviewed.**

48/12 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

Resolved to note the Forward Plan.

MINUTES END