

## COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

Friday, 8 June 2018

Minutes of the meeting of the Community & Children's Services Committee held at Committee Rooms, West Wing, Guildhall on Friday, 8 June 2018 at 11.30 am

### Present

#### Members:

Randall Anderson (Chairman)  
Matthew Bell  
Peter Bennett  
Mary Durcan  
John Fletcher  
Marianne Fredericks  
Alderman John Garbutt  
Alderman Prem Goyal  
Deputy the Revd Stephen Haines

Deputy Henry Jones  
Deputy Catherine McGuinness  
Benjamin Murphy  
Deputy Joyce Nash  
Barbara Newman  
William Pimlott  
James de Sausmarez  
Ruby Sayed  
Mark Wheatley  
Deputy Philip Woodhouse

#### Officers:

Andrew Carter	- Director, Community & Children's Services
Jacquie Campbell	- Community and Children's Services Department
Natasha Dogra	- Town Clerk's Department
Mark Jarvis	- Chamberlain's Department
Sukhjot Gill	- Community and Children's Services Department
Gerald Mehrtens	- Community and Children's Services Department
Paul Murtagh	- Community and Children's Services Department
Chris Pelham	- Community and Children's Services Department
Will Norman	- Community and Children's Services Department
Kamal Giwa	- City Surveyor's Department
Ann Bamford	- Community and Children's Services Department
Amelia Ehren	- Town Clerk's Department

A Member raised a concern over some reports marked as non-public items on the agenda. Members agreed that in future should a report include a non-public case study or appendix the committee report should be made public and the appendix containing private information would form part of the non-public agenda.

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Caroline Haines, Henrika Priest, Angus Knowles-Cutler, Alderman David Graves, Susan Pearson, Dhruv Patel, Jason Pritchard,

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

Barbara Newman declared an interest in item 27. Peter Bennet declared an interest in item 16. John Fletcher, Deputy Henry Jones, Laura Jorgensen and

Matt Piper declared interests in item 25 as they served as Governors on the Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School.

3. **MINUTES**

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

4. **PRESENTATION: TOWER HAMLETS YOUTH SERVICES**

The Committee received a presentation regarding the Tower Hamlets Youth Service and noted that the focus of the service was to:

- Build relationships with young people
- Build links with the community
- Address teething problems
- Build programmes based on young peoples' feedback
- Draw in wider LBTH resources
- Build links with other City of London services
- Community development.

There were 2 City of London youth service sessions per week. The sessions were 2 hours each and held on Thursday at Greenbox and Friday at Artisan Library. The service enjoyed a £4m per year investment and 65 FTE staff who performed 430 hours a week of delivery. 7,500 young people per year accessed services provided and Members were very happy with the uptake.

A Member said the young people were extremely engaged and the staff were very enthusiastic. The Committee passed on their thanks to the staff. Members agreed that every effort must be made to engage with young women. Officers said sessions dedicated to young women only was an aspiration of the service. Thought was being given to run a Women's Leadership Programme during the summer this year. Delivery hours should also be revised to ensure after school hours sessions were run for young women, rather than sessions later in the evenings.

Resolved – that the presentation be received.

5. **ESTABLISHMENT OF A HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPERS SUB COMMITTEE**

Members considered the establishment of a sub committee focussing on tackling the issues of rough sleeping and homelessness within the Square Mile. The principal function is to examine and keep under review the City Corporation's efforts to tackle rough sleeping and evaluate the work undertaken with partner organisations to prevent rough sleeping in the City of London.

**Resolved** – that Members of the Community and Children's Services Committee considered the creation of the sub committee and agreed the remit for the group. The following Members were appointed:

Marianne Fredericks

Mark Wheatley

Henrika Priest

William Pimlott

Benjamin Murphy  
Mary Durcan  
Randall Anderson (Chairman  
Dhruv Patel (Deputy Chairman)

6. **DRAFT EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURAL AND CREATIVE LEARNING STRATEGY**

The current Education Strategy, which includes outcomes for culture and skills, runs from 2016 to 2019. The key outcomes of this strategy have been met or are moving towards being met. The Education Board held a strategic planning away day on 19 January 2018 to determine priority areas for the development of coherent Education, Skills and Culture strategies for the future. As a result of these discussions, Education, Skills and Cultural and Creative Learning Strategies have been developed to establish the overall direction, goals and key performance indicators for the period 2019–2023.

Members agreed to submit any comments on the strategy to Officers via email.

Resolved – that the report be received.

7. **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY (SEND) CITY OF LONDON LOCAL AREA INSPECTION OUTCOME - MAY 2018**

The report provided an update to Members on the outcome of the City of London Local Area Inspection letter – May 2018.

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills gave notification on 5 March 2018 to the City of London local area that we were going to be inspected, under section 20 of the Children Act 2004, from 12 to 16 March 2018. The inspection provided an independent external evaluation of how well the City of London local area carries out its statutory duties in relation to children and young people with special educational needs and /or disabilities (SEND) to support their development.

