



City of Westminster

# Committee Agenda

Title:

**Children, Sports and Leisure Policy and Scrutiny Committee**

Meeting Date:

**Monday 1st February, 2016**

Time:

**7.00 pm**

Venue:

**Rooms 5, 6 & 7 - 17th Floor, City Hall**

Members:

**Councillors:**

Andrew Smith (Chairman)  
Rita Begum  
Iain Bott  
Peter Cuthbertson  
Nick Evans  
Adnan Mohammed  
Tim Roca  
Robert Rigby

**Elected Voting Representatives**

Aki Turan, Parent Governor  
Annie Ee, Parent Governor

**Co-opted Voting Representatives**

Brenda Morrison, Church of England  
Diocese Representative  
Louise McCullough, Roman Catholic  
Diocesan Board Representative

**Co-opted Non-voting Representatives**

Eugene Moriarty, Headteacher, St  
Augustine's High School  
Darren Guttridge, Headteacher,  
Edward Wilson Primary School



**Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to the discussion Part 1 of the Agenda.**

**Admission to the public gallery is by ticket, issued from the ground floor reception at City Hall from 6.30pm. If you have a disability and require any special assistance please contact the Committee Officer (details listed below) in advance of the meeting.**



**An Induction loop operates to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter. If you require any further information, please contact the Committee Officer, Sarah Craddock, Senior Committee and Governance Officer.**

**Tel: 020 7641 2770; Email: [scraddock@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:scraddock@westminster.gov.uk)  
Corporate Website: [www.westminster.gov.uk](http://www.westminster.gov.uk)**

**Note for Members:** Members are reminded that Officer contacts are shown at the end of each report and Members are welcome to raise questions in advance of the meeting. With regard to item 2, guidance on declarations of interests is included in the Code of Governance; if Members and Officers have any particular questions they should contact the Head of Committee and Governance Services in advance of the meeting please.

## **AGENDA**

### **PART 1 (IN PUBLIC)**

**1. MEMBERSHIP**

To note any changes to the Membership.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations of interest by Members and Officers of any personal or prejudicial interests.

**3. MINUTES**

To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2015.

**(Pages 1 - 8)**

**4. TRACKERS AND WORK PROGRAMME**

a) To note the progress in implementing the Committee's Recommendation and Action Trackers.

b) To provide comment and input into the Work Programme for 2015/16.

**(Pages 9 - 16)**

**5. CABINET MEMBER FOR SPORTS AND LEISURE**

Councillor David Harvey (Cabinet Member for Sports and Leisure) to update the Committee on current and forthcoming issues in his Portfolio.

**(Pages 17 - 22)**

**6. CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

Report from Councillor Danny Chalkley (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People) updating the Committee on current and forthcoming issues in his Portfolio.

**(Pages 23 - 28)**

**7. THE ROLE OF THE SCHOOLS COMMISSIONER**

Martin Post, Regional Schools Commissioner, will be attending the meeting to give an overview of his role as Schools Commissioner.

**(Pages 29 - 30)**

**8. YEAR 6 TO YEAR 7 TRANSITION**

**(Pages 31 - 44)**

To examine the identification, intervention and evaluation process of the Year 6 to Year 7 Transition and the work being undertaken in the wider context of the new 'on track' project.

**9. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OF SERVICE PERSONNEL**

**(Pages 45 - 48)**

To note the update on the needs of children of Service Personnel.

**10. REPORTS OF ANY URGENT SAFEGUARDING ISSUES**

Verbal Update (if any)

**11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

**Charlie Parker  
Chief Executive  
22 January 2016**

This page is intentionally left blank



CITY OF WESTMINSTER

## MINUTES

### CHILDREN, SPORTS AND LEISURE POLICY & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 7 DECEMBER 2015 MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a meeting of the **Children, Sports and Leisure Policy & Scrutiny Committee** held on Monday 7 December 2015 at 7pm at Westminster Academy, The Naim Dangoor Centre, 255 Harrow Road, W2 5EZ.

