

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

**4.00pm 16 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillor Allcock (Chair)

**Also in attendance:** Councillor Knight (Deputy Chair), Hills (Opposition Spokesperson), Brown (Group Spokesperson), Clare, Hamilton, McNair, Nield, Simson and Wilkinson

**Co-optees:** Leslie Hurst, Bernadette Connor, Karen James, Amanda Mortensen, Adam Muirhead, Rob Scoble.

**PART ONE**

**12 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

**(a) Declarations of Substitutes**

1.1 Leslie Hurst substituting for Trevor Cristin.

**(b) Declarations of Interest**

1.2 In reference to the Letter regarding Issues in the City, Councillor Simson declared that her daughter was employed by Hill Park School.

1.3 Amanda Mortensen declared that she was a Parent Governor at Downs Junior School.

**(c) Exclusion of the Press and Public**

1.4 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).

1.5 **RESOLVED** – That the press and public not be excluded.

**(d) Appointment of the Chair**

- 1.6 **RESOLVED** – That Councillor John Allcock was unanimously voted as Chair of the Children, Young People and Skills Committee.

### 13 MINUTES

- 13.1 **AGREED** – that the minutes of the meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the proceedings.

### 14 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

- 14.1 The Chair gave the following communications:

“I’d like to inform those present that this meeting will be webcast live and will be capable of repeated viewing.

I would like to welcome Edwyn Wilson-Verrall to the committee today who is a representative of the Youth Council.

As colleagues and members of the public will be aware, this is my first meeting as Chair of this committee and before making any of the comments that had previously been prepared and without in any way wanting to pre-empt further discussion, I want to make a direct and unreserved apology on behalf on the administration, for the distress, anxiety and stress that has been caused to the children, young people and families as a direct consequence of the change to Home to School Transport arrangements.

Members will have an opportunity during this meeting to ask questions and I know that there are a lot of parents here today, many of whom we have spoken to before this meeting, who will be listening very carefully to the answers given.

As our deputy chair, Cllr Knight said in her letter to parents, the absolute top priority at the moment is to ensure the wellbeing of the children and young people concerned and following an urgent meeting this morning I can advise people here that the following steps have been taken:

- Officers will phone all parents/carers affected, or have contacted the leader or the deputy chair over the next 24 hours to provide an update and listen to concerns
- Officers will write individually to every parent/carer whose child or young person who is in receipt of transport, to provide an update For those parents/carers whose issues are not yet resolved, the letter will deal with the specific problems facing their child or young person.
- Arrange a meeting with PaCC specifically to discuss concerns
- Once all arrangements are satisfactorily resolved, officers will be contacting those contractors that pulled out of routes, without providing the contractually agreed 30-day notice period.

But we **MUST** to do everything we can to ensure not only that nothing like this happens again, **BUT** that we learn from what has happened.

I do want to inform the meeting that the Executive Director for this committee has already been asked to seek an Independent Review of the entire process and last week

approached another Local Authority in the region, with a request to undertake such a review.

This review will:

- Explore and report on what has gone wrong
- Why it went wrong
- Lessons we can learn

I want to give this assurance on behalf of the administration, that absolutely no stone will be left unturned and we will be inviting all involved (parents, schools, governors, parent associations, officers and suppliers) to contribute to that report.

This committee was already scheduled to receive a report in January 2020 to look at the new arrangements and this will now also include the learning from the review.

The agenda today includes an opportunity to consider the points raised in the letter from Cllrs Wares and Mears as a starting point but this committee will not be able to resolve or understand everything that has occurred, this afternoon.

I am grateful for the work of the Parent and Carers Council in supporting families and shining a light on the issues affecting them. They and other representative groups are essential in helping the city provide for what these children and young people need.

Once again, I would like to apologise on behalf of the administration for what has occurred.

As you will see on the agenda today there is a report on the initial assessment and examination results achieved by our children and young people. I would like to congratulate our schools, colleges and early years providers for the excellent results that were achieved at the end of the last academic year. Any council in the country would be proud to have these set of results.

Today we have an urgent notice of motion regarding the potential Academisation of Moulsecoomb Primary which can be seen in addendum 1. This item will be considered under item 6.”