Due to its small geographical size, the City of London local area faces significant challenges as a large proportion of children and young people who have SEND are educated in schools outside the local area. However, leaders have effectively mobilised resources and staffing, and used joint commissioning to manage these challenges effectively. Inspectors reviewed several examples where leaders commissioned a personalised package to support children and their families.

Resolved – that the report be received.

8. **FREE SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING SIR JOHN CASS'S FOUNDATION PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Members noted the proposals to extend the offer of free school meals to all pupils attending Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School. Currently all pupils attending the School in Reception, years 1 and 2 receive a school lunch as part of the Government-funded universal infant free school meals funding allocation to the school.

The proposal is to fund a pilot scheme for the pupils in years 3 to 6 to receive the offer of a free school meal in the financial year 2018/19. The total cost of this is approximately £72,600 for the year 2018/19. The funding will be allocated on the number of pupils taking up the offer of a free school meal each day, so this may vary.

If the pilot is a success, Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School will evaluate the impact of all pupils receiving free school meals in the spring term 2019 so that a decision can be made on the sustained funding for this proposal. This initiative fits in with one of the City of London's key strategic aims of 'Enabling children, young people and adults to learn, thrive and achieve their full potential'.

Resolved – that the report be received.

**9. REGIONAL ADOPTION AGENCY**

In April 2018, the Department for Education (DfE) approved the Ambitious for Adoption project proposal for a new RAA to be developed with Harrow as lead local authority, along with Coram Capital Adoption as a strategic partner, with participating local authorities including CoL, Redbridge, Slough Children's Services Trust and Bromley, the latter two authorities having joined more recently. As a result, the CoL withdrew from the London-wide RAA discussion and is seeking to continue to be part of the new RAA Ambitious for Adoption proposal. This will mean that the CoL will be part of a new RAA in place by November 2018. During this development phase, the CoL will continue to commission Coram Capital Adoption under the current contractual arrangements. These arrangements required an extension of 12 months to the current contract, agreed under a waiver that expired on 31 May 2018. This will enable the CoL to continue with the current provider during the regionalisation process.

Resolved – that Members approved the plan to continue to be part of the development and implementation of a new RAA, ready for implementation from November 2018. The final proposed model will be presented to Members for approval prior to the implementation date.

**10. LEASEHOLDER DISCRETIONARY LOAN ARRANGEMENTS - OPTIONS FOR AMENDMENT**

In September 2017, the Committee approved a revision to the support offered by the City to help its leaseholders with the costs of major works. The support includes a discretionary provision to offer an interest-free period of up to three years on loans to leaseholders who are owner-occupiers.

At the request of Members, officers have looked at the potential for restricting eligibility for the interest-free period to lower-income households only. The Committee were in agreement that the report would be more useful if a conclusion were included for Members to consider.

Resolved – that Members agreed to leave eligibility as it currently stands and requested Officers to submit a report with a clear conclusion in the autumn of this year to enable a decision to be made going forward.

**11. BUSINESS PLAN: QUARTER 4 UPDATE**

Members noted the Department of Community and Children's Services (DCCS) performance during 2017/18 in relation to its Business Plan 2017–2022.

The Committee noted the report identified that leaseholders currently displayed a 45% satisfaction with their neighbourhood. Officers stated that when the survey was undertaken a number of national events such as a general election and the fire at Grenfell Tower occurred. The comments on the survey were directed towards maintenance work and not about the service provided by staff. An in-depth report was considered by the Housing Management and Almshouses Sub Committee to explain the data. Officers informed the Committee that levels of satisfaction were falling across London as expectations of stakeholders rise.

Resolved – that the report be received.

**12. REVENUE OUTTURN 2017/18 - COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Members noted the 2017/18 revenue outturn for the non-Housing Revenue Account (HRA) services overseen by your Committee with the final agreed budget for the year. The Director of Community and Children's Services local risk budget was underspent by £43,000 with an underspend on all risks of £46,000.

The Director of Community and Children's Services is proposing to carry forward £32,000 of his local risk underspend for identified purposes of this Committee. These proposals will be considered by the Chamberlain in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee and, if agreed, will be added to the Director's budgets for 2018/19.

Resolved – that the report be received.

**13. TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION'S RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS STRATEGY, 2018-23**

Members noted the current draft version of 'Towards a Sustainable Future: The City of London Corporation's Responsible Business Strategy, 2018-23'.

Resolved – that the report be received.

**14. CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING STRATEGY, 2018-23**

Members noted the proposed final version of the Corporate Volunteering Strategy 2018-23 for Members' information.

Resolved – that the report be received.

