

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held on Thursday, 10 January 2013 commencing at 10.45 am and finishing at Time Not Specified

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor Michael Waine – in the Chair
Councillor Marilyn Badcock (Deputy Chairman)
Councillor Janet Godden
Councillor M. Altaf-Khan
Councillor Ann Bonner
Councillor Mrs Anda Fitzgerald-O'Connor
Councillor Pete Handley
Councillor Caroline Newton
Councillor Neil Owen
Councillor Dave Sexon
Councillor Val Smith

Other Members in Attendance:

Co-opted Members: Mr Chris Bevan
Mrs Sue Matthew

By Invitation: Carole Thomson and Bob Martyn

Officers: Lisa Michelson, Simon Pickard, John Dixon, Frances Craven, Jim Leivers, Sara Livadeas, Lorna Baxter, Sue Scane, Graham Shaw

Whole of meeting

Part of meeting

Agenda Item Officer Attending

The Scrutiny Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting [, together with a schedule of addenda tabled at the meeting/the following additional documents:] and agreed as set out below. Copies of the agenda and reports [agenda, reports and schedule/additional documents] are attached to the signed Minutes.

1/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS
(Agenda No. 1)

None received.

2/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - SEE GUIDANCE NOTE
(Agenda No. 2)

None.

3/12 SPEAKING TO OR PETITIONING THE COMMITTEE
(Agenda No. 3)

None.

4/12 SERVICE & RESOURCE PLANNING 2013/14 - 2016/17
(Agenda No. 4)

Cllr Waine began by referring to minutes from last year's Service and Resource Planning meeting. He noted that all of the proposed actions have been undertaken by the committee.

Cllr Tilley gave an overview of the budget process.

The committee then received a presentation from Lorna Baxter, Head of Corporate Finance, outlining the proposed budget changes.

Jim Leivers, Director for Children, Education and Families with Frances Craven, Deputy Director for Education and Early Intervention, and John Dixon, Deputy Director for Children's Social Care and the Youth Offending Service, gave a presentation.

The committee were invited to ask questions throughout the presentation as appropriate. They had discussions around each of the pressures and proposed savings.

From this discussion the committee decided that:

- The committee will monitor the progress towards the introduction of the extra social workers as part of its on-going programme of work for 2013/14.
- The committee would play an active role in the upcoming review of Children's Centres, given the shaping of the membership, principles and terms of reference of the member-led group.
- The reduction in the School Improvement Service and its re-shaping in response to more schools becoming academies will be considered as a future item for the work programme.
- Budget changes relating to national policy would be continually monitored, especially with regard to the Southwark Judgement and All Rights Exhausted.

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- The capital discussion will take place as part of the next full committee meeting scheduled for 28th February.

Overall, the committee accepted the proposals.

The meeting concluded at 12.30pm.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing