

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD

5.00PM – MONDAY 21 JANUARY 2008

BANQUETING ROOM HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillors: Mrs Brown (Deputy Chairman in the Chair), Duncan, Harmer–Strange, Hawkes, Hyde, Kemble, Kitcat, McCaffery and K Norman

Brighton & Hove Primary Care Trust: Dr Louise Hulton.

South Downs Health: Quintin Barry, John O'Sullivan, Anne Caborn and Mo Marsh.

Non-Voting Co-optees:

Naima Nougdem (Community & Voluntary Sector Forum) (Mosaic)

Elenor Davies (Parent Forum)

Vacancy (Surrey & Sussex Strategic Health Authority).

Apologies for absence were received from:

Darren Grayson (Chief Executive), Brighton & Hove Primary Care Trust

Julian Lee (Chairman), Brighton & Hove Primary Care Trust

Lynette Gwyn Jones (Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals)

David Standing (Community & Voluntary Sector Forum)

Andrew Jeffery (Parent Forum)

Miles Radford (Youth Council)

Kevin Reeves (Youth Council)

Rekha Rogers (Youth Council)

Carole Shaves (Sussex Police Authority)

PART ONE

ACTION

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Before proceeding to the formal business of the meeting the Chairman welcomed Councillor Kitcat who had been newly appointed to the Board. She also took the opportunity to thank Lorraine O'Reilly for her work during her period as the Acting Director of Children's Services

and to introduce Di Smith who was present and would be taking up the Director's post with effect from 3 March 2008 .

In the absence of the Chairman, Julian Lee of the Primary Care Trust, the Deputy Chairman Councillor Mrs Vanessa Brown took the Chair for the meeting .

45 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

45A Declarations of Substitutes

45.1 There were none.

45B Declarations of Interest

45.2 Councillor Mo Marsh (South Downs Health) declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 55 "2008/ 2009 Budget Strategy" stating that she would leave the meeting during consideration of this item and would take no part in the discussion or voting thereon. Councillor Harmer - Strange declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 57 stating that he did not intend to take any part in the discussion or voting thereon.

45C Exclusion of Press and Public

45.3 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 Schedule 12A, Part 5A, Section 100A(4) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

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

46. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 NOVEMBER 2007

46.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2007 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

47. CALLOVER

47.1 **RESOLVED** - That with the exception of items reserved (and

marked with an asterisk, the recommendations and resolutions contained therein be approved and adopted without debate excepting, Presentations, Notices of Motion, Deputations, Petitions and Letters which are received automatically .

48. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

New Year's Honours List Award of MBE to Councillor Pat Hawkes

- 48.1 The Chairman wished to place on record her congratulations and those of the Board to Councillor Pat Hawkes who had been awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours List in recognition of her outstanding service and commitment to services for young people across the City over a number of years .

Additional Funding : Respite Services for Disabled Children

- 48.2 The Chairman informed the Board that confirmation had recently been received that 2m of addition funding had been secured towards the costs of providing respite care for disabled children in the city .

Proposed Falmer Academy

- 48.3 The Chairman explained that the prospective sponsor had withdrawn. This was disappointing in view of the progress which had been made, particularly in recent months. The LEA would however continue to explore the option as appropriate and to seek to obtain good outcomes for pupils there and for pupils at all of the City's schools.
- 48.4 **RESOLVED** - That the Chairman's communications be received and noted.

49. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- 49.1 **RESOLVED** - There were none.

50A TO RECEIVE PETITIONS, LETTERS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS.

Letter from Councillor Turton : Changes to BCG Immunisation Programme Against Tuberculosis (TB)

- 50.1 The Board considered a letter received from Councillor Turton in respect of the above matter (for copy see minute book). In Councillor Turton's absence Councillor

Hawkes amplified the concerns raised in Councillor Turton's letter.

50.2 The following response was given by Dr Sian Bennett, Clinical Director and Adviser to the CYPT:

50.3 "Tuberculosis (TB) is a difficult disease to catch requiring prolonged exposure to an infected individual.

Brighton and Hove Children and Young People's Trust delivers the BC (Bacillus Calmette- Guerin) vaccination programme for children in the city in line with national guidance as laid out in the "Green Book 2006 - Immunisation Against Infectious Diseases" and NICE guidance both of which are based on the best available current evidence.

