

ITEM 4

Time commenced – 6.00pm
Time finished – 8.00pm

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE COMMISSION 23 JANUARY 2007

Present: Councillor Williams (in the Chair)
Councillors Allen, Banwait, Ginns, Higginbottom, Ingall,
Jones, Khan, MacDonald and Marshall

Co-opted Member: Dr Devendra – Parent Governor Representative

In attendance: Dave Wilkinson - NASUWT

74/06 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mitchell, John Honey – Roman Catholic Diocese Representative, Nasreen Iqbal – Parent Governor Representative and Councillor Bolton – Cabinet Member for Children and Young People.

75/06 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

76/06 Declarations of Interest

Name	Type of interest	Reason
Councillor Higginbottom	Personal	Vice Chair of Governors – Ashgate Primary School
Councillor MacDonald	Personal Personal	Governor – Lees Brook Community Sports College Member of National Union of Teachers
Councillor Allen	Personal	Chair of the Management Committee at Pupil Referral Unit Governor at St Clare's School

77/06 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2006 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the following amendment:

Minute No 16/06 - Apologies for Absence – to include Councillor Williams and Khan's apologies for absence.

78/06 Call In

There were no items.

Items for Discussion

79/06 Let's Talk Budget

The Commission considered a report from the Corporate Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services, detailing the Council Cabinet's proposals for the draft revenue budget 2007/08-2009/10 within the portfolio of the Children and Young People Commission.

The Commission questioned the Corporate Director for Children and Young People on the proposals.

Resolved:

- 1. to inform Council Cabinet that the Commission was pleased to learn that since the preparation of the consultation document it was now proposed to have a marginally above inflation increase in the rates of allowances payable to foster carers and the Commission would continue to monitor the Council's further progress toward achieving the government's recommended allowance level.**
- 2. to ask the Council Cabinet to adopt a policy that external funding applications must not state that mainstreaming either would or might be available upon time expiry but should set out a proper exit strategy and that this be communicated to Council staff and partner organisations.**
- 3. to advise Council Cabinet that the Commission recognised the achievements of the Derby Youth Service and wished to see it flourish when resource availability allowed.**
- 4. to advise Council Cabinet that the Commission wished to be consulted during the working up of proposals on service commissioning for the successor to Connexions Derbyshire.**

80/06 Children and Young People's Department Capital Programme 2007/08-2009/10

The Commission received a report from the Corporate Director for Children and Young People, outlining the Council's proposed Capital Programme for 2007/08-2009/10.

Resolved to endorse the proposed Children and Young People's Department Capital Programme for 2007/08-2009/10.

81/06 Children Looked After Topic Review – Action Plan

The Commission considered a report from the Corporate Director for Children and Young People presenting the proposed response and action plan in respect of the recommendations made by the Children and Young People Commission following its review of services for looked after children. The Commission had made 34 recommendations. 25 of these recommendations were accepted and plans were in place to achieve these over the next 12 months, although many would be achieved before this. Six of the recommendations required further work to examine their viability for Derby and their potential impact. These were specifically identified within the plan and a time scale was given for the necessary work. One recommendation was partially accepted but was not achievable in the financial year 2007/08 and two recommendations were not accepted.

Resolved:

- 1. to note and endorse the action plan produced in response to the topic review recommendations.**
- 2. to receive a report on progress against the action plan in October 2007.**

82/06 Care Matters – Council Response to the Green Paper

The Commission considered a report from the Corporate Director for Children and Young People outlining the Council's formal response to the Government Green Paper "Care Matters – Transforming the Lives of Children and Young People in Care".

Resolved to note and endorse the Council's formal response to the Government Green Paper "Care Matters – Transforming the Lives of Children and Young People in Care".

83/06 Derby Play Strategy

The Commission considered a report that had been approved by Council Cabinet at its meeting on 16 January 2007, which detailed the Play Strategy that had been developed following extensive consultation with partners and this would form the

basis by which the Council would develop the city's application to the big lottery on 12 March 2007. The Commission were asked to endorse the strategy.

The Chair raised concern regarding the connection between being able to attract external funding and where in the city this could be spent. The concern was that the five priority areas, plus New Deal, already attracted funding from other sources and how funding could be equalised to ensure other areas of the city were not left out. Andrew Beddow – Head of Sport and Leisure, advised that there was no prescription in the Play Strategy around targeted areas and maybe the Council could look at pockets of deprivation regarding play amenities over the long term. The Chair said it would be interesting to look at the non-priority neighbourhood renewal funded areas still with pockets of deprivation to see if some money could be spent to implement the strategy in these areas. Cllr Ingall and other members agreed with the Chair's sentiments. Cllr Allen commented that he liked the term 'play deprivation' that had been used because it was specific to the issue.

Resolved to endorse the Play Strategy.

84/06 Children Social Care Voluntary and Community Sector Grant Funding for 2007/08

The Commission considered a report that had been approved by Council Cabinet at its meeting on 16 January 2007 setting out the Children and Young People Social Care Grant Funding including joint funding with partner agencies, to be provided to voluntary and community organisations in 2007/08.

Resolved to endorse a) the grant proposals for 2007/08 and b) the intention at paragraph 4.14 of the report that a full review will be conducted to assess whether the outputs and outcomes of the currently funded activity meet the priorities identified within the Children and People Plan, acknowledging that changes may be painful but may need to happen.

85/06 Performance Eye

There were no new issues to consider at the meeting.

86/06 Work Programme

Resolved to note the work programme.

87/06 Retrospective Scrutiny

There were no items.

88/06 Focus Scrutiny

There were no items.

89/06 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

There were no new items.

90/06 Matters Referred to the Commission by Council
Cabinet

There were no items.

Minutes End