

COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

Friday, 18 November 2016

Minutes of the meeting of the Community & Children's Services Committee held at Committee Rooms, West Wing, Guildhall on Friday, 18 November 2016 at 11.30 am

Present

Members:

Dhruv Patel (Chairman)	Alderman Sir Paul Judge
Gareth Moore (Deputy Chairman)	Professor John Lumley
Randall Anderson	Deputy Joyce Nash
Deputy John Barker	Delis Regis
Keith Bottomley	Deputy Robert Merrett
Deputy Billy Dove	Philip Woodhouse
Deputy Bill Fraser	James de Sausmarez
Marianne Fredericks	Alderman Robert Howard
Ann Holmes	Alex Bain-Stewart
Deputy Henry Jones	

Officers:

Natasha Dogra	-	Town Clerk's Department
Ade Adetosoye	-	Director, Community & Children's Services
Neal Hounsell	-	Community and Children's Services
Mark Jarvis	-	Chamberlain's Department
Gerald Mehrtens	-	Community & Children's Services
Chris Pelham	-	Community and Children's Services
Jacquie Campbell	-	Community and Children's Services
Paul Murtagh	-	Community & Children's Services
Mike Kettle	-	Community & Children's Services
Mark Lowman	-	City Surveyor's Department
Steven Chandler	-	City Surveyor's Department
Sam Cook	-	Remembrancer's Department
Ellie Ward	-	Community and Children's Services

The Chairman informed Members of the Committee that this was Ade Adetosoye, the Director of Community Services, last meeting with this Committee. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman thanked the Director for all of his hard work and continuous support over the last four years. Of particular note was Ade's dedication to the housing service and services provided to safeguarding adults and children in the City. Members wished Ade well with his new role as Deputy Chief Executive at the London Borough of Bromley and agreed that he would be missed by all at the City Corporation.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from John Fletcher, Alderman David Graves, Deputy Catherine McGuinness, Barbara Newman, Deputy Elizabeth Rogula,

Virginia Rounding, Mark Wheatley, Laura Jorgensen, Revd William Campbell-Taylor and Emma Price.

2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

- Mr Gareth Moore declared an interested in all housing related matters as he was a tenant on the Golden Lane Estate.
- Ms Ann Holmes declared an interest in item 18 due to her role as Board Chairman of the City of London Academy Islington.
- Deputy Joyce Nash and Mr Gareth Moore declared interests in item 8 due to their roles as Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the City's Health and Wellbeing Board.

All Members who declared interests stayed in the committee room while the items were being discussed and took part in the discussions regarding these items.

3. **MINUTES**

Resolved – that the minutes be agreed an accurate record.

Matters Arising:

A Member raised a matter under item 5 of the minutes relating to a presentation received from Parkguard Ltd. The Member recalled that he raised a point regarding the lack of useful communication methods, in particular a card handed out to members of the public with the telephone number for St Mungo's Broadway on it. Officers informed Members that an awareness raising campaign was due to launch in December which would see the introduction of new posters and a suite of leaflets highlighting the methods members of the public could use to report cases of people sleeping rough. Members noted that the phone number on the current cards would no longer be in use; Officers would liaise with St Mungo's to ensure a voice message was broadcast to anyone who called that number in the future directly the person to the new telephone number.

4. **THE CITY & HACKNEY SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015/16**

The Committee noted that the City of London Safeguarding Adults Sub-Committee, now chaired by Dr Adi Cooper, provides greater understanding and accountability on the part of officers and partners as to their responsibility to safeguard adults in the City of London, and acts as a sub-group of the main board. This is an important conduit to cascading messages from the CHSAB and a means of developing a City-specific work plan in line with the board's priorities. City of London Adult Social Care (CoLASC) sits on this sub-committee and provides regular practice updates and performance data, which are open to challenge, scrutiny and learning. The Director of Community and Children's Services and Assistant Director (People) sit on the CHSAB. The AD sits on the CHSAB Executive Board and chairs the SAR sub-group. The ASC

Service Manager and Team Manager sit on the SAR and Learning and Development subgroups.

The annual report illustrates that Safeguarding Adults Boards have operated on a statutory footing for the first time under the Care Act 2014 from 1 April 2015. This year the CHSAB has undertaken significant work to ensure that it has fulfilled its statutory responsibilities and established a firm platform for continuing to do so.

Members noted that the Safeguarding Adults Board comprised of 20 members who ranged from health professionals, service users, police officers, housing officials, local authority Members and lay members. The Committee suggested that in future the annual report should include the complete membership for the information of Members.

Resolved – that the update be received.

5. HOMELESSNESS REDUCTION BILL

The Committee noted the provisions of the Homelessness Reduction Bill, recently introduced into Parliament. The Bill is a Private Member's Bill but has won Government support and therefore stands a good chance of becoming law. If enacted it will significantly reform the duties owed by local housing authorities (including the Common Council acting in that capacity) to those who are homeless or threatened by homelessness. The most important changes are a new relief duty to help eligible applicants to secure accommodation when they first become homeless, irrespective of priority need; a new duty to make personalised assessments and plans for all eligible applicants; a limitation on the duties owed to applicants who deliberately refuse to co-operate; and an extension of the circumstances in which support is to be offered to those who have not yet become homeless.

In response to a query the Director of Community and Children's Services advised that the Bill will impose some additional costs, but that these are likely to be balanced to some extent by savings resulting from stronger preventative duties and the removal of full housing rights from those who refuse to co-operate.

Resolved – that the update be received.

6. COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN: QUARTER 2 UPDATE

The Committee noted the progress made during Quarter 2 (Q2 – July to September 2016) against the refreshed 2015–17 Community and Children's Services Business Plan. Departmental performance and progress for Q2 is good overall. At the end of the reporting period, 16 performance indicators were achieved or exceeded and three were within the tolerance of -10% of the set target. Four indicators were below the tolerance of -10% of the set target.

Resolved – that the update be received.

7. APPRENTICES UPDATE

The Committee noted that the City of London Corporation is committed to delivering 100 apprenticeships across its departments in 2017/18. It proposes to deliver an exemplar service, and has agreed in principle to fund an enhanced level of support and service delivery.

Details of the service and structure to deliver it the scheme would be brought to Members for approval. It was also agreed to increase apprentice salaries so that they start in line with the London Living Wage.

Members were informed that a more detailed report would be submitted to a future meeting which would include information regarding the number of apprentices in each City Corporation department. The Committee agreed that it was imperative that the scheme was closely monitored by the Community and Children's Services Committee.

Resolved – that the update be received.

8. PROPOSALS AROUND THE INTEGRATION OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

The Committee noted that the NHS is facing growing financial and service pressures at a time of rising demand. NHS England published a five-year plan to address some of these challenges and encourage health and social care organisations to work more closely together to address them.

Local areas are required to produce Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs) that set out how organisations will work together at a local level to meet the challenges set out in the plan. This includes looking at transforming services and using resources differently. Although local authorities are part of the plans, their budgets are not included in the overall budget total for STPs. However, some of the service changes proposed through STPs could have an impact on adult social care services, for example an increased focus on preventative services or providing more care based in the community rather than in hospitals. The City of London Corporation is part of the North East London STP, which includes eight local authorities, seven Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and three acute hospital providers.

Discussions ensued regarding the pooling of City and Hackney resources. Members noted that the London Borough of Hackney and City and Hackney CCG had already proposed a devolution pilot, which is now reflected in the STP. The pilot is about exploring the delegation of powers to a local level relating to estates, licensing powers to support public health and prevention and the development of models for integrated commissioning.

London Borough of Hackney is exploring the development of an integrated commissioning model to better align work across local commissioners – CCG, social care and public health – and promote joint planning to improve outcomes. If this proceeds, a similar model of integrated commissioning will need to be developed for the City of London Corporation.

The proposed model would be built upon a pooled budget of funding from the CCG and the City of London Corporation, governed by an Integrated Commissioning Board and bound by a legal agreement. A steering group across the CCG, the City of London Corporation and London Borough of Hackney has been established to explore what the operational models for this might look like.

Resolved – that Members agreed that Officers:

- explore development of a single integrated health and social care commissioning model for the City of London with City and Hackney CCG, subject to further detail and due diligence
- explore entering into a pooled budget with City and Hackney CCG

9. PRESSURES ON TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION BUDGET AND RESOURCES

The Committee noted that legislation requires the City of London Corporation to provide temporary accommodation to certain homeless households. This is currently funded through Housing Benefit subsidy. However, the income received from this subsidy already falls short of the overall cost.

Members noted that the implementation of welfare reform, most notably the transition to Universal Credit, is very likely to increase the pressure on the budget for temporary accommodation through higher levels of arrears and bad debt. The impact could see the current net cost to the budget increase from £35,000 to £150,000. This impact sits alongside a predicted increase in the number of households applying for homelessness assistance, which may require investment in new or expanded services.

Resolved – that the update be received.

10. ADULT SOCIAL CARE PRESSURES - POLICY CONTEXT

Members noted that nationally, Adult Social Care services are under significant pressure from increased demand, cuts in government grants and a range of other factors. In the City of London Corporation, Adult Social Care services have been in a more robust position with no reductions in base funding allocated to the service in the recent service-based reviews. However, financial pressures are now being experienced, which are likely to continue in future years as the older population in the City of London grows.

The Adult Social Care Team is only able to assist City of London residents and those carers who care for someone who lives in the City of London. If City of London residents are placed in residential care or supported living, they are placed outside of the City boundaries as there is no residential care or supported living within the City boundaries. However, although these residents live outside of the City boundaries, they remain the financial and statutory responsibility of the City of London Corporation.

Resolved – that the update be received.

11. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**
Family First Quality Award

Members noted that the department's Family and Young People's Information Service (FYi) has successfully completed accreditation for the national Families First Quality Award. The award is managed by the Family and Childcare Trust, and is designed specifically for family information services. It recognises excellence in the provision of information, advice and assistance.

This is the second time FYi has gained the award, which lasts for three years before re-accreditation is required. In order to gain accreditation, a service is required to provide a portfolio of evidence against 10 quality standards. An additional five standards focus on how the service supports families with children who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). FYi is responsible for the published 'Local Offer' of information for families with SEND and gaining this award is valuable recognition of what has been achieved so far in this important new area.

Sir John Cass School Expansion Update

13. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Resolved - That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

14. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

Resolved – that the minutes be agreed as an accurate record.

15. **ISLINGTON ARTS FACTORY ISSUES REPORT**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

16. **PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL SOCIAL HOUSING AT ISLEDEN HOUSE, LONDON N1 8PP - GATEWAY 3/4 (OUTLINE OPTIONS APPRAISAL)**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

17. **AVONDALE SQUARE ESTATE, GEORGE ELLISON AND ERIC WILKINS HOUSES - ROOFS AND WINDOWS**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

18. **PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES AND SOCIAL HOUSING ON THE FORMER RICHARD CLOUDESLEY SCHOOL SITE, GOLDEN LANE, EC1**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

19. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There was no urgent business.

The meeting ended at 12.55 pm

Chairman

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