The change in the BCG programme was made following recommendations by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) which was an independent panel of experts who advise the Government on vaccination and immunisation issues. The JCVI has kept the BCG programme under review since 1989. based on a careful review of all available scientific and epidemiological data, it advised the Government in July 2005 that it was time to stop the schools programme in favour of an improved, targeted neonatal and other "at risk" based programme.

The changes to the programme reflect the change in epidemiology of the UK, and the JCVI recommend that the following risk groups be offered the BCG vaccination.

- infants living in areas where the incidence of TB is 40 / 100,000 or greater;

- Infants and previously unvaccinated children under 16 years of age whose parents grandparents were born in a country with a TB incidence of 40 / 100,000 or higher;

- Previously unvaccinated new entrants under 16 years of age from high prevalence countries for TB; and

- Previously unvaccinated under 16 years who are going to live or work with local people for more than three months in a country where the annual incidence of TB is 40/ 100,000 or greater.

BCG Vaccination continues to be offered to those at risk due to their occupation, such as health care workers,

veterinary staff, staff of prisons; and to contacts of known cases.

The decision to offer universal vaccination is based on TB incidence and not the demographic make up of the population. TB is a notifiable disease, which means that all cases must be reported enabling an increase in incidence to be monitored and acted upon, if the rates in Brighton and Hove and Sussex were to exceed 40 / 100,000 cases, then under the current guidance, a universal vaccination programme would be re-introduced. The incidence for Brighton and Hove PCT for 2003 – 5 was in the 0.9 / 100,000 rate band.

It should be noted that the current BCG programme better protects those "at risk groups" by enabling them to be vaccinated at the earliest opportunity and reduces the need for children to unnecessarily receive the vaccination."

50.4 In answer to the response given, whilst noting all that had been said Councillor Hawkes remained of the view that it would be preferable to retain a programme of mass vaccination, she was also deeply concerned that this matter needed to be treated with the utmost sensitivity to ensure that those who were vaccinated as part of a more selective programme were not stigmatised. Councillor Hawkes also sought further clarification as to how information regarding the current immunisation programme was disseminated and those requiring further information regarding further information regarding the current programme were identified and targeted. Dr Bennett explained that a letter had been sent to the parents of all children in Year 7 at LEA schools explaining the rationale for the current policy, detailing potential "at risk" groups and setting out how further advice / information could be obtained. Dr Bennett explained that measures were also being undertaken to ensure that midwives and health visitors were carrying this forward as appropriate .

50.5 In closing Councillor Hawkes stressed that it was vitally important that the situation continued to be monitored and periodically reviewed both in terms of incidence of this illness and to ensure that information was widely available and effectively conveyed. Dr Bennett noted the comments made and confirmed that this would take place.

50.6 **RESOLVED** - That Councillor Turton's letter and the response given be received. A formal copy of the response given to be sent to Councillor Turton.

50B Letter from Councillor Steedman: Promoting and Adopting the Food For Life Partnership Standards

50.7 The Board considered a letter received from Councillor Steedman relative to the above matter . this was accompanied by an extract in respect of the same matter from the meeting of the Sustainability Commission held on 9 January 2008 (for copy see minute book).

50.8 Councillor Steedman was in attendance at the meeting and spoke briefly to his letter.

50.9 In response the Chairman Councillor Mrs Brown outlined the initiatives already in place or set to come on stream across the City to address this very important issue. The Board agreed that it would be appropriate for them to receive a further report to a future meeting once this had been considered by the Sustainability Commission.

50.1 **RESOLVED** - That Councillor Steedman's letter be received and that a further report be brought before the Board following its further consideration by the Sustainability Commission.

***51. LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**

51.1 The Board received a presentation by the Assistant Director, Quality and Performance (for copy of slides see minute book).

51.2 Councillor Hawkes considered that the presentation had been very informative. Dr Hulton explained that issues surrounding poor health / diet were also taken on board and discussed by the Public Health Managers Group of which she was a Member .

51.3 **RESOLVED** - That the presentation is received and its contents noted.

***52. PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT REPORT AND HALF-YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN**

52.1 The Board considered a report of the Acting Director of Children's Services setting out the quarterly Performance

Improvement Report and half year Performance Report (for copy see minute book).

