

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

5.00PM – 17 OCTOBER 2005

COMMITTEE ROOMS 2/3
BRIGHTON TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Hawkes (Chair), McCaffery (Deputy Chair), Brown (OS), Bodfish, Giebeler, Hazelgrove, Kemble, Mallender, Norman and Young.

PART ONE

ACTION

33. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

33A Declarations of Substitutes

33.1	<u>Substitute Councillor</u>	<u>For Councillor</u>
	Councillor Kemble	Councillor Hyde
	Councillor Bodfish	Councillor John

33B Declarations of Interest

33.2 There were none.

33C Exclusion of Press and Public

33.3 The Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in Section 100A(3) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

33.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public not be excluded from the meeting.

34. MINUTES

34.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 5

September 2005 be approved and signed by the Chair.

35. CALLOVER

35.1 **RESOLVED** – That with the exception of the items reserved (and marked with an asterisk), the recommendations and resolutions contained therein be approved and adopted without debate.

36. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

36.1 There were no public questions.

***37. LETTER FROM COUNCILLOR MALLENDER**

37.1 Councillor Mallender attended the meeting and presented his letter to the Committee. The letter requested information on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) issues within schools.

37.2 **RESOLVED** - That the letter be noted.

***37a RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM COUNCILL MALLENDER**

37a.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Children Families & Schools which provided a response to Councillor Mallender's letter to the Committee.

37a.2 **RESOLVED** –
(1) That the report be noted.

***38. FALMER SCHOOL STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT**

38.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Children Families & Schools relating to Falmer School Strategic Development (for copy see minute book). The report set out an analysis of the options for the future development of Falmer High School.

38.2 The Committee were informed that the Governors of Falmer High School had, at their meeting of 13th October, agreed to undertake consultation on this matter.

38.3 The Committee noted that full consultation would take place on this matter and all issues of concern would be considered during such consultation.

38.4 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the committee noted the outcome of the Falmer School Governing Body's meeting held on 13th October and agreed to initiate a consultative process with parents, the local

community and other stakeholders, with a view to submitting an Expression of Interest for a possible Academy in December 2005. It was noted that the submission of an Expression of Interest would not imply commitment on either side at this stage.

(2) That the outline timetable for this consultation process be noted.

(3) That it was agreed to invite the Head and Chair of Governors of Falmer High School, together with the prospective sponsor, to a forthcoming meeting of the Committee, to discuss the vision for the school and the Academy proposal in more detail.

***39. PRIVATE FOSTERING**

39.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Children Families & Schools relating to Private Fostering (for copy see minute book). The report advised the Committee on the changes in legislation brought about by the Children Act 2004 with regard to privately fostered children, and advised the members of the actions already taken by Children Families & Schools Directorate in light of the new legislation and of the implications for the local authority.

39.2 RESOLVED –

(1) That it be noted that from 18th July 2005 the local authority has enhanced responsibilities with regard to children who are privately fostered.

(2) That it be noted that from April 2006 the Commission for Social Care will measure Local Authorities performance against the 2004 legislation which introduced new regulations and a set of National Minimum Standards.

(3) That it be noted that under Section 10 of the Children Act 2004, the authority is required to establish wider co-operation arrangements between agencies engaged in the Children's Trust.

40. TRANSITION OF RHYTHMIX CONSORTIUM INTO A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

40.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Children Families & Schools relating to Transition of Rhythmix Consortium into a Company Limited by Guarantee (for copy see minute book).

40.2 RESOLVED –

(1) That the Committee agreed to the setting up of a Rhythmix company, limited by guarantee

(2) That the Director be authorised to take steps necessary and or incidental for the implementation of the proposed company, which includes finalising the Memorandum and Articles.

**Director
Children
Families &**

(3) That the matter be referred to Policy & Resources Committee with a recommendation that a council member is nominated to sit on the elected Rhythmix Board.

Schools

***41. IMPROVEMENTS TO SCHOOL MEALS**

41.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Children Families & Schools relating to Improvements to School Meals (for copy see minute book). The report provided information about the new government funding for school meals and how it would be used to improve nutritional standards. The report set out the pricing strategy as required under the Council's Financial Regulations.

41.2 RESOLVED –

- (1) That the use of additional funding received to ensure school meals exceed the government's minimum nutritional standards.
- (2) That the price increases for school meals be agreed.

***42. CURRICULUM GUIDELINES FOR BRIGHTON & HOVE YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICE**

42.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Children Families & Schools relating to Curriculum Guidelines for Brighton & Hove Youth Support Service (for copy see minute book). This report presented the proposed curriculum guidelines for the Brighton & Hove City Council's Youth Support Service to the Committee and informed the members of the context in which the Curriculum guidelines have been written.

42.2 RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Committee welcomed and adopted the Curriculum Guidelines of Brighton & Hove City Council's Youth Support Service.
- (2) That members noted the post Ofsted action plan which had been developed following the previous Committee report and agreed with the Government Office of the South East (GOSE).

***43. REVISED GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOLS: PROMOTING RACE EQUALITY**

43.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Children Families & Schools relating to Revised Guidance for Schools: Promoting Race Equality (for copy see minute book). This report informed the Committee on the progress made in developing

race equality in schools.

43.2 The Committee were informed that in paragraph 3.8 of the document 'Promoting Race Equality: Guidance for Schools', the words 'schools complaints procedure' should be inserted at the end of the second sentence.

43.3 RESOLVED –

(1) That the contents of the guidance were consider within the context of the Directorate and with reference to the corporate context as a whole.

(2) That the guidance be welcomed and adopted for immediate release.

44. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANNUAL EDP ACTION PLAN

44.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Children Families & Schools relating to Progress Report on the Implementation of the Annual EDP Action Plan (for copy see minute book). The report informed the Committee of the progress after six months with the Education Development Plan annual Action Plan.

44.2 **RESOLVED** – That the progress achieved be noted.

45. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL

45.1 **RESOLVED** – That no items go forward to Council

The meeting concluded at 6.30 pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2005

