

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD

5.00PM – 20 NOVEMBER 2006

BRIGHTON TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present:

Brighton & Hove City Council: Councillor Hawkes (Chair); Councillors Mrs Brown, Hazelgrove, Hyde, John, Kemble, McCaffery, Mallender and Norman.

Brighton & Hove Primary Care Trust: Janice Robinson.

South Downs Health: Quintin Barry and Mo Marsh.

Non-voting Co-optees:

Alison Robertson (Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust),
David Standing and Roy Ward (Community & Voluntary Sector Forum),
Ray Gold (Parent Forum),
Carole Shaves (Sussex Police Authority),
Kerry Bridge and Kevin Reeves (Youth Council).

Apologies for absence were received from Julian Lee and Darren Grayson (Brighton & Hove Primary Care Trust), Anne Caborn (South Downs Health Trust) and Linda Hodgson (Parent's Forum).

PART ONE

ACTION

23. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

23A. Declarations of Substitutes

23.1 There were no declarations of Substitute Members.

23B. Declarations of Interest

23.2 There were none.

23C. Exclusion of Press and Public

23.3 The Board 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 I of the Local Government Act 1972.

- 23.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting during consideration of any of the items on the agenda.

24. MINUTES

- 24.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2006 be approved and signed by the Chair.

25. CALLOVER

- 25.1 **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 excepting Notices of Motion, Deputations, Petitions and Letters which are reserved automatically.

26. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

- 26.1 The Chair noted that the recent changes to the constitution of the Board had come into effect and in this respect the South Downs Health Trust now had voting rights. She asked the solicitor to the Board to clarify matters in relation to voting on matters.
- 26.2 The Solicitor to the Board stated that each of the parties represented on the Board had equal voting rights and that a block vote would be taken on matters as required. For specific matters in relation to the Section 31 Agreement and commissioning matters only Brighton & Hove City Council and the PCT would have a vote and should there be an instance where one of the block votes went against a proposal, the matter would be referred back to the constituent parties for consideration.

*27. YOUTH HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY

- 27.1 The Board considered a report of the Director of Children's Services, which detailed and sought approval of the Youth Homelessness Strategy for 2007-10 (for copy see minute book).
- 27.2 The Head of Housing Need introduced the report and stated that tackling youth homelessness had been identified as a priority in the Brighton & Hove Children & Young People's Plan 2006-2009 and was a key focus of the revised Homelessness Strategy. He noted that half of all homeless people were aged between 16 and 24 and the strategy aimed to tackle the situation and was the first such strategy to be developed jointly by those agencies supporting this vulnerable group.
- 27.3 The Board welcomed the report and noted that the strategy had been well received by the Housing Committee at its meeting on the 16 November, who had agreed to review the progress made against the objectives in a year's time. Members of the

Board felt that it would be beneficial for the Board to also review the progress made against the objectives outlined in the strategy and asked that a report be brought back in a year's time. Members of the Board welcomed the emphasis on the preventative work outlined in the strategy and that whilst there was an element of rough sleepers who came from outside of the city, support mechanisms were in place to enable them to return to an area of safety.

27.4 The Chair thanked the officers on behalf of the Board for their work in bringing the strategy together.

27.5 **RESOLVED –**

(1) That the draft Youth Homelessness Strategy 2007-10 as detailed in the appendix to the report be approved; and

(2) That a further report be brought back to the Board in a year's time outlining the progress made against the objectives set out in the strategy.

***28. JOINT AREA REVIEW 2006 FINAL REPORT**

28.1 The Board considered a report of the Director of Children's Services on the Joint Area Review (JAR) report on services for children and young people in Brighton and Hove, the report for children and young people about the services they receive in Brighton and Hove and the local action plan that addresses the findings and recommendations in those reports.

28.2 The Assistant Director, Quality & Performance introduced the report and outlined the action plan that had been drawn up in light of the report's recommendations. He noted that delegated authority was sought for any amendments to the action plan as this needed to be finalised by the 23rd November.

28.3 Members of the Board welcomed the report and asked that the officers involved be thanked for all their hard work in achieving an excellent result under the JAR. It was noted that those areas that needed to improve had already been identified and work was in hand to address matters. The Board also noted that the Inspection Team had not always been willing to understand the issues faced by the authority and therefore take on board the answers, which had been frustrating, but nevertheless the outcome was very welcome.