- 52.2 The Chairman referred to the improvements which had been effected since the previous report these were to be commended. Councillors Hawkes (OS) and McCaffery concurred in that view. Councillor Hawkes considered that that the report highlighted a number of areas which were complex involving a number of strands requiring a multi-disciplinary approach. The report identified these in a clear and cohesive way. It would be beneficial if the further reports could come forward to future meetings of the Board if it could updating progress in those areas highlighted.
- 52.3 Councillor McCaffery sought confirmation regarding performance in Brighton and Hove compared to neighbouring / comparable authorities. It was explained that this information was in the process of collation and could be made available in a future report. Naima Nougdem (Community and Voluntary Sector)(Mosaic) stated that it was very important to continue to seek to achieve placement stability for looked after children, bearing in mind that the circumstances and needs of individual children were often complicated.
- 52.4 Councillor Duncan enquired regarding the level of teenage pregnancies and as to the number of these that related to children in care. It was agreed that this information would be provided to Councillor Duncan.
- 52.5 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the issues identified in the quarterly Performance Improvement report and half year Performance Report be noted and the actions being taken to address them agreed; and
- (2) That the proposed changes to the Performance Improvement Report be agreed i.e.
- a) That placement Stability for Children in Care is no longer included as an exception report within the PIR because the deterioration of performance that it was anticipated would result from activity to stabilise and reduce the number of children in care has been avoided. This data will continue to be reported to the Board on a 6 monthly basis and to operational managers in the Trust on a monthly basis.
- b) That the number of first time entrants into the Criminal Justice System is introduced into the PIR as an exception

report until performance has stabilised

53. DRAFT COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION STRATEGY

53.1 The Board considered a report of the Acting Director of Children's Services setting out the context for the "draft" Communication and Consultation Strategy for the Children and Young People's Trust Partnership. The strategy set out the principles and standards which underpinned communication and activity across the partnership and the arrangements for monitoring and reporting that activity (for copy see minute book).

53.2 **RESOLVED** - That the proposed Communication and Consultation Strategy be noted and the implementation plan and monitoring arrangements be agreed.

***54. 2007/2008 TBM7 – PROJECTED OUTTURN**

54.1 The Board considered a report of the Acting Director of Children's Services providing an update on the Budget position of the Children and Young People's Trust Board (for copy see minute book).

54.2 The Acting Director of Children's Services stated that she was happy to be able to report that the projected outturn figure had improved since preparation of the report and this was welcomed by Councillor Kemble. Naima Nougdem referred to the underspend to the paediatrician service and it was explained that this had been as the result of a vacant post.

54.3 Councillor McCaffery expressed concern regarding potential delays in filling vacant posts. The Acting Director responded that vacancies were advertised and filled in line with procedures agreed relative to managing vacancy rates across the organisation as a whole. This was reviewed on a fortnightly basis and there were mechanisms in place to fill vacancies more rapidly where it could be demonstrated that there was an urgent need to do so. Reference was also made to the costs relative to fostering placements, it was explained that this was attributable in part to the growing numbers of placements being made and also to the specific family needs of some requiring placement.

54.4 **RESOLVED** - That the projected CYPT overspend of £1,232,000 and the underspend of £116,000 relative to the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) be noted.

***55. 2008/2009 BUDGET STRATEGY**

- 55.1 The Board considered a report of the Acting Director of Children's Services setting out the proposed budget strategy for 2008 / 09 , As part of that exercise the CYPT management team had looked at savings for the period. It was intended that these would largely be made through efficiencies on service procurement and staffing, with front line service cuts being kept to a minimum. No major changes were envisaged to the directorate management structure at the present time as the existing structure had only been in place for a year. Summaries of the main proposals for each service area , focusing on the main service areas were set out in the report (for copy see minute book).
- 55.2 Councillor Hawkes stated that having had the opportunity to consider the in depth information provided she considered that the budget should be supported . She was pleased note the positive outcomes which had been achieved relative to the Claremont Project . Councillor Kemble concurred in that view stating that Officers should be commended for achieving value for money and economies of scale minimising impact on service delivery.
- 55.3 Councillor McCaffery whilst welcoming the positive outcomes relative to the Claremont project had concerns relative to the budget overall considering that she required a greater depth of information in order to be able to support the budget, she felt unable to do so as it stood . Councillors Duncan and Kitcat echoed those concerns. They considered that it could be appropriate to defer consideration of the item pending a further report setting out the available information in greater detail . The Acting Director of Children's Services explained that the budget put before the Board followed in depth negotiations with all relevant partners. The Budget situation would be kept under constant review and on-going savings and rationalisations as appropriate made and advised throughout the coming year.
- 55.4 Following discussion confirmation was given that each constituent partner needed to agree the budget, but that within each group, the majority vote would be seen as representing the view of that group . Individual Members could however ask for any contrary view to be formally recorded in the minutes. The majority of Members of Brighton and Hove City Council who were present