**Members Present:** Councillors Andrew Smith (Chairman), Iain Bott, Peter Cuthbertson, Nick Evans, Patricia McAllister, Adnan Mohammed, Suhail Rahuja and Tim Roca.

**Co-opted Members:** Aki Turan and Darren Guttridge.

**Also present:** Councillor Danny Chalkley (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People) and Councillor Paul Church (Deputy Cabinet Member for Children and Young People).

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillor Steve Summers, Councillor Rita Begum, Councillor Ruth Bush, Councillor Robert Rigby, Annie Ee, Brenda Morrison, Louise McCullough and Dr Saima Rana.

#### 1. MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 It was noted that Councillors Suhail Rahuja, Tim Roca and Patricia McAllister were substituting for Councillors Robert Rigby, Ruth Bush and Rita Begum respectively.
- 1.2 The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, thanked Dr Saima Rana, Acting Principal, for agreeing that the meeting could be held at Westminster Academy and for the very informative tour around the school building.
- 1.3 The Chairman welcomed Councillor Danny Chalkley (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People) and Councillor Paul Church (Deputy Cabinet Member for Children and Young People) to the meeting.
- 1.4 The Chairman advised that Councillor Steve Summers (Cabinet Member for Sports and Leisure) would not be attending the meeting. Any questions that Members had regarding his portfolio would be placed on the Committee's Action Tracker.

## 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

2.1 No further declarations of interests in respect of items to be discussed were made, other than those noted in the circulated schedule as set out below in paragraph 2.2.

2.2 Table of Member's interests tabled at the Committee Meeting was as follows:

<b>Councillor/Member of the Children, Sports and Leisure P&amp;S Committee</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>
Iain Bott	Paddington Academy One Westminster Westminster City Council	Governor Non-Voting Member of the Board Deputy Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Public Protection
Darren Guttridge	Edward Wilson Primary School	Headteacher
Annie Ee	Hampden Gurney Primary School	Parent Governor
Louise McCullough,	St Vincent de Paul Primary School St Matthews CE Primary School Westminster Volunteers Centre Renaissance Foundation, EC4	Governor Governor City Guide Mentor for Young People
Adnan Mohammed	St Marys School	Governor
Aki Turan	Quintin Kynaston Academy	Parent Governor

## 3. MINUTES

3.1 **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meetings held on 8 October 2015 be approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

#### **4. ACTION AND RECOMMENDATION TRACKERS AND COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

##### **4.1 ACTION AND RECOMMENDATION TRACKERS**

###### **4.1.1 RESOLVED:**

1. That the Action and Recommendation Trackers be noted.

##### **4.2 COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

###### **4.2.1 RESOLVED:**

1. That an item on Year 6 to Year 7 and GCSE to 'A' Level School Transition be added to the Committee's Work Programme and that a Child and Adolescent Mental Health Task Group be established to look at Child and Adolescent Mental Health.

#### **5. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION: CABINET MEMBER FOR SPORTS AND LEISURE**

5.1 The Committee received a written update from the Cabinet Member which covered current and forthcoming issues in his Portfolio.

5.2 Councillor Patricia McAllister referred to the table at paragraph 1.2 of the report and requested that it be noted that the usage of the Jubilee Centre was not negligible.

###### **5.3 ACTIONS:**

1. That an update on the tennis provision at Paddington Recreation Ground be sent to Committee Members.
2. That an update on any further expansion plans to Westminster Sports Centre and the reason why the table in paragraph 2.1 of the report gives % of Westminster residents in Marshall Street, Little Venice and Moberly Sports Centres as N/A be sent to Committee Members.
3. That a briefing note on how people were selected for the Duke of Edinburgh awards scheme and who oversees it be sent to Committee Members.

## **6. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION: CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

6.1 The Committee received an update from the Cabinet Member who responded to questions relating to:

- the increase in Care Leavers engaged in Education, Employment or Training.
- the tracking of 16-18 year olds whose education status is 'not known'.
- the availability of funding, sufficient and flexible two year old places to meet demand from eligible families.
- the new duty on social workers, teachers and healthcare professionals to report known cases of female genital mutilation (FGM) to the police.
- the importance of identifying young carers to ensure they access the support available to them and engage in the young carer group activity sessions.
- the benefits of one to one mentoring offered to young people leaving custody and those at risk of custody.
- the Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) Panel and their focus on changing young people's attitudes and disrupting perpetrator's activities.