## **15 CALL OVER**

15.1 The following items on the agenda were reserved for discussion:

- 19 Moulsecoomb Primary School Survey of Parental Views.
- 20 Mental Health Update Report: School Wellbeing Service. Trailblazer.
- 21 Early Headlines Standards and Achievement in Brighton and Hove Schools.
- 22 Transition to New Safeguarding Children’s Partnership Arrangements.
- 23 Update on the Brighton & Hove Education Partnership.

## **16 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

### **(a) Petitions**

16.1 The Chair noted there were NO petitions to be submitted.

**(b) Written Questions**

16.2 The Chair noted that NO written questions had been submitted by members of the public.

**(c) Deputations**

16.3 The Chair noted that NO deputations had been submitted by members of the public.

**17 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT**

**(a) PETITIONS**

17.1 The Chair noted there were no petitions to be submitted.

**(b) WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

**(i) Brighton & Hove City Council Strategy to encourage play.**

17.2 Councillor Mears put the following question:

“Given the benefits to wellbeing and learning, what is the Council doing to encourage play, particularly in early years and primary, including outdoor play and learning? Is there a current and up to date play strategy?”

17.3 The Chair provided the following reply:

“The Council supports families with and promotes the importance of play in a number of ways but does not have a separate play strategy. Some two year olds and all 3 and 4 year olds are entitled to free childcare which meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Guidance, which states:

*‘Each area of learning and development must be implemented through planned and purposeful play and through a mix of adult-led and child-led activity. Play is essential for children’s development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, to this about problems and relate to others. Children learn by leading their own play and by taking part in play which is guided by adults.’*

In addition:

*‘Providers must provide access to an outdoor play area or, if that is not possible, ensure that outdoor activities are planned and taken on a daily basis (unless circumstances make this inappropriate, for example, unsafe weather conditions).’*

The Council’s Early Years team offers a training programme and quality support to nursery setting across the City. The quality of early years provision in the city is high

with 97% of childcare providers on the Early Years Register judged to be good or outstanding by Ofsted.

All Council nurseries have audited the quality of the play environment both indoors and outdoors. The Council nurseries are working towards offering continuous uninterrupted provision with a focus on sensory play and the natural environment. Mud kitchens, loose part play and heuristic play are being strongly promoted across the service. All nurseries are running regular stay and play information sessions for families. Children's Centres offer well attended baby and stay and play sessions for families running in each of the seven main Children's Centres.

Families can also be visited in the home (by Health Visitor referral) by Early Years Educators to support adult/child interactions, play and development. The Council also supports after-school clubs and holiday playschemes run by voluntary sector and private organisations in the city including giving advice on quality assurance in play for out of school providers.

Play is a very important part of learning. Schools are increasingly looking to develop their grounds and curriculum to ensure that there are opportunities for creative play. One example of this is the work that Fairlight Primary School has been doing with OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) to develop opportunities for more high quality creative play in their playground.

Several schools, including Aldrington CE Primary have an established 'Forest School', where pupils have regular opportunities to develop their creativity, use of skills and tools in a woodland or natural environment. Aldrington also uses the grounds and space for outdoor learning to develop confidence and self-esteem and pupils use the space informally at playtimes. Reception class at St Mary Magdalen Catholic Primary School took part in a series of workshops with the Sussex Wildlife Trust, learning about different habitats. One of these was a Beach School session at Ovingdean. The Children learnt about features of the beach, took part in rock pooling, talked about conservation and staying safe in the beach environment. It inspired the learning for the whole half term. Feedback from teachers, pupils and parents was really positive.

The Outdoor Education Service encourages the development of school grounds for play and active learning through a variety of training and online resources. It also promotes learning outside the classroom in all its many forms to bring the curriculum alive, broaden children's horizons, improve their physical and emotional self-development, enhance their relationship with nature and the environment, foster relationships and help them learn how to manage risk."

**(c) LETTERS**

**(i) School Transport – Letter from Councillors Wares and Mears.**

17.4 The Committee considered a Letter from the Patcham ward Councillors that requested an update to Home to School Transfers.

