

## **COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Friday, 13 December 2019**

Minutes of the meeting held at Guildhall at 11.00 am

### **Members:**

Randall Anderson (Chairman)  
Ruby Sayed (Deputy Chairman)  
Matthew Bell  
Peter Bennett  
Mary Durcan  
Helen Fentimen  
John Fletcher  
Marianne Fredericks  
Alderman John Garbutt  
Alderman Prem Goyal

Natasha Maria Cabrera Lloyd-Owen  
Deputy Catherine McGuinness  
Barbara Newman  
Dhruv Patel  
Susan Pearson  
Henrika Priest

### **In Attendance**

#### **Officers:**

Andrew Carter	- Director of Community & Children's Services
Sandra Husbands	- Director of Public Health
Andy Liggins	- Public Health Consultant
Simon Cribbens	- Community & Children's Services
Jason Hayes	- Community & Children's Services
Theresa Shortland	- Community & Children's Services
Will Norman	- Community & Children's Services
Gerald Mehrtens	- Community & Children's Services
Paul Murtagh	- Community & Children's Services
Chris Pelham	- Community & Children's Services
Mark Jarvis	- Chamberlain's
Chandni Tanna	- Town Clerks (Communications Department)
Julie Mayer	- Town Clerk's
Mark Lowman	- City Surveyors
Frank Marchione	- Comptroller & City Solicitors

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from George Abrahams, Caroline Haines, Deputy the Revd. Stephen Haines, Graeme Harrower, Laura Jorgensen, William Pimlott, Jason Pritchard, James de Sausmarez and Deputy Philip Woodhouse.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that – the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019 be approved.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

Members noted the Committee's Outstanding Actions list and those items which either appeared on today's agenda or had been scheduled for future meetings.

- **City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board** – Annual Report 2018/19 – re transitions from child to adult safeguarding and assessing outcomes – to be covered in the next Annual Report to the Committee (expected Autumn 2020)
- **Sufficiency Strategy** – a message had been posted on the website in respect of promoting fostering opportunities to City residents.
- **Playground Equipment** – external gym equipment had been included in the brief for consultation.
- **Right to Light Claims, Golden Lane** – the Director advised that an apology had been received from the Consultant, acknowledging that residents should have been advised on the implication on leases in respect of the slither of land. The original offers would therefore stand and larger claims were progressing.

5. **TO CONFIRM THE APPOINTMENT OF TWO NEW MEMBERS TO THE SAFEGUARDING SUB COMMITTEE**

Members were asked to appoint to 2 vacancies on its Safeguarding Sub Committee.

RESOLVED, that – being the only Members willing to serve, Jason Pritchard and Munsur Ali be appointed to the Safeguarding Sub Committee for 2019-20.

6. **THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION'S DRAFT SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY STRATEGY FOR 2020-25**

Members received a report of the Head of Corporate Strategy and Performance in respect of developing a strategy for sport and physical activity in the City of London. Members noted that the report had been presented to various City Corporation Committee and the Town Clerk had circulated Members' comments ahead of today's Committee. It was expected that a proposed final version of the Strategy would be presented to the Policy and Resources Committee in February 2020.

RESOLVED, that – the report and comments to date be noted.

7. **COMMISSIONING UPDATE**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services which provided an update on commissioning activity, since the last report in May 2019.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

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

Member considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of a pilot to provide free school meals to all pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School. Members noted that the budgetary provision was in place.

RESOLVED, that – the impact of the pilot project be noted and funding for meals for all children attending Sir John Cass Primary School, in years 3, 4 5 and 6 continue, sourced from the Education and Early Years' Service Budget, and subject to annual review.

9. **REVISED ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION COMBINED EDUCATION CHARITY (no 312836) AND THE CITY EDUCATIONAL TRUST FUND (290840)**

Members received the revised eligibility criteria for the City of London Combined Education Charity and the City Educational Trust Fund.

RESOLVED, that – the amended eligibility criteria for the City of London Combined Education Charity (no 312836) and the City Educational Trust Fund (290840), as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be recommended to the Education Board.

10. **LETTING/SALES POLICIES FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

Members considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of sales and lettings policies for new housing developments. Members noted that the Housing Management and Almshouses Sub Committee had considered this report in some detail at their last meeting, on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019, and the questions raised and their responses had been circulated ahead of today's meeting.

Whilst noting that detail on equity was still to be finalised, Members agreed to amend the recommendation as set out in (2) below. In response to a question about eligibility to vote in a residents' ballot, Members noted that the eligibility criteria was captured by the GLA's funding conditions. These provide that; *"any resident whose principal home is on the estate and who has been on the local authority's housing register for at least one year prior to the date the Landlord Offer is published, irrespective of their current tenure, is eligible to vote in the ballot"*.

RESOLVED, that –

In respect of Leaseholders:

1. Long leaseholders who occupy their flat as their only or principal home and who wish to remain on the estate will, if their existing flat is subject to demolition, be offered a new flat on a shared-equity basis. *NB If, however, they are able and wish to purchase 100% of the equity, then they will be able to do so.*
2. Any long leaseholder taking up a shared-equity offer will be expected to invest funds from the purchase of their old property and a proportion of any Home Loss payment (plus a potential voluntary contribution from savings). ~~Any value gap will be met by the City Corporation retaining an equity share in the property.~~ Any value gap will be met either directly by the City or indirectly through a funding partner.
3. The shared-equity terms will not require the leaseholder to pay rental on the equity that they do not own but they will be liable for 100% of the service charge.
4. The shared-equity opportunity will not be available to long leaseholders who do not occupy their flat as their only or principal home. Instead, they will be offered market value plus compensation if, their flat is subject to demolition as part of the new development.

