

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL
CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & SKILLS COMMITTEE

4.00pm 21 NOVEMBER 2016

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL, NORTON ROAD, HOVE, BN3 3BQ

MINUTES

Present:

Councillors:

Chapman (Chair), Brown (Opposition Spokesperson), Phillips (Group Spokesperson), Cattell, Horan, Knight, Penn, Russell-Moyle, Taylor and Wealls

Co-Optees:

Ms B Connor, Mr B Glazebrook, Ms L Hurst and Mr M Jones

PART ONE

42 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

42(a) Declarations of substitutes

- 42.1 Councillor Cattell declared that she was substituting for Councillor Daniel
Councillor Horan declared that she was substituting for Councillor Bewick
Ms B Connor declared that she was substituting for Ms M Ryan
Ms L Hurst declared that she was substituting for Ms A Holt

42(b) Declarations of interest

- 42.2 There were no declarations of interest.

42(c) Exclusion of press and public

In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ("the Act"), the Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the business to be transacted or the nature of proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential

information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100(I) of the Act).

42.3 RESOLVED- That the press and public not be excluded

43 MINUTES

43.1 Mr M Jones referred to the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2016, and suggested the following addition to paragraph 24.13: *'Mr Jones noted that one of the proposals was to increase the catchment area for Brighton Aldridge Community Academy, and asked that the CPSOWG consider the impact that may have on the number of pupils in receipt of Free School Meals and/or Pupil Premium at the school'*.

43.2 Mr Jones referred to the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2016, and suggested the following addition to paragraph 33.5: *The Assistant Director, Health, SEN and Disabilities said she was aware of the lack of options and that was being addressed.*

43.3 RESOLVED:

1. That the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2016 (as amended) be agreed and signed as a correct record.
2. That the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2016 (as amended) be agreed and signed as a correct record.

44 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

44.1 There were no communications

45 CALL OVER

45.1 All items were called

46 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

46a Petitions

46.1 There were none

46b Written Questions

46.2 There were none.

46c Deputations

46.3 There were none.

47 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

47a Petitions

47.1 There were none.

47b Written Questions

47.2 There were none.

47c Letters

47.3 There were none.

47d Notices of Motion

47.4 There were none.

48 SCHOOL OFSTED PRESENTATION

48.1 The Head of Standards and Achievements provided an update on schools which had recently been inspected by Ofsted.

48.2 The Committee were advised that four primary schools, St Peter's Community Primary, Bilingual Primary, St Bartholomew's CE Primary and St Nicolas CE Primary, and one secondary school, Portslade Aldridge Community Academy, had recently been inspected. St Peter's Community Primary, Bilingual Primary and St Nicolas CE Primary had all been rated as 'Good'. The report for Portslade Aldridge Community Academy was not yet formally available, but it was understood that the outcome would be positive.

48.3 The recent inspections meant that 94.2% of all primary schools in the city were now rated as 'Good' or 'Outstanding', which was highest it had ever been, with 96.7% of primary pupils attending those schools.

48.4 The Committee welcomed the results.

49 SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT UPDATE

49.1 The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director Families, Children & Learning which informed the Committee about the evaluation by the University of Sussex and the Educational Psychology Service of the jointly commissioned Emotional Health and Wellbeing pilot project in schools. The report was introduced by, the Assistant Principal Educational Psychologist (BHCC), the Public Health Commissioner

(BHCC), Children's Commissioning Manager (Clinical Commissioning Group), Professor of Psychology (University of Sussex) and the Assistant Head Teacher (Dorothy Stringer).