indicated that they supported the budget strategy as set out (on a ratio of 7 to 3), the overall view of that group therefore being that the budget as set out be supported. The representative present on behalf of the Primary Care Trust indicated that she would also support this budget. The representatives present from South Downs Health Authority stated that as the strategy related to commissioning matters that they would not be voting thereon. Councillors Duncan, Kitcat and McCaffery indicated that they wished their names to be recorded in the minutes as not having voted in support of the proposed strategy. On that basis the recommendations set out in the report and reproduced below were agreed.

55.5 **RESOLVED** - That the 2008/ 09 budget strategy be agreed.

[**Note 1** : Having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of the above matter Councillor Mo Marsh in attendance in her capacity as a Member of the South Downs Health Authority left the meeting during its consideration and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon].

[**Note 2** : Councillors Duncan, Kitcat and McCaffery wished their names to be recorded as not having voted in support of the budget as they did not consider that they had received sufficient information in order to do so].

CAPITAL RESOURCES AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2008/2009

***56.**

56.1 The Board considered a report of the Acting Director of Children's Services informing Members regarding the level of available capital resources allocated to the service for 2008 / 09 and recommending a Capital Investment Programme for that period to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval (for copy see minute book).

56.2 Councillor Kitcat sought clarification regarding the level of actual increase once all costs had been factored in. It was explained in answer to questions by Councillor Duncan that the mobile play bus had been able to be offset as a capital receipt and that a report was anticipated to a future meeting of the Board relative to Children's play facilities across the City.

56.3 In answer to further questions it was explained that the

nature of some of the works to be carried out would require the services of a specialist contractor but that clearly defined criteria which had been set corporately needed to be met in order for any contract to be let .

56.4 **RESOLVED** - That the level of available capital resources totalling £6,857,120 for investment relating to education buildings financed from supported borrowing, capital grant and revenue contributions be noted and the proposed capital investment programme be forwarded to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval .

***57. UPDATE ON SERVICE TRANSITION FROM PALMEIRA PROJECT TO DROVE ROAD**

57.1 The Board considered a report updating them regarding the successful transfer (following a 12 month planning and transition process), of 3 young people and 7 staff from NCH Palmeira Project to Drove Road (for copy see minute book) .

57.2 Councillor Hawkes stated that she had specifically requested that the item be called in order to provide the opportunity to commend all of those involved at both Member and officer level in seeking to achieve an effective and positive outcome for the very vulnerable young people involved . The successful and very carefully managed transition which had taken place paid tribute to the effort of all those involved in achieving it.

57.3 **RESOLVED** - That the contents of the report be received and noted.

PARENT SUPPORT STRATEGY

***58.**

58.1 The Board considered a report of the Acting Director of Children's Services outlining how support would be provided to parents from 2008 - 2011 in Brighton & Hove (for copy see minute book).

58.2 A brief presentation was given to accompany the report which sought to highlight the priorities and actions which formed an integral part of the strategy, this dovetailed with other initiatives and strategies such as the services provided by the Family Information Service (see item 62 below) (for copy of presentation see minute book) .

58.3 Councillor Duncan sought information regarding means by which "gaps" in the strategy were identified and

addressed and it was explained that cross partnership working and information sharing was ongoing and, that a number of different means of information collation also fed into and informed the strategy from across other discrete areas of the Directorate's work . In answer to questions by Councillor Hyde it was explained that data was collected and monitored in such a way that seasonal factors could be identified . councillor Hawkes stated that the report was informative and that she supported the recommendations contained therein .

58.4 **RESOLVED** - That the aims , principles and priorities of the Parent Support Strategy and its implementation plan be agreed.

***59. TO RECEIVE AN EXTRACT FROM THE CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE RECEIVING A SUMMARY OF SCHOOL OFSTED INSPECTIONS REPORTS**

59.1 The Board were provided with a copy of the report considered by CYPOSC on the outcome of Ofsted inspections which took place during the autumn term of 2007 and were asked to receive and note the comments made by CYPOSC and the contents of the report (for copy see minute book).