17.5 The Head of School Organisation and the Assistant Director – Education & Skills provided the following update:

- Officers had been working for months on home to school transport arrangements.
- It was noted that a number of contractors withdrew late August which led to issues that the officer team had been working tirelessly to resolve.
- The Committee were given apologies for all and any distress caused to parents and
- It was stated that a Dynamic Purchasing System had since been employed to help reduce issues and expedite the process of resolving this.
- It was stated that all contractors had been fully briefed with details of what was required of them.
- It was confirmed that a small number of issues were still being resolved.
- It was further confirmed that all temporary routes had been covered.

- 17.6 Amanda Mortensen expressed concern from the perspective as a mother of a disabled child. It was stated that this was an operational disaster and that it presented further issues surrounding safety and, in some cases, worse. It was affirmed that this was an equalities issue and that it was clear that certain sections of BHCC were not working together well. A request was made for further clarity on how this had affected everything.
- 17.7 The Head of School Organisation requested any further information of other examples of any mal practice. It was stated that headteachers were informed of the responsibilities of drivers in advance and that drivers had been instructed not to exceed this as BHCC did not have insurance cover for this. It was confirmed that any necessary changes would be made where possible at no additional cost.
- 17.8 Councillor Clare enquired of the administration's future efforts to resolve this.
- 17.9 The Chair stated that efforts to try and steer committee positively going forward would be undertaken. It was stated that transparency would be paramount and that the first priority would be to ensure services were running properly.
- 17.10 The Head of School Organisation further confirmed that parents making journeys by themselves would be remunerated however this would be on a case by case basis.
- 17.11 Councillor Simson stated that although officers had placed the failure on behalf of contractors, it was apparent that the contract was never fit for purpose. It was furthered that the cost of sending staff out would be larger than any costs covered by BHCC's insurance. It was stated that there was not enough staff to collect non-mobile children and that Officers were pre-warned of this issue. It was further stated that Brighton had high standards which included the blue book that taxis had to adhere to and enquired why operators who were already providing this service not tendering for the contract and if they had why was it not awarded to them? It was stated that an independent review would be insufficient and that a cross party working group was proposed.
- 17.12 The Chair stated that the independent report would provide a report to the committee and requested that Councillor Simson send in points of concern for the independent review.
- 17.13 Councillor Nield enquired why the routes were handed back at late notice and requested confirmation as to whether this could happen again.

- 17.14 The Head of School Organisation stated that the contract required 30 days' notice which was not provided by some of the contractors. It was reaffirmed that efforts to make as many arrangements as possible were made.
- 17.15 The Executive Director for Families, Children and Learning stated that contractors were still delivering routes.
- 17.16 Councillor Knight requested that the independent review considered every aspect and that a review to provide more robust contingency planning in place be brought.
- 17.17 Councillor Hamilton enquired if there was a backup in house should this issue arise again.
- 17.18 The Head of School Organisation stated that the Dynamic Purchasing System required many fields of information be provided in order that the procurement process could judge responses. It was noted that logistical difficulties were considered and would be shared through the review.
- 17.19 Councillor Wilkinson welcomed the independent review and requested that it looked in to the reason for the return of routes.
- 17.20 Leslie Hurst, Diocese Representative, noted that this issue indirectly affected siblings in schools. It was requested that officers clarify if they would also contact families that had to refuse this service due to safety concerns.
- 17.21 The Head of Schools Organisations confirmed that families who met these criteria would be contacted.
- 17.22 The Chair clarified that a full input was sought from everyone not just Councillors. Contact details were provided and that the timescale of the review would be published and that the Children, Young People and Skills Committee would monitor the progress and have input in the final review.
- 17.23 **RESOLVED** – that the letter be noted by Committee.

**(d) Deputations**

- 17.24 The Chair noted that NO deputations had been submitted by Members.

**(e) Notices of Motion:** To consider any notices of motion referred from Council or submitted directly to the Committee:

**(i) Climate Change Teacher**

- 17.25 The Committee considered a Notice of Motion requesting the Executive Director of Families, Children and Learning to write a letter of congratulation to Emily Defries and Headteachers in Brighton and Hove to raise awareness of a Climate Change Course that is available by Councillor Elaine Hills.
- 17.26 Councillor Nield seconded the motion.