## **7. SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR 2015**

7.1 The Committee received a report summarising the outcomes of this year's tests and examinations in primary and secondary schools in Westminster and the key priorities for school improvement that emerge from the results. The report also included summary data on OFSTED inspection outcomes for Westminster schools.

7.2 The Committee heard from Ian Heggs, Tri-Borough Director of Schools Quality and Standards and Richard Stanley, Assistant Director, (Schools Standards) who discussed with the Committee the provisional education achievement data that had been set out in the School Performance Report. The Committee also discussed each point of assessment, future challenges and considered key areas of success and areas to be developed.

7.3 The Committee noted the following points:

- Outcome for Looked After Children (LAC) had been very good at both Key Stage 1 and 2 and gaps in vulnerable groups continued to be smaller than the national average. There had also been an improvement in reception year results.
- In Key Stage 1 teacher assessments, the percentage of primary children achieving expected National Curriculum levels in reading, writing and mathematics remained above the national level.



- In Key Stage 2 tests, there was a dip in the percentage of primary children achieving expected National Curriculum levels in reading, writing and mathematics. However, Westminster's performance remained high and Westminster was provisionally listed fourth in Inner London and twelfth nationally.
- GCSE results went down slightly at 67% but Westminster had maintained its 8<sup>th</sup> position out of all Local Authorities in England and was 1<sup>st</sup> in Inner London.
- 'A' Level results were lower than GCSE results at 56% but were above the national average. Members heard that students were less prepared for 'A' Levels than GCSEs and this was an issue London wide.
- 95% of primary schools were either good or outstanding in Westminster.

#### 7.4 The key issues that emerged from the Committee's discussion were:

- the importance of raising the attainment of 'A' Level results by ensuring that there was good teaching at 'A' Level and that students were fully prepared for the demands of education at this level.
- the importance of ensuring 14-16 years olds were supported when choosing their post-16 learning pathway and providing students with viable alternatives to 'A' Levels such as vocational courses and Apprenticeships Schemes.
- the importance of measuring the success of other courses/pathways that young people take after leaving school.
- the additional funding that Westminster provided to schools that was used towards providing additional support to students which had fallen behind in their school work.
- the need for school leavers to obtain the right skills for the work environment and that schools acquire good links with business and industry.
- the possibility of future difficulty in recruiting and maintaining good teachers, especially in light of the high rents/house prices in Westminster and the initiatives and training courses being developed to support teachers in furthering their career.
- the importance of maintaining the educational levels in Westminster schools along with strong leadership and governance within schools.
- the need to compare examination results over the past 5-10 years to capture a picture of emerging trends.

7.5 The Committee congratulated the schools and teachers for the continued progress, acknowledged the important role of school governors and the value and importance of good leadership and succession planning in schools.

7.6 **RESOLVED:** That the following recommendations be forwarded to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People for consideration:

1. That the Committee welcomed the report and noted the positive examination results at all levels which were above the national average.
2. That the Council take further action to work closely with schools which are falling below the national average in their examination results in order to improve their educational levels and build strong leadership and governance within the schools.
3. That the Council explore ways to improve 'A' Level results and consider practical ways of expanding post-16 education to ensure young people choose the correct learning pathway to equip them for work and/or further study.
4. That the Council support schools and governors with their teacher recruitment and retention strategies to ensure that they are able to recruit the best teachers and leaders for our schools.

## 8. CHILDREN CENTRES

8.1 The Committee received a report updating them on the changes to Children's Centres since the revised budget and new service delivery arrangements started on 1 July 2015.

8.2 The Committee heard from Jayne Vertkin, Head of Early Interventions and Localities, who discussed with the Committee the main changes to the Children's Centres. The Committee heard that resources were now being focused on those families with greatest need, that a reduction in staffing, property and overheads had taken place and that one of the main aims was achieving greater joint working and integration with health professionals. The Committee noted that although this had been a challenging time of budget reductions all twelve Children's Centres had remained open.

