

Time commenced - 6.00pm
Time finished - 7.45pm

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE COMMISSION
6 NOVEMBER 2007

Present: Councillor Poulter (In the Chair)
Councillors Bayliss, Higginbottom, Rawson and Willoughby.

Co-opted Members: Mr J Honey - Roman Catholic Diocese Representative
Dr Keerthi Devendra – Parent Governor Representative

In Attendance: Ian Jennison - NUT

37/07 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Allen, Dhamrait and Ginns, Alison Brown, Nasreen Iqbal and Kirit Mistry.

38/07 Late Items

There were no late items.

39/07 Declarations of Interest

Name	Type of interest	Reason
Councillor Dhamrait	Personal	Governor – Dale Primary School
Councillor Higginbottom	Personal	Chair of Governors – Ashgate Primary School and a governor at Brackensdale Junior School
Councillor Rawson	Personal	Governor – da Vinci Community College Trustee / Management Board Member – Umbrella Trustee / Management Board Member – Derwent Stepping Stones

40/07 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 11 September and 24 October 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Responses of the Council Cabinet to any reports of the Commission

41/07 Building Schools for the Future – Choice and Diversity

The Commission considered a response to its report which was considered by Council Cabinet at its meeting on 30 October 2007. Cabinet had resolved: 'To note the recommendations of the Commission and ask the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People to take them into account as the project moved forward'.

Resolved to note the response of Council Cabinet to the Commission's report on Building Schools for the Future.

Performance Management

42/07 Performance Eye Quarter 2 Data for 2007/8

The Commission considered a report from the Corporate Director of Corporate and Adult Services providing information on the Performance Eye Quarter 2 data for 2007/8.

The Commission highlighted the following indicators for further consideration and clarification:

CP1.3civ – Increase in range of voluntary and statutory projects working with disadvantaged young people – The Commission asked that further information be provided as to what basis the department felt they would meet the year target of 80 projects. The Commission asked that this information be emailed to members.

CYP2.1 – Number of weeks waiting time for access to specialist CAMHS services – The Commission were concerned that there was no traffic light for this indicator for either Quarter 1 or 2 and a commentary attached to Quarter 1 had said: 'This indicator will not be reported on until quarter two. A meeting is to be held between representatives from the Children and Young People's Department and the CAMHS providers to discuss future reporting and measurement against the 2007-08 target of 13 weeks' This was an indicator that the Commission was monitoring. The Commission asked that a response be provided by the Derbyshire Mental Health Services Trust and that if the response was not satisfactory to invite the Trust to the January 2008 meeting for further explanation.

Resolved

- 1. To request an email response from the head of the Youth Service on indicator CP1.3civ.**
- 2. To request an explanation and commentary from the Derbyshire Mental Health Services NHS Trust and subject to this response being satisfactory to invite the Trust to attend the next meeting of the Commission to provide further explanation.**

43/07 Schools' Performance in Key Stage 1 and 2
Assessments

The Commission considered a report from the Corporate Director for Children and Young People on schools' performance in Key Stage 1 and 2. Mick Seller, Assistant Director - Learning, presented the report to the Commission.

The Vice Chair asked what the reasons were for the underperformance. Mr Seller said the factors included: the range of teaching quality, continuity of teaching, record keeping and the setting and achieving of targets for individual children. He outlined steps being taken to improve teaching where the quality was not satisfactory or better. Eight School Improvement Partners have recently been appointed to work with the city's 78 primary schools to raise standards overall. 14 schools have been identified for intensive support from the primary strategy consultant team. They undertake 6 week reviews of individual pupils' progress in these schools. This meant that by the end of March 2008 there should be a clear picture of how each of the 14 schools was progressing. Improvement should be apparent in the SATs data out later in the year. Good attendance by pupils and good leadership by the head were cited as key factors.

Resolved a) to receive a further update in March 2008 based on the tangible results of the 6 week reviews and b) this then be considered as a possible subject for focussed scrutiny.

Items for Discussion

44/07 Looked After Children

The Commission considered a report from the Corporate Director for Children and Young People providing details of the progress being made against the action plan produced following the Commission's review of Children Looked After.

The Commission accepted the progress made so far and asked for an update in March 2008.

Councillor Poulter reported that following Councillor's visits to children's homes, one of the points brought back by Councillor's was the state of the décor in the homes. Keith Woodthorpe – Assistant Director – Specialist

Services, advised that a report would be presented to the next Corporate Parenting meeting on this issue.

Resolved to note the progress report and to request a further update in March 2008.

45/07 Home to School Transport

The Commission considered a report from the Corporate Director for Children and Young People detailing the revised proposals for the school transport consultation. Keith Forrest explained the changes compared to the original proposals and how the Commission's views had been taken into account. He and Christine Durrant then answered members' questions. Mr Honey expressed concerns about the impact of the proposed policy on St Benedict's. He wanted the Commission to know whether changes in parental preferences had been noticed.

Resolved a) to defer making comment on the proposals until the results of the consultation are available, b) to ask the Chair and Vice Chair to study the responses as soon as they are available and c) if necessary hold a special meeting of the Commission on 10 January 2008 to further consider the issue ahead of Council Cabinet taking the Key Decision on 15 January 2008.

46/07 Focussed Scrutiny

The Commission agreed that items for focussed scrutiny would be considered and decided upon by the Chair, Vice Chair and a Liberal Democrat representative based on discussions at the previous meeting.

47/07 Retrospective Scrutiny

There were no items.

48/07 Call-In

There were no items.

49/07 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

There were no items.

50/07 Matters Referred to the Commission by Council Cabinet

There were no items.

MINUTES END