

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

**CHILDREN, FAMILIES & SCHOOL
COMMITTEE**

5.30PM – 5 SEPTEMBER 2005

**COMMITTEE ROOMS 2/3
BRIGHTON TOWN HALL**

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Hawkes (Chair), McCaffery (Deputy Chair), Giebeler, Hazelgrove, Hyde, Kemble, Mallender, Meadows, Norman and Young.

PART ONE

ACTION

22. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

22A Declarations of Substitutes

22.1	<u>Substitute Councillor</u>	<u>For Councillor</u>
	Kemble	Brown
	Meadows	John

22B Declarations of Interest

22.2 Councillor Kemble declared an interest in item 31, he is a School Governor

22C Exclusion of Press and Public

22.3 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.

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

23. MINUTES

23.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 6th June 2005 be approved and signed by the Chair.

24. CALLOVER

24.1 **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.

***25. TO RECEIVE A PETITION PRESENTED BY COUNCILLOR TONKSTO COUNCIL ON 20 JULY 2005**

25.1 The Committee received a petition with 161 signatures. This petition was presented by Councillor Tonks to Council on 20 July 2005.

“Keep our family centre open in Moulsecoomb for all families, not just referrals made from social services”

25.2 Councillor Tonks attended the meeting and presented the petition to the Committee. Councillor Tonks was advised at the meeting that all family support services were to be reviewed. Following this review there would be a restructuring of the family support services.

25.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

***26. LETTER FROM COUNCILLOR FORESTER**

26.1 The Committee received a letter from Councillor Forester regarding Secondary School Admission (see minute book).

26.2 Councillor Forester attended the meeting and presented her letter to the Committee. The letter requested that the Committee consider an application to the Adjudicator for an in-year variation to the Allocation System. The Committee was referred to item 28, the report on School Admissions Review Update, which included a response to the issues raised by Councillor Forester.

26.3 **RESOLVED** – That the letter and the comments in the report at item 28 be noted.

27. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

27.1 There were no public questions.

28. SCHOOL ADMISSIONS REVIEW UPDATE

28.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Children Families & Schools relating School Admissions Review Update (see minute book). The report set out the progress made in carrying out the secondary school admissions review commissioned by the Children Families and Schools Committee at its meeting on 6 June 2005. The report also set out the recent developments of direct relevance to the review including a request by Councillor Forester for an in-year variation to the allocations system.

28.2 **RESOLVED** - That the report be noted.

***29. SEN REVIEW**

29.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Children Families & Schools relating to a SEN Review (see minute book).

29.2 The report set out a vision for the future of services to children and young people with special educational needs, and described the processes necessary to achieve the changes proposed.

29.3 It was suggested that when this report came back to the Committee following the consultation, that this item be the only report on the agenda to allow sufficient time to consider all the issues that would need to be considered.

29.4 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Committee approve a process of formative consultation with all stakeholders, on the proposals contained in the report, during the autumn term.
(2) That the Committee approve consultation on the separate components of the proposals. All the proposals are linked as part of a whole system review. Changes to the status, character or any aspect of provision of a school, are subject to statutory guidance on consultation and these requirements must be met within the overall consultation process.

***30. THE PLACEMENT STABILITY FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN**

30.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Children Families & Schools relating The Placement Stability for Looked After Children (see minute book).

30.2 The report informed Members of the outcome of the placement stability audit undertaken by staff within the Children Families and Schools directorate in November 2004 and the subsequent action taken to reduce the number of placement moves experienced by looked after children within the care system. The audit formed part of the ongoing Quality Assurance/Performance Management programme within the children's services.

30.3 RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted.

31. SCHOOL GOVERNANCE ISSUES

31.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Children Families & Schools relating School Governance Issues (see minute book).

31.2 The report set out the decision of the consultative meeting, which met on the 20th May 2005, for the appointment of LEA governors.

31.3 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the decisions as set out in Appendix B to this report be noted.
(2) That the Committee note the changes to governing bodies and any additional methods of recruiting governors be considered

32 ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL

32.1 It was agreed by all Councillors that item 30, The Placement Stability for Looked After Children, should go forward to Council.

32.2 **RESOLVED** – That item 30, The Placement Stability For Looked After Children go forward to the next meeting of Council.

The meeting concluded at 6.50 pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2005