

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

MINUTES

of meeting held on **21 SEPTEMBER 2009** at the

Council House from 2.32 pm to 4.30 pm

Councillor Mellen	(Chair)
Councillor Ibrahim	(Vice-Chair)
Councillor Collins	
Councillor Griggs	
Councillor Klein	
Councillor Marshall	
Councillor Morley	
Councillor Urquhart	

indicates present at meeting

External representative in attendance

Mr D Cooke - Business in the Community

Officers in attendance

Mr N Blinston	- Head of Business Services	- Adult Support and Health
Ms K Curnow	- Area 1 Neighbourhood Manager	- Community and Culture
Ms J Lewis	- Head of Children in Care) Children's Services
Ms K Marron	- Head of Curriculum and Strategy 8-13)
Mr B Horne	- Corporate Director	- Environment and Regeneration
Mr K Banfield	- Head of Performance Improvement and Planning)) Resources
Mr M Leavesley	- Committee Administrator)

ACTION

22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Collins and from Candida Brudenell and Satinder Gautam (both Children's Services) and Gill Moy (Nottingham City Homes).

23 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

24 MINUTES

(a) Confirmation

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 18 May and 20 July 2009, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

(b) Matters arising

(1) NYAS Themes and Issues for Nottingham

Further to minute 6(3), a report detailing the financial costs involved arising from the Service Level Agreement and the housing needs of those leaving care would be submitted to the November meeting;

J Lewis

(2) Restructure of support on Educational Outcomes (minute 11(2))

Further to minute 11(2), a report detailing progress in attainment of children in care would be submitted to the January 2010 meeting;

K Marron

(3) Flying Fish Project

Further to minute 16(2)(a), City officers had met with children willing to take part in Nottingham's version of the project and local businesses were in support of the scheme;

Further to minute 16(2)(b), discussions were still ongoing with Nottinghamshire Police, but they were happy for a representative to attend a future meeting to discuss whether there was a link between children in care and criminalisation;

(4) Multi-Agency Outcomes Group

Further to minute 18, there was still no representation from Housing on the Group;

The Chair stated that there should also be a representative from each department at every meeting of this Board and requested that Corporate Leadership Team ensured a nomination was received – Barry Horne agreed to bring it to the attention of the Chief Executive;

B Horne

(5) Fostering Fortnight – BUPA Scheme

Further to minute 21, it was reported that Ben Browne, Director of Human Resources, had stated that it would be possible to extend the employee BUPA scheme to foster carers and that he was currently investigating the potential costs involved.

25 VISITS TO CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL UNITS - FEEDBACK

Councillors and colleagues gave verbal feedback to the Board on visits that they

ACTION

had recently undertaken to Crocus Fields, Vivian Avenue, Beckhampton Court and Ranskill Gardens residential units, including their views on the buildings, amenities available, staffing levels and appropriateness of the provision overall in light of the current residents.

RESOLVED that the feedback be noted.

26 CARE AND PREJUDICE

Consideration was given to a report of Roger Morgan, Children's Rights Director of England, copies of which had been circulated, published following a survey of 352 children with knowledge of either foster care or residential homes.

During discussion, the following comments were made:

- children in care must be treated the same as other pupils whilst at school to prevent any stigma being attached to them;
- the perception of teachers and members of the public of children in care was of violent and/or anti-social behaviour, which must be addressed as this was not the case with the vast majority of children;
- the Council's proposed small group home scheme was considered the correct approach to care in the future, moving away from the current 'institutional' buildings.

RESOLVED

- (1) **that the report be noted;**
- (2) **that an investigation into the perception by businesses and landlords of children in care be undertaken.**

B Horne

27 CHILDREN IN CARE POPULATION AS AT 31 JULY 2009

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Specialist Services, copies of which had been circulated, informing the Board of the numbers of children in care in the City as at 31 July 2009, in comparison with those in care at 31 March 2009.

RESOLVED

- (1) **that the report be noted;**
- (2) **that the Director of Specialist Services be requested to include the March and July 2009 figures in the next report, to be submitted to the March 2010 meeting, to allow a more complete comparison to be made.**

S Gautam

28 MULTI-AGENCY OUTCOMES GROUP - UPDATE

Ms Lewis updated members on the latest work undertaken by the Multi-Agency Outcomes Group and informed them that the Group's terms of reference had been amended to reflect that it now reported to this Board and to allow a better understanding of what was required of it.

ACTION

RESOLVED

- (1) that the latest position be noted;**
- (2) that the Director of Specialist Services be requested to submit a report, detailing the latest position regarding the 15+ scheme, to a future meeting.**

S Gautam