- 49.2 Councillor Phillips was pleased to note that the pilot scheme was being rolled out to other schools. However, she was concerned over the future of CAMHS if staff at schools were duplicating their work. The Assistant Principal Educational Psychologist said the involvement of schools was an opportunity for early intervention, rather than an intention to replace the work of CAMHS.
- 49.3 Councillor Taylor asked if Brighton Aldridge Community Academy, Portslade Aldridge Community Academy or King's School would become involved in the next phase of the pilot. The Assistant Director, Families, Children and Learning said that she had discussed this matter with the schools at a recent meeting, and they had all said that they would like to be engaged as the pilot went forward.
- 49.4 Councillor Penn said that improving access to support and talking about mental illness was a positive thing, and it was good that schools were working with each other to address the needs of children. One of the issues affecting children was anxiety and she asked if more support would now be available under the pilot scheme. The Assistant Head at Dorothy Stringer said that that was one area which was being addressed, with training being provided for staff to enable them to support children. This subject was also covered in Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) lessons.
- 49.5 Councillor Brown asked how many children in the project were referred to CAMHS, and whether those referrals were evenly spread across the schools. The Children's Commissioning Manager said that she didn't have the exact figures at the meeting, but it was around 45/50%. The number of children, and which schools they were from, could be provided after the meeting.
- 49.6 Mr Jones referred to the 'I am Whole' campaign and asked if it had been promoted in schools. The Assistant Head Teacher at Dorothy Stringer said that it had. The Professor of Psychology (Sussex University) said that it was important that everyone at schools were engaged, saying that the more mental health issues were discussed the more it would be de-stigmatised.
- 49.7 Councillor Wealls suggested that it would be useful to have more information to be able to judge the effectiveness of the pilot. The Professor of Psychology (Sussex University) advised that the results were still being analysed. However, as the initial pilot scheme only had a small number of children, any analyse of the effectiveness would be more reliable once more were involved.
- 49.8 Mr Glazebrook said that the Community and Voluntary Sector were pleased to have supported and been involved in the pilot scheme.
- 49.9 Councillor Horan asked whether there would be particular provision for female pupils. The Professor of Psychology (Sussex University) said that gender was a relevant consideration but, whilst having sensitivity to different patterns of behaviour and gender, he was unsure if there should be different interactions for different sexes.

49.10 **RESOLVED:** That the Committee -

(1) Noted the impact from the joint work on:

- Improving the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people;
- Promoting early identification and providing effective interventions;
- Reducing the need for referrals to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS).

(2) Approved the extension of the pilot offer to all secondary schools in the city by April 2017.

50 CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT

50.1 The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director Families, Children & Learning which informed the Committee about Childcare Sufficiency in Brighton and Hove, parent's views on childcare in the city and national policy developments regarding childcare. The report was introduced by the Childcare Strategy Manager.

50.2 Councillor Horan asked how many hours a week a parent would have to work to be entitled to free childcare. The Childcare Strategy Manager said that it would 16 hours a week on minimum wage or national living wage.

50.3 Councillor Phillips noted that one of the biggest challenges would be to ensure that there were sufficient places available. The Childcare Strategy Manager agreed and said that work was being undertaken with providers to ensure that there would be adequate provision.

50.4 Councillor Russell-Moyle noted that satisfaction with Early Years provision was very high, but that dropped slightly as children got older. The Childcare Strategy Manager agreed and said that whilst satisfaction was still high for older children, and reduction could be attributable to reduced options as young people were restricted to attending that provided by or at their school. Councillor Russell-Moyle said that the cost of Child Care Provision was already high,. The Childcare Strategy Manager said that under the new Early Years National Funding Formula from April 2017 Brighton & Hove would be receiving an additional 4p per hour to fund providers to offer the early years free entitlement to three and four year olds

50.5 Mr Jones noted the respondent's responses to religion and noted that the percentages given didn't add up to 100%. He was advised that was because not everyone chose to answer that question.

50.6 Councillor Wealls noted that one of the suggested actions was to 'maximise the funding for the Early Years Free Entitlement', and asked why that wouldn't be done. He was advised that the Authority could retain 7% of the funding in 2017/18; this year it had taken 4.5%,

50.7 Councillor Penn suggested that it may be difficult for parents of children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) to find suitable providers. The Childcare Strategy Manager said that there was a good take up in the city for SEN children, but work was being

undertaken alongside Amaze to ensure there was sufficient provision for the 30 hours free childcare offer.