In respect of Secure Tenants:

5. Secure tenants must be offered alternative accommodation and if, in line with the previously adopted Local Lettings Plan, their flat is subject to demolition, they will be offered a new flat within the new development and will only need to move once.

In respect of Windsor House:

6. The Long Leaseholder policy proposed above to be communicated to long leaseholders in an information bulletin.
7. Long Leaseholders to be asked to register interest in the shared-equity opportunity, so that an assessment of likely project viability can be undertaken.

**11. AWARD OF SECTION 202 HOUSING ACT 1996 REVIEWS CONTRACT**

Members considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services which sought approval for contracting out of Section 202 - Housing Act Reviews (of the Housing Act 1996) to a third-party organisation. Members noted that the local authority in question must authorise the contracting out.

RESOLVED, That:

1. Authority be granted (retrospectively if necessary) for a period not exceeding 10 years (from 01/01/2019) to the exercising of the statutory homelessness review function (under Section 202 of the Housing Act 1996) by persons or employees of those persons whose details have been notified to this Committee (by or on behalf of the Director of Community and Children's Services) as having entered into agreements to provide the

exercising of the statutory homelessness review function on behalf of the Common Council of the City of London.

2. The Director of Community and Children's Services be authorised to enter into agreements (in accordance with the above authorisation) with persons to provide for the exercising of the statutory homelessness review function on behalf of the Common Council of the City of London by those persons and/or employees of those persons.
3. Housing Reviews Ltd be noted as having entered into an agreement to provide the exercising of the Statutory Homeless Review Function up to 31 December 2019.

12. **GOLDEN LANE COMMUNITY CENTRE REFURBISHMENT - GATEWAY 6 - OUTCOME REPORT**

Members considered an outcome report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect the refurbishment of the Golden Lane Community Centre, including lessons learnt.

RESOLVED, that - the contents of the report be noted and the project be closed.

13. **FIRE DOOR REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME - GATEWAY 1-4 - PROJECT PROPOSAL**

Members considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of the Fire Door Replacement Programme. In response to questions, Members noted that Spitalfields was not part of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and would need to be submitted as a separate capital bid. The Assistant Director advised that the issue of multiple/single contractors was under consideration by Procurement officers and had been discussed with the Chairman of the Projects Sub Committee.

RESOLVED, that:

1. A budget of £150,000 be approved for internal staff costs and professional fees to reach the next project gateway.
2. The project budget of £150,000 (excluding risk) be noted.
3. The total estimated cost of the project at £9,100,000 (excluding risk) be noted.

14. **QUESTIONS**

In response to a question about the status of the Community and Children's Services Department's Internal Audit reports, the Director advised this might be a timing issue and agreed to investigate further. Members noted that the Director met regularly with officers in Internal Audit and Risk Management in respect of internal audit report recommendations and progress on action plans and their implementation.

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

The Chairman agreed to admit an item of urgent business in respect of an urgent decision taken by the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, since the last meeting of the Committee. The Town Clerk had circulated the decision notice to Members ahead of this meeting.

RESOLVED, that – the action taken under urgency provision in respect of an updated Deed of Variation to the Section 75 Agreement, to take into account the Better Care Fund for 2019-20, be noted.

*Member noted that the meeting scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 11,30 am would be cancelled and the next meeting of the Committee would be on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at either 11 or 11.30 am (exact time to be confirmed, depending on the size of the agenda).*

16. **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 Part 1 (Schedule 12A) of the Local Government Act.

Item no(s)	para no(s)
18-27	3
28	Confidential item (paras 1,2,3 & 4)

17. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that – the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019 be approved.

18. **ROUGH SLEEPING OUTREACH SERVICE PROCUREMENT STAGE 1 STRATEGY REPORT**

Members considered and approved a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

19. **ROUGH SLEEPING OPTIONS APPRAISAL - NEW INTERVENTION PROPOSAL**

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

20. **WAIVER REPORT: MINISTRY OF HOUSING, COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MHCLG) GRANT-FUNDED ROUGH SLEEPING SUPPORT WORKER**

Members considered and approved a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

21. **PROGRESS REPORT OF THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES AND SOCIAL HOUSING ON THE FORMER RICHARD CLOUDESLEY SCHOOL SITE**  
Members considered and approved a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
22. **HOUSING DELIVERY PROGRAMME - PROGRESS REPORT**  
Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
23. **ISLEDON HOUSE INFILL DEVELOPMENT - GATEWAY 4 - ISSUES REPORT**  
Members considered and approved a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
24. **TENANTED PROPERTIES ELECTRICAL TESTING AND SMOKE DETECTOR INSTALLATION - PHASE 3 - GATEWAY 5 - ISSUES REPORT**  
Members considered and approved a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
25. **GOLDEN LANE LEISURE CENTRE - OUTCOME REPORT - GATEWAY 6**  
Members considered and approved a report of the City Surveyor.
26. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**  
There were no items
27. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**  
There were no questions

*At 12.55pm Members agreed to suspend Standing Orders in order to conclude the business on the Confidential Agenda.*

#### **Confidential Agenda**

28. **PUBLIC HEALTH SHARED SERVICES**  
Members considered and approved a report of the Director of Public Health

**The meeting ended at 1.10 pm**

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Chairman

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