**15. RESPONSE TO WARDMOTE RESOLUTION - GOLDEN LANE**

At its meeting on 21 March 2018 Members of the Ward of Cripplegate, Within & Without passed a resolution regarding the condition of the windows and other fabric of the Grade II Listed Golden Lane Estate. The Committee received an update regarding the situation and noted that the Corporation is investing nearly £25million over the next 3 to 4 years in a Major Works Programme that will transform the Golden Lane Estate. Around £5million of this investment is specifically earmarked for Crescent House and will provide for the maintenance of, and significant improvements to, the structure and fabric of the building as well as, the quality of the accommodation for residents living there. In response to a query regarding the completion of works, Officers informed the Committee that the works would begin in Spring 2020 and information regarding the completion would be sent via email to the Member. Officers would investigate if the work could be delivered sooner. The Committee noted that the Major Works Programme did not encompass the pillars but Officers undertook to investigate whether any work required on the supporting pillars could be undertaken simultaneously to avoid longer disruption.”

Resolved – that the response be received.

**16. RESPONSE TO WARDMOTE RESOLUTION - TUDOR ROSE COURT - TO FOLLOW**

Members noted that the head lease granted to Network Housing Association Limited on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1998 and vested in Hanover Housing Association following its transfer with the City’s consent on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014 enables Hanover House to grant long leases or tenancy agreements in the forms annexed to the head lease. The standard tenancy agreement makes no mention of the service charge that the occupiers are to pay. Clear guidelines were, however, agreed with Network and subsequent individual tenancy agreements were completed in accordance with those guidelines by Network. The head lease goes on to say that the standard documents may be varied by the head lessee in the interests of good estate management with the consent of the City, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

Resolved – that the response be received.

**17. LAND TRANSACTIONS - FORMER RICHARD CLOUDESLEY SCHOOL SITE**

The Committee considered this report with the non-public progress report regarding the site. As reported to Community and Children’s Services Committee in April 2018, planning applications for the provision of a new primary school and 66 social housing units on the Site were approved by LBI’s Planning Committee on 1 March 2018 and by the City’s Planning and Transportation Committee on 26 March 2018, subject to Section 106 obligations, planning conditions, and GLA approval. The discussion took place in the non-public part of the agenda.

Resolved – that Members resolve that the adjoining City’s Land (other than the Housing Airspace) is no longer required for the purpose for which it was acquired and held, and authorise the Director of Children’s and

Community Services to conclude negotiations and final terms of the acquisitions and disposal in accordance with the principles set out in this report, to take any other steps as required in connection with any related documentation and associated transactions as may be necessary to complete the steps to implement the Development in accordance with the principles in this report, and to instruct the City Solicitor to enter into all necessary legal documents

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

There were none.

**19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

The Committee were invited to appoint up to four Members to the Education Charity Sub Committee.

Resolved – the following Members were appointed:

Philip Woodhouse

Ruby Sayed

The Chairman reminded Members that the July Committee meeting had been cancelled.

**ALLOCATION OF SECTION 106 FUNDS TO THE SIR JOHN CASS'S FOUNDATION PRIMARY SCHOOL**

This report was moved from the non-public part of the agenda and was considered in the public section.

The report updated Members on the Section 106 funding for education from the Minorities development and the proposal to allocate this funding for use by the governing body of Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School. The purpose of transferring this funding is to support the provision of education facilities at the school.

Resolved – that Members agreed:

1. that the S106 funds provided for education purposes be allocated to the Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School for the provision of education facilities
2. that authority be delegated to the Director of Community and Children's Services, to agree appropriate projects for expenditure and make the necessary payments to secure their delivery
3. that authority be given to the Director of Community and Children's Services to instruct the City Solicitor to enter into any necessary agreement in relation to any payments made under (2) above.

A Member who served as a Governor of Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School thanked the Committee for their decision to provide S106 funding for education purposes at the school.

**20. 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.

21. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

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

22. **YOUTH SERVICES UPDATE**

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

23. **PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS OF CITY OF LONDON PUPILS 2018/19**

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

24. **PROGRESS REPORT OF THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES AND SOCIAL HOUSING ON THE FORMER RICHARD CLOUDESLEY SCHOOL SITE**

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

26. **ROUGH SLEEPING UPDATE**

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

27. **LEASEHOLDER RECHARGES FOR FIRE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT WORKS**

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

28. **HOUSING DELIVERY PROGRAMME - REQUIREMENT TO COMMISSION A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY DESIGN TEAM TO DELIVER A CITY OF LONDON HOUSING DESIGN GUIDE**

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

29. **HOUSING DELIVERY PROGRAMME - PROVISION OF SOCIAL HOUSING ON THE SYDENHAM HILL ESTATE, LEWISHAM**

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

30. **CONVERSION OF NINE PODIUM-LEVEL SHOP UNITS AND A MESS ROOM FOR RESIDENTIAL USE ON THE MIDDLESEX STREET ESTATE**

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



**31. RENEWAL OF ROOF COVERINGS AT 1-48 BLAKE HOUSE, WILLIAM BLAKE ESTATE**

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

**32. RATIONALISATION OF CHARITIES: THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION COMBINED RELIEF OF POVERTY CHARITY (1073660) & CORPORATION OF LONDON BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION (206643)**

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

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

There were no questions.

**34. 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 1.30 pm**

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Chairman

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