50.8 RESOLVED: That the Committee noted –

1. The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment
2. That work continues to prepare for the new entitlement to 30 hours free childcare for working parents of three and four year olds from September 2017 and noted the additional administration this will necessitate by the local authority.
3. That parents, and particularly those facing disadvantage including low income families, continue to be supported, in particular by the Family Information Service, to take up their current and future statutory entitlements in relation to childcare provision and paying for childcare.
4. That work continues to implement the new national funding formula for the early years free entitlement for two, three and four year olds which maximises the funding passed on to providers from the early years block of the Designated Schools Grant.
5. That the CSA will be used to inform the development of an early years strategy for the city, to include access to high quality childcare, particularly for disadvantaged children.

51 CHILDREN IN CARE - EDUCATION UPDATE

- 51.1 The Virtual School Head Teacher provided an update on the education of children in care.
- 51.2 Councillor Taylor thanked the Head Teacher for the presentation and welcomed the renewed emphasis on attainment.
- 51.3 Mr Jones was pleased to note the progress made for children in Key Stage 2, and suggested it would be useful to get feedback from the young people involved. The Virtual Head Teacher said that a fuller report would be presented to the Corporate Parenting Board, and that would include comments from young people.
- 51.4 Councillor Cattell supported the approach being taken and was pleased and how well the young people were doing.
- 51.5 **RESOLVED:** The Committee noted the presentation.

52 REDUCING THE DIFFERENCES IN PERFORMANCE FOR DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN BRIGHTON AND HOVE

- 52.1 The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director Families, Children & Learning which provided information on the impact of the 'Closing the Gap' Strategy on the performance of disadvantaged pupils in the city. The report was introduced by the Head of Standards & Achievement Education & Inclusion.
- 52.2 Councillor Phillips said she supported the change in culture and that the interventions had raised the level of all pupils, but was concerned that the gap for disadvantaged

children had not been closed. The Assistant Director Education and Skills assured the Councillor that closing the gap was a top priority.

52.3 Councillor Wealls welcomed work being done. He noted that the performance in Maths was disappointing and asked what was being done, and whether schools which didn't achieve were being challenged. The Head of Standards & Achievement Education & Inclusion said that a new Maths strategy was being worked on, and said that schools were constantly being challenged.

52.4 Councillor Russell-Moyle noted that the national data this year would measure the difference between disadvantaged pupils in the school with non-disadvantaged pupils nationally with similar starting points. The Head of Standards & Achievement Education & Inclusion said that was correct, and the Department for Education had changed the comparator. Councillor Moyle asked whether schools were linking up with cultural services to support disadvantaged children. The Assistant Director Education and Skills said they did, and were working with groups such as the Arts & Music Service to provide opportunities for all children.

52.5 Councillor Taylor thanked officers for the report, and said that this was an area which everyone should be focused on. He suggested that the Committee look at what is and isn't going well, rather than just rely on Ofsted reports. The Assistant Director Education and Skills reassured the Councillor that that was already being done.

52.6 Mr Jones suggested that it would be useful to have more detailed data showing all statistics as well as the difference between advantaged and disadvantaged children. The Assistant Director Education and Skills said that a full detailed report would come to Committee in due course.

52.7 Mr Glazebrook acknowledged the contribution of groups such as the Crew Club, who supported disadvantaged children.

52.8 **RESOLVED:** The Committee noted the report.

53 UPDATE ON LGA SAFEGUARDING PEER REVIEW

53.1 The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director Families, Children & Learning which informed the Committee of the outcome of the recent Local Government Association (LGA) Safeguarding Peer Review which took place in September 2016. The report was introduced by the Assistant Director of Children's Safeguarding & Care.

53.2 Councillor Cattell thanked officers for the report, and welcomed the peer review and their findings.

53.3 **RESOLVED:** That the Committee noted the report.

54 ITEMS REFERRED FOR COUNCIL

54.1 **RESOLVED:** That no items be referred to Council.

The meeting concluded at 6.50pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of