- 17.27 Councillor Simson stated that she supported the motion, however enquired if SEN teachers amongst others could be included.
- 17.28 Councillor McNair expressed happiness with Patcham for leading on this issue. It was requested that all sides of this issue be considered and critiqued and that a focus on solutions be the focus.
- 17.29 Councillor Hills stated that knowledge on climate change and how it affected different communities were considered and that a prescriptive approach would not be the case.
- 17.30 **RESOLVED** – that the Committee note the motion.

## 18 SCHOOL OFSTED PRESENTATION

- 18.1 The Head of Education Standards & Achievement and Head of Service – Early Years Youth & Family Support gave a brief overview of the School Ofsted findings.
- 18.2 Councillor Simson requested clarification of the 76% taking up the offer.
- 18.3 The Head of Service – Early Years Youth & Family Support stated that 76% of children took up free entitlement in early years. For children between 3-4 years old the figure was just under 100% and above 80%.
- 18.4 Councillor Hills enquired if the benefits of outdoor play were measured.
- 18.5 The Head of Service – Early Years Youth & Family Support stated that the Ofsted inspection regime considered various areas and among them outdoor provision was one. It was stated that there were concerns surrounding teachers not monitoring children engagements well enough and not making full use of question techniques.
- 18.6 Councillor Nield enquired if there were any ongoing current inspections.
- 18.7 The Head of Education Standards & Achievement confirmed that there were no current ongoing inspections.
- 18.8 The Chair requested that a letter of congratulations be sent out where good results were attained.
- 18.9 **AGREED** – That the report be noted.

## 19 MOULSECOOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL SURVEY OF PARENTAL VIEWS

- 19.1 The Head of School Organisation gave a brief overview of the Mouselcoomb Primary School Survey of Parental Views which informed the committee of the arrangements for managing the ballot of parents/ carers at Moulseccomb Primary School in response to the issuing of an academy order by the Secretary of State.
- 19.2 Councillor Clare proposed an amendment that there be an addition to the recommendations that read as follows:



- That an update, including the full results of the ballot, along with details regarding the progression of the academy at Moulsecoomb Primary School be brought to the next meeting of the Children, Young People and Skills Committee.

19.3 Councillor Nield seconded the amendment.

19.4 The Committee unanimously agreed to the amendment.

19.5 The Head of School Organisation stated that the ballot commenced on the day of Committee and that families will have received communication on this.

19.6 Councillor Simson enquired if consultees being made aware that the Secretary of State were making the decision and that the final result was not dependant on the outcome of the ballot.

19.7 The Head of School Organisation stated that schools were made aware of this in advance and that efforts would be made to confirm that such information was passed on to parents.

19.8 Councillor Brown noted that the ballot would be unlikely to change the mind of the Secretary of State and enquired when the academisation would begin following the Secretary of State's decision.

19.9 The Head of Education Standards & Achievement stated noted that the academy order was already in place however there was no written timescale as to the academisation and no set of guidelines on how this would work.

19.10 The Executive Director for Families, Children & Learning stated that it was unlikely that a sponsor would be appointed before October. It was further clarified that BHCC could not liaise with the sponsor for 9 months following their confirmation.

19.11 Councillor McNair enquired if parents were given information regarding the technical and practical role of an academy.

19.12 The Head of School Organisation stated it was reasonable to expect that information had been made available to families.

19.13 **RESOLVED:**

1. That the ballot of parents/carers taking place at Moulsecoomb Primary School be noted by the Committee.
2. That an update, including the full results of the ballot, along with details regarding the progression of the academy order at Moulsecoomb Primary School be brought to the next Children, Young People & Skills Committee.