8.3 The key issues that emerged from the Committee's discussion were:

- the stay and play sessions were offered universally to parents and not just to families that were eligible for the 2 year old offer.

- the challenge of identifying adequate cost effective space for eligible children and parenting classes.
- the important work carried out by Outreach Workers and Community Champions in encouraging parents to take up the offer and the marketing strategies used to encourage parents to take up the 2 year old offer and the 2 year old developmental review.
- the importance of greater integration with health with the development of a new information sharing agreement between key partners to track families through the system to ensure eligible families received all the support available to them.
- the concern that there was a further move away from play and education in the Children's Centres to a public health service and how Vitamin D supplements were dispensed to parents.
- the need for Stay and Play sessions to offer opportunities and services to parents that they found useful and supportive. The Committee noted that some parents used the sessions to socialise with other parents whilst other parents needed specific support and wrap around care.
- the importance of safeguarding and flexible after school provision in Children's Centres for working parents and the possibility of primary schools providing after school provision.
- the importance of tackling childhood obesity with healthy eating programmes and active play as overweight children did not perform as well as their peers at school reducing their future prospects.

8.4 **ACTION:** That the detailed spreadsheets with what percentage of children use/do not use the Children Centres be sent to Committee Members.

8.5 **RESOLVED:** That the following recommendations be forwarded to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People for consideration:

1. That the Committee welcomed the report and how the service had focused on improving their reach to the most vulnerable families and those eligible to the two year old offer.
2. That the Committee noted the continued availability of some targeted universal provision in Children's Centres.
3. That the Committee noted the plans of the Council to reduce the cost of delivering these services by reducing facility and staffing costs and looking at options for co-production with communities and parents.

- 4. That the Council explore further ways to tackle childhood obesity using Children’s Centres and schools as places where families and children have the opportunity to learn about leading a healthy and active lifestyle

**9. EXEMPT REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

- 9.1 **RESOLVED:** That under Section 100 (A) (4) and schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business because it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information on the grounds shown below:

<u>Item No</u>	<u>Grounds</u>	<u>Para of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act</u>
9.	Information relating to an individual	1

**10. UPDATE ON SAFEGUARDING ISSUES** (verbal update – see agenda item 9)

- 10.1 The Committee received an update in relation to two serious case reviews.

- 11.1 **ACTION:** That the Action Plan and Summary of the Findings from the serious case reviews be sent to the Committee Members.

**11. TERMINATION OF MEETING**

- 11 .1 The meeting ended at 8.58pm.

CHAIRMAN \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



## ROUND FOUR 2014/15 (26 January 2015)

Agenda Item	Recommendation and responsible officer	Update
Early Help Strategy	That further promotion of the two year old offer and an update on uptake at <b>regular intervals be reported back to the Committee.</b> The Committee endorsed the importance of early intervention in a child's development. <b>Steve Comber</b>	Ongoing.

## ROUND SEVEN 2014/15 (21 April 2015)

Agenda Item	Action and responsible officer/ Cabinet member	Update
Looked After Children	To ascertain as to whether it would be appropriate for members to attend a future meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board to gain an insight into its work. <b>Melissa Caslake/Glen Peache</b>	A report on improving Cllr activities as Corporate Parents will be considered by Cllr Chalkey who will update the Committee in due course.

## ROUND THREE 2015/16 (7 December 2015)

Agenda Item	Action and responsible officer/ Cabinet member	Update
Committee Work Programme	That an item on Year 6 to Year 7 and GCSE to 'A' Level School Transition to their Work Programme.  That a Child and Adolescent Mental Health Task Group be established, which should include looking at Mental Health Champions in schools.	Item on Agenda for the Committee meeting on 1.2.16.  Dates for the first meeting of the taskgroup are being finalised.