28.4 **RESOLVED –**

(1) That the JAR reports be noted and the proposals set out in the draft action plan be agreed; and

(2) That the Director of Children's Services be given delegated authority to amend the action plan as necessary, in order to meet the required publication date, after consultation with the Chair.

***29. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN – MID-YEAR REPORT**

- 29.1 The Board considered a report of the Director of Children's Services setting out the first Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) mid-year report and summarising the progress made on the development of performance improvement systems for the Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT), (for copy see minute book).
- 29.2 The Assistant Director, Quality & Performance introduced the report and noted that it represented a change in performance reporting about the services for children and young people provided or commissioned by the CYPT. He also noted that it was intended to review the plan annually and asked for feedback on the report's content and format.
- 29.3 Members of the Board welcomed the report and stated that it was very comprehensive but felt that it was difficult to give enough time to discuss the various aspects of the report. It was suggested that thought could be given to having a discussion topic at future meetings to enable the Board to look at issues more closely.
- 29.4 **RESOLVED** - That the actions being taken to improve performance across the CYPT including the format and presentation of the mid-year report be noted.

30. TEST AND EXAM RESULTS IN BRIGHTON & HOVE SCHOOLS 2006

- 30.1 The Board considered a report of the Director of Children's Services setting out the national test and examination results for Brighton & Hove schools for the 2005/2006 academic year for copy see minute book).
- 30.2 **RESOLVED** - That the report be noted, the results published and the action outlined in the individual sections of the report in bold be endorsed.

31. SURE START CAPITAL FUNDING 2006-8: CHILDCARE SUSTAINABILITY

- 31.1 The Board considered a report of the Director of Children's Services setting out a range of options for the sustainable early years childcare provision element for copy see minute book).
- 31.2 **RESOLVED** –
- (1) That the proposals set out in paragraph 5.2 and the criteria set out in paragraph 5.3 of the report for distributing the remaining funding be agreed; and
 - (2) That the external design for the outside of the Gateway Children's Centres, as detailed in annex 3 to the report be noted.

***32. APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM THE BIG LOTTERY FUND CHILDREN'S PLAY PROGRAMME ALLOCATION FOR BRIGHTON & HOVE**

32.1 The Board considered a report of the Director of Children's Services concerning The Big Lottery Fund allocation of £514,785 to Brighton & Hove to deliver a programme of Children's Play (for copy see minute book).

32.2 The Assistant Director introduced the report and stated that the Strategic Play Forum had developed a portfolio of projects that would form Brighton & Hove's application. He noted that it was intended to have the Gateway Buildings in the same colour so as to form a discreet identity across the city. With regard to the projects identified, he stated that there had been a lengthy consultation process with a series of workshops and open days which had led to a number of expressions of interest. It was hoped to develop the play bus facility as this was seen as important in being able to access small community groups.

32.3 Members of the Board welcomed the report and asked that each project be monitored and a report on how they develop brought back to the Board in due course.

32.4 RESOLVED:-

- (1) That the content of the Brighton & Hove BLF Children's Play application be agreed;
- (2) That the progress on plans for the future role of the Strategic Play Forum be noted; and
- (3) That the New Charter for Children's Play and the updated Brighton & Hove Play Strategy be endorsed.

***33. JOINT INSPECTION OF BRIGHTON & HOVE YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM**

33.1 The Board considered a report of the Director of Children's Services concerning the Joint Inspection Report on Brighton & Hove Youth Offending Team (YOT) carried out in April 2006 and the outline draft action plan which addresses the findings of the report (for copy see minute book)

33.2 The Head of the YOT introduced the report and stated that the inspection had proved to be helpful in identifying areas that needed to be looked at in terms of recording and monitoring procedures. He believed the draft action plan would enable the team to address certain issues that had been identified and enable the team to develop further.

33.3 Members of the Board expressed their support for the YOT and stated that they were extremely impressed with the work that was undertaken. The action plan was welcomed and it was felt that it would enable improvements to be made in the areas identified by the inspection team.

33.4 RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Joint Inspection Report be noted; and.
- (2) That the draft action plan be noted.

34. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL

- 34.1 RESOLVED -** That item No.27, Youth Homelessness Strategy be referred to the Council for information.

The meeting concluded at 6.45pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2007