

Time commenced - 6.00pm
Time finished - 8.50pm

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE COMMISSION 4 NOVEMBER 2008

Present: Councillor Bolton (Chair)
Councillors Ginns, Higginbottom, F Khan, Latham,
Rawson
John Honey – Catholic Church Diocese

In attendance: Councillor Allen
Amy Fitzpatrick
Asha Nasar
Alex Boddey
Claire Stoll
Issra Nasar
Davina Butchere

39/08 Apologies

An apology was received from Alison Brown.

40/08 Late Items

There were no late items.

41/08 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

42/05 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2008 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Items for Discussion

43/08 Welcome by Chair to Young People's Representatives

The Chair introduced the young people's representatives to the Commission. The Commission discussed the outcome of the recent Young People's Mystery Shopper experience and asked for comments and feedback from the young people's representatives. The Commission asked that the findings of the Mystery Shopping Group be made available to them.

Davina Butchere visited Housing Options and felt that the staff should be more open and friendly to a young person going into the offices as a young person if they felt scared could decide just to walk away. Councillor Latham advised that another issues was that Housing Options was closed all day on a Tuesday for staff training. It was suggested that they should only close for half a day so that urgent matters, particularly involving young people, could be dealt with. The Commission agreed to feed these comments back to Housing Options.

Claire Stoll advised that she had recently tried to travel on an Arriva Bus but did not have any money. She advised the bus driver that she did not have the fare but the bus driver did not let her travel. Arriva's policy is that any young person without the fare should be allowed to travel and the driver should make a note of their details and ensure they travel safely but this does not seem to be a constant approach. This issue had been raised at the Physical Futures but a response had not yet been received on this issue. The Commission raised its concern with this situation and agreed to write to Arriva expressing concern and asking for a response to the issues raised.

Davina Butchere visited Connexions drop in on Audrey Drive as part of the Mystery Shopper group. Davina advised the Commission that it was difficult at this drop in centre and at other Connexions centres to talk about confidential issues in private with an adviser. During this particular visit Davina was able to over hear discussions taking place with the young person that was being seen to before her. The Commission agreed to follow up these concerns with Connexions.

Resolved to raise the issues discussed at the meeting with Arriva, Housing Options and Connexions.

44/08 Revenue Budget Strategy 2009/10 – 2011/12 – Pre-Budget Briefing

The Commission considered a report from the Corporate Director of Resources that sought the Commission's suggestions on areas for potential savings to be considered as part of the budget process. The Commission was also asked to note emerging budget pressures and forecasts for the 2009/10 – 2011/12 budget as highlighted in the Revenue Strategy report to Cabinet on 30 September 2008.

Resolved to note the emerging budget pressures and forecasts for the 2009/10 – 2011/12 budget as highlighted in the Revenue Strategy report to Cabinet on 30 September 2008.

45/08 Bällstabergs School - Sweden

The Commission received a presentation from Andrew Flack – Corporate Director for Children and Young People and Councillor Allen – Cabinet

Member for Children and Young People following their visit to Bällstabergs school in Sweden.

Resolved to note the presentation.

46/08 Action Plan Proposals for Reducing Teenage Pregnancies in Derby

The Commission considered a report from the Corporate Director for Children and Young People detailing the draft Derby Teenage Pregnancy action plan. The plan would be considered by the Teenage Pregnancy Commissioning Board at its meeting on 17 November 2008.

Resolved to accept the draft action plan in principle prior to the Derby Teenage Pregnancy Commissioning Board approval at its meeting on the 17 November 2008.

47/08 Update on the Proposed Conversion of Sinfin and Bemrose Community Schools to Academies

The Commission received an update on the proposed conversion of Sinfin and Bemrose Community Schools to academies from Andrew Flack – Corporate Director for Children and Young People.

The Commission was advised that with regard to Bemrose, Council Cabinet had agreed to consider a range of options. The possibility of a National College Trust was particularly being looked at. This proposal was still being worked on.

The feasibility stage had been reached in making Sinfin Community School an Academy. This dealt with all the detail expected of a school going through this process to change status. Two consultations had opened the week allowing six weeks for responses.

Dave Wilkinson – NASUWT distributed a document produced by Catalyst on behalf of the NASUWT regarding the proposals to change the status of Sinfin Community School to an Academy.

The Commission raised concern with the recent industrial action that had taken place at Sinfin Community School. It was suggested that the way to make opinions and views known was by responding to the consultation.

Resolved to arrange a special meeting of the Commission to consider responds to the Consultation to change the status of Sinfin Community School to an Academy.

48/08 Proposal to Government Office: East Midlands to
Establish a 16-19 Sub regional Partnership for
Derbyshire and Derby

The Commission received a briefing on the proposal to Government Office East Midlands to establish a 16-19 Sub Regional Partnership for Derby and Derbyshire. Andrew Flack – Corporate Director for Children and Young People advised the Commission that the Council had submitted a short outline bid. A formal answer had not yet been received. The next stage of the bid had to be submitted by the end of January 2009.

Resolved to note the briefing.

49/08 Forward Plan Item 22/08 – MyPlace Capital Investment
Programme

The Commission received a progress report on the MyPlace Capital Investment Programme. David Finn – Head of Youth Service provided an update following the report that was considered at the last meeting of the Commission. The MyPlace bid was currently on hold. The next bidding round was March/April 2009 although it was not know how much finding would be available in this round.

Resolved to note the progress.

50/08 Performance Eye

The Commission considered a report from performance eye relating to performance indicators that fell within the Commissions remit.

Resolved to note the report.

51/08 Retrospective Scrutiny

There were no items.

52/08 Arrangements for Commission Visit to Sandon High
School, Stoke on Trent

The Commission noted the arrangements for the visit to Sandon high School, Stoke on Trent.

53/08 Arrangements for Commission Visit to Dale Primary
School Extended School – 26 November 2008

The Commission noted the arrangements for the visit to Dale Primary School
Extended School.

54/08 Forward Plan

There were no items identified from the forward plan for discussion at a future
meeting.

Minutes End