## 20 **MENTAL HEALTH UPDATE REPORT: SCHOOL WELLBEING SERVICE TRAILBLAZER**

- 20.1 An NHS Officer provided an overview of the paper which sought to update the Committee on the successful outcome of the Schools Trailblazer submission (Mental Health Support Team in Schools).
- 20.2 Councillor Hills referred to item 3.31 and enquired if select groups in the City would be involved and to what extent BHCC were supporting parents at Varndean.
- 20.3 The NHS Officer stated the mental health support team had worked out the population base and concluded that many could benefit from support. It was noted that St Luke's was singled out as they fit the criteria for enhanced support. It was further noted that there were letters and newsletters which included further details available and that the school wellbeing service were present as part of the core team along with CAMHS. Drop in sessions and letters sent out to GPs were also undertaken.
- 20.4 The Chair requested that officers liaised with Councillor Hills on this issue.
- 20.5 Councillor McNair stated that it was evident that Mental Health plans had reached diminishing returns and enquired if it was the case that the focus of the team had become too wide reaching. Reference was made to the prominent Social Psychologist Jonathan Haidt's findings regarding children who were left un-supervised pre 1980.
- 20.6 An NHS Officer stated that the issue was complicated and that efforts were being made to raise awareness in the pursuit of reducing stigma. It was further noted that the team had problem catching up with services and that many positions were considered.
- 20.7 Councillor McNair noted that suicide among women was largely increasing and that further options should be considered in dealing with this issue.
- 20.8 Councillor Brown enquired if there was more certainty regarding finances.
- 20.9 An NHS Officer stated that there was a funding stream nationally for 1 year and that a letter was written to the NHS for a long 10 year plan. It was further stated that this programme would not necessarily disappear in 10 years time.
- 20.10 Councillor Knight enquired if there was any take up of mental health in places that had a reduction of phone use.
- 20.11 The NHS Officer stated that efforts had been made to look in to the whole approach and provide various projects and responses such as digital free days. It was noted that school wellbeing service was all year round.
- 20.12 The Youth Council Representative raised concerns as to provisions for young people looking for consultation in a safe environment.
- 20.13 The Executive Director for Families, Children & Learning stated that efforts would be made to reach out to young people as part of the review process and there would be further opportunities made available as part of this. It was noted that Brighton & Hove already had a wellbeing service in place and that schools worked as part of a wider system.

- 20.14 Councillor Wilkinson referred to items 3.11 and 3.12 and enquired of the take up of schools and the monitoring process.
- 20.15 The NHS Officer stated that training was important and that a universal approach was being fitted in where schools were on inset days.
- 20.16 Amanda Mortensen referred to item 3.28 and enquired of how this would be implemented. Further enquiry was made as to the status of the Hidden Children report)
- 20.17 The NHS Officer stated that a supportive approach to school non-attendance was key and that this included how a child was welcomed in to a school.
- 20.18 The Assistant Director – Education & Skills stated that they would look into the status of the Hidden Children Report.
- 20.19 Councillor Nield requested a detailed report on CAMHS.
- 20.20 The NHS Officer stated that for 2 years there was a resource running in schools for 2 days a week and this provided some level of supervision to the team. It was noted that there was a reduction in CAMHS referrals and the focus would be to tighten up the role of CAMHS in the system so that they could provide further clinical governance.
- 20.21 Councillor McNair noted that there was an amassed amount of research that indicated that high levels of religious belief and practice was indicative of better mental health and enquired if it would be considered that religious belief may have a role to play.
- 20.22 The NHS Officer agreed with this statement.

20.23 **RESOLVED:**

1. That the implication of the implementation of the Trailblazer (Mental Health Support Team in schools) in Brighton & Hove be noted.

**21 EARLY HEADLINES STANDARDS AND ACHIEVEMENT IN BRIGHTON AND HOVE SCHOOLS**

- 21.1 The Head of Education Standards & Achievement provided a brief overview of the report to committee which outlined the early headlines of the results of the national tests in Summer 2019.
- 21.2 Councillor Clare stated that EBac campaign groups saw a reduction in creative subjects and enquired if this was seen locally.
- 21.3 The Head of Education Standards & Achievement stated that there was no information on individual subject yet. It was further stated that there was no further data on EBac currently other than some improvement.
- 21.4 Councillor Hills referred to the grading system and enquired if this was use across all subjects.

