

SAFEGUARDING SUB (COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES) COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 7 June 2017

Minutes of the meeting of the Safeguarding Sub (Community & Children's Services) Committee held at Guildhall on Wednesday, 7 June 2017 at 11.30 am

Present

Members:

Randall Anderson
Marianne Fredericks
Deputy Joyce Nash (in the Chair)
Dhruv Patel
Ruby Sayed

In Attendance

Officers:

Chris Pelham	-	Community and Children's Services
Pat Dixon	-	Community and Children's Services
Elizabeth Malton	-	Community and Children's Services
Rachel Green	-	Community and Children's Services
Sudjit Gill	-	Community and Children's Services
Adam Johnstone	-	Community and Children's Services
Julie Mayer	-	Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Deputy Elizabeth Rogula

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

There were no declarations.

3. SUB COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

Members noted the Sub Committee's Terms of Reference.

4. TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 29

Being the only Member willing to serve, Mr Randall Anderson was elected as Chairman of the Safeguarding Sub Committee for 2017/18.

5. TO ELECT A DEPUTY CHAIRMAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 30

Being the only Member willing to serve, Ms Ruby Sayed was elected as Deputy Chairman of the Safeguarding Sub Committee for 2017/18.

6. **MINUTES**

The public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 26 January 2017 were approved.

Matters arising

- Members noted that a safeguarding intelligence unit had been put on hold, pending the outcome of a review of safeguarding boards as prescribed in the Children and Social Work Act. Members would receive a further update at their next meeting.
- Members noted that the 'Dolly Parton Library' had been launched and this would enable all children to receive free books. At the last meeting, Members suggested this to help track children missing education.

7. **OFSTED ACTION PLAN PROGRESS**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of progress against the Ofsted Action Plan. Members noted that officers were compiling a programme of visits to the Children in Care Council (CiCC) and adventure away days, to which they would be invited. Previous trips had included sailing and rock climbing and Members were encouraged to see the young people off on their trips. Members noted that care leavers aged 18-25 also attended the CiCC.

In respect of asylum seekers, officers advised that, once their language skills had been developed, they would be given shadowing opportunities. Finally, Members noted that the draft CAF assessment tool would be presented to the next multi agency partnership for sign off.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

8. **LONDON REGIONAL CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of the London Regional Children in Care Council. The Assistant Director advised that, whilst some boroughs had not engaged at this time, there had been enough support to approve the proposal. The Assistant Director had spoken with the GLA about setting up a round table meeting in October and Members suggested raising the matter with London Councils, to encourage further buy in.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

9. **FINANCIAL ABUSE IN THE CITY OF LONDON**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of a scoping exercise into financial abuse in the City. Members noted that information leaflets had been given to residents, who had recently registered a death and they been included in Council Tax bills.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

10. MAKING SAFEGUARDING PERSONAL

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of making safeguarding personal. During the discussion and questions, the following points were raised/noted:

- All care packages included an assessment of need and all service users had a choice so long as they had mental capacity. Social Workers' skill sets included motivational techniques but, in some cases, service users could make unwise decisions as they were at liberty to do so.
- All commissioning services include safeguarding vetting and review packages.
- Currently, there were no plans for carers to carry cameras but commissioning services were reviewing the use of various technologies and any proposals regarding assistive technologies would come back to the Safeguarding Sub Committee.
- In respect of Powers of Attorney, and given this was often a highly personal, sensitive family matter, it could be difficult to raise directly as a requirement of a care plan but could be included in wider discussions with service users.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

11. QUALITY ASSURANCE ON CHILD IN NEED (CIN) CASES

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of quality assurance on Child in Need (CIN) cases. Members noted that all forms had been amended to a SMART format, which would enable progression to subsequent stages and record threshold decisions; avoiding duplication and unnecessary bureaucracy.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

12. QUESTIONS OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

The Town Clerk agreed to progress with allocating the Lead Members for Adults and Children.

Members agreed to continue with the current procedure for drafting questions in advance of the meetings, which had been commended by OFSTED.

14. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED - That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item	Paragraph
16-21	1 & 2

15. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2017 were approved.

16. **CITY OF LONDON CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL UPDATE**

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

17. **MULTI AGENCY SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND VULNERABLE ADOLESCENTS**

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

18. **ADULT SAFEGUARDING PERFORMANCE REPORT**

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

19. **SAFEGUARDING REPORT FOR Q3 2016/17 AND PROVISIONAL Q4 HEADLINES**

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

20. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

21. **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.

The meeting ended at 12.55 pm

Chairman

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