59.2 Members of the Board were pleased to note the continued successes and improvements being achieved across the City's schools and noted that information relating to inspections of nurseries which had taken place during the period covered would be included in future reports. Members confirmed that they wished the Chairman to write to the headteachers of the individual schools on their behalf commending them and their staff for their hard work in preparing for their inspections and for their positive outcomes .

59.3 **RESOLVED** - That the contents of the report be received and noted and that the Chairman write to individual schools who had achieved good results commending them for their excellent work.

60. SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL STRATEGY FOR SCHOOLS

60.1 The Board considered a joint report of the Director of Environment and the Acting Director of Children's Services setting out proposals relative to a sustainable travel strategy for schools. The purpose of the report was to enable joint consideration of the strategy to take

place with the LEA's partners prior to the matter being forwarded to the Environment Committee for approval. It was intended that development of the strategy would provide a framework to organise the continued development and proposed implementation of initiatives / measures relating to safe and sustainable school travel (for copy see minute book).

- 60.2 In answer to questions by Councillor Duncan requesting information regarding the measures being taken to encourage parents to use sustainable modes of transport particularly in the Queen's Park area, and around Brighton College; it was explained that the Sustainable Transport Team had worked closely with schools in the city to provide a framework for schools to look at practical ways of travelling to school in a sustainable way. This could help to relieve congestion and improve road safety. Close working had also taken place with the traffic regulation team and parking enforcement services to put in place parking restrictions and parking enforcement where appropriate to help prevent inconsiderate and dangerous parking outside schools. In certain circumstances road safety engineering measures were employed (e.g. pedestrian refuges) as these could also have a positive impact on driver behaviour and to encourage walking.
- 60.3 Elenor Davies (Parent Forum) sought information as to how it was envisaged the strategy would help parents "sign up" to sustainable travel. It was explained that the Sustainable Transport Team would seek to ensure that all parents were aware of the "Draft Sustainable Transport Strategy for Schools" by the autumn of 2008 and that this document would be accessible in a variety of formats. The strategy provided a detailed action plan which set out the support available to parents who chose to travel sustainably. It was also hoped that parents could be engaged with through the school travel planning process which could offer incentives for children to walk, cycle and use public transport to help provide safer routes to school.
- 60.4 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Sustainable Travel Strategy for schools be approved; and
- (2) That the proposed expenditure of £16,236 for 2007 - 2008 made available by the Department of Transport (and a similar amount per annum until 2010) to support the development and up-dating of the Strategy be supported and that this be referred to the Environment

Committee for approval.

61. TEST EXAMINATION RESULTS IN BRIGHTON & HOVE SCHOOLS 2007

61.1 The Board considered a report of the Acting Director of Children's Services setting out the national test and examination results for Brighton & Hove schools for the 2006 / 2007 academic year (for copy see minute book).

61.2 The Board welcomed the report and the Chairman commented that overall the position was positive, as results continued to improve and strategies were being put into place to address areas where any weaknesses still existed. The early years support being given was important in that it provided the foundation for future success. Councillor Harmer- Strange stated that it was welcoming to note that the number of fixed term and other exclusions across the City had fallen. In answer to questions by Naima Nougdem (Voluntary Sector Forum) (Mosaic) it was explained that a number of measures were in place to identify, monitor and provide support to vulnerable children .

61.3 Potential loss of educational continuity as a result of parents taking their children out of school during term time (both as a result of authorised absence and otherwise), continued to present a problem in some instances. This practice was actively discouraged and the rationale for this was clearly explained to parents .

61.4 **RESOLVED** - That the contents of the report be noted.

***62 FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE**

62.1 A presentation was given relative to the interdisciplinary "One Stop Shop" approach provided by the recently launched "Family Information Service. The launch had been very well received and had been attended by representatives from a number of partnership groups . The presentation provided information regarding the area covered by the service and how that information could be accessed both via the internet and otherwise (for a copy of the presentation see minute book) .

62.2 Members welcomed the presentation which had been both interesting and informative and were of the view that it would be beneficial if the information contained in it could be provided to a wider body of Members at the

next scheduled ordinary meeting of the Council.

62.3 **RESOLVED** - That the contents of the presentation be noted and that this information also be given at Council for the benefit of all Members.

63 ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL

63.1 **RESOLVED** - That the following item go forward to Council for information:

Item 62 – Family Information Service .

The meeting concluded at 7.05pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated this day of

2007