- 21.5 The Head of Education Standards & Achievement confirmed that this was largely the grading system across all subjects. It was noted that preferred Mathematics would change over next year.
- 21.6 Councillor Nield stated that SATs results signified a narrow range of achievement when considering the richness of achievement in other areas and enquired if this could be considered in future reports.
- 21.7 The Assistant Director – Education & Skills stated that this was often considered especially in regards to subjects such as music and arts.
- 21.8 The Head of Education Standards & Achievement stated that Ofsted was the main national system of school measurement which had changed to observe the full breadth of the curriculum. It was further stated that as a Local Authority, a broad view of the City was considered amongst a wide range of national data.
- 21.9 Councillor Brown enquired of any reasons for the reduction in areas of learning across schools.
- 21.10 The Head of Education Standards & Achievement stated that data provided comprised of a series of results added together. It was noted that there was very substantial support in place for schools with slightly lower schools.
- 21.11 Councillor Simson referred to Key Stage 1 and 2 and enquired if there would be a city-wide comparison between boys and girls achievements.
- 21.12 The Head of Education Standards & Achievement clarified that there was no data on this yet.
- 21.13 Councillor Knight enquired if it would be possible to report the anecdotal evidence of the lives that some children in the city were living in regard to financial disparity.
- 21.14 The Head of Education Standards & Achievement agreed to provide this.
- 21.15 Councillor McNair referred to the HEPY report in January 2019 and noted that 1 in 4 A-Level grades were marked inaccurately.
- 21.16 Karen James noted that last year it was stated that there was going be a follow up workshop and requested an update on this.
- 21.17 The Assistant Director – Education & Skills stated that members had been urged every year to attend the workshop provided.
- 21.18 The Chair congratulated students and teachers and stated the need for a large focus on the disadvantaged.
- 21.19 **RESOLVED:**
1. That the Early Headlines Standards and Achievement Report for the academic year 2018-2019 be noted.

**22 TRANSITION TO NEW SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS**

- 22.1 The LSCB/LSAB Business Manager gave a brief overview of the report which proposed changes to children's safeguarding arrangements in line with new legislation under the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and subsequent revision to Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.
- 22.2 Councillor Clare referred to the 3 equal partners and enquired of the financial contributions from other partners.
- 22.3 The Executive Director – Families, Children & Learnings stated that under the old safeguarding board 75% of the funding was provided by BHCC. It was noted that there was a significant increase in funding and that the overall budget had not been reduced.
- 22.4 Councillor Brown enquired if anyone had been appointed to the role of Independent Scrutineer.
- 22.5 The LSCB/LSAB Business Manager confirmed that Chris Robson had been appointed the role having previously chaired the LSCB.
- 22.6 Adam Muirhead stated that the Safety Net Group had struggled to attain some funding and enquired if it was possible to clarify what role they may have under the new structure.
- 22.7 The LSCB/LSAB Business Manager stated that conversations were ongoing. It was noted that LSCB funded the newsletter and although it was not yet possible to confirm anything, they would be involved going forward.
- 22.8 **RESOLVED:**
1. That the New Safeguarding Arrangements and reporting structure be noted.

**23 UPDATE ON THE BRIGHTON & HOVE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP**

- 23.1 The Senior Advisor – Education and Partnerships gave a brief update on the structure of the Brighton & Hove Education Partnership and the progress of identified priorities and next steps.
- 23.2 Councillor Nield referred to attendance rates and enquired how BHCC dealt with people whose attendance was not their fault.
- 23.3 The Senior Advisor – Education and Partnerships referred to the miss school miss out campaign and stated that children who were absent due to illness had to be kept in with the data.
- 23.4 Councillor Nield referred to the poverty proofing school day and enquired of the balance of money raised and schools pressuring parents due to school cuts.

- 23.5 The Senior Advisor – Education and Partnerships clarified that the Poverty Proofing school day was about offering children every opportunity.
- 23.6 Councillor Hills noted that since BHCC agreed to involve children in the climate strike, would this be considered as an absence. It was further enquired if this would be seen as negative.
- 23.7 The Executive Director – Families, Children & Learning stated that the decision was down to each individual school. It was clarified that BHCC had provided guidance to each school and that there was a mechanism for schools to accept this under exceptional circumstance and to classify this as an authorised absence.
- 23.8 Councillor Nield requested clarification of measured outcomes.
- 23.9 The Senior Advisor – Education and Partnerships stated that this was very early data across every Key Stage subject.
- 23.10 **RESOLVED:**
1. That the update to the Brighton & Hove Education Partnership be noted.

**24 ITEMS REFERRED FOR COUNCIL**

- 24.1 There were no items referred to Council.

The meeting concluded at Time Not Specified

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of