<p>Q&amp;A: Cabinet Member for Sports, Leisure and Customer Services</p>	<p>That an update on the tennis provision at Paddington Recreation Ground be sent to the Members of the Committee.</p> <p>That an update on any further expansion plans to Westminster Sports Centre and the reason why the table in paragraph 2.1 gives % of Westminster residents in Marshall Street, Little Venice and Moberly Sports Centres as N/A be sent to the Members of the Committee.</p> <p>That a briefing note on how people were selected for the Duke of Edinburgh awards scheme and who oversees it be sent to Members of the Committee. <b>Richard Barker/Andy Durrant</b></p>	<p>To be included in CM's Update for February 2016 Committee meeting. The report regarding the new Leisure Contract was circulated on 3.12.2015.</p>
<p><b>School Performance Report 2015</b></p>	<p>That the following recommendations be forwarded to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People for consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Committee welcomed the report and noted the positive examination results at all levels which were above the national average.</li> <li>2. That the Council take further action to work closely with schools which are falling below the national average in their examination results in order to improve their educational levels and build strong leadership and governance within the schools.</li> <li>3. That the Council explore ways to improve 'A' Level results and consider practical ways of expanding post-16 education to ensure young people choose the correct learning pathway to equip them for work and/or further study.</li> </ol>	<p>Cllr Chalkley has received the recommendations and a response is awaited.</p>

	<p>4. That the Council support schools and governors with their teacher recruitment and retention strategies to ensure that they are able to recruit the best teachers and leaders for our schools.</p>	
<p><b>Children’s Centres</b></p>	<p>That the detailed spreadsheets with what percentage of children use/do not use the Children Centres be sent to Members of the Committee.</p> <p>That the following recommendations be forwarded to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People for consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Committee welcomed the report and how the service had focused on improving their reach to the most vulnerable families and those eligible to the two year old offer.</li> <li>2. That the Committee noted the continued availability of some targeted universal provision in Children’s Centres.</li> <li>3. That the Committee noted the plans of the Council to reduce the cost of delivering these services by reducing facility and staffing costs and looking at options for co-production with communities and parents.</li> <li>4. That the Council explore further ways to tackle childhood obesity using Children’s Centres and schools as places where families and children have the opportunity to learn about leading a healthy and active lifestyle</li> </ol>	<p>Circulated to the Committee 14.01.2016.</p> <p>Cllr Chalkley has received the recommendations and a response is awaited.</p>
<p><b>Update on Safeguarding Issues</b></p>	<p>That the Action Plan and the summary of the findings from the serious case reviews be sent to the Members of the Committee.</p>	<p>Officers continue to look into this and will update in due course.</p>





# Work Programme



## Children, Sports and Customer Services Committee

### ROUND ONE - 8 June 2015

#### Main Theme – Sport, Leisure and Open Spaces/ Children and Young People

Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
<b>Cabinet Member questioning</b>	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio holder.	Cabinet Member for Sport, Leisure and Open Spaces
<b>Sports and Leisure- Service Review</b>	To provide a report on the activities of the sports and leisure service including a review of the impact on wider corporate priorities and outcomes	Richard Barker/ Andy Durrant
<b>Annual Review of the Looked After Children, Care Leavers and Corporate Parenting</b>	Evaluation of work undertaken into LAC, Care Leavers and Corporate Parenting. Further to a request at the meeting of 21 April, this report will include information on the spike that has been experienced in asylum seeker children. It was also requested that comparator figures with other local authorities be included in this report.	Andrew Christie/ Glen Peache

### ROUND TWO - 8 October 2015

#### Main Theme – Children and Young People

Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
<b>Cabinet Member questioning</b>	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio holder.	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
<b>Integrated Gangs Unit</b>	To critically examine the work of the IGU.	Matt Watson
<b>Annual Safeguarding Review</b>	To examine the work of the Safeguarding Board in the last year and the plans for the following year.	Tri Borough Safeguarding Officers – Jean Dal

# Work Programme



## Children, Sports and Customer Services Committee

### ROUND THREE - 7 December 2015 Main Theme –Children and Young People

Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
<b>Cabinet Member questioning</b>	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio holder.	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
<b>Annual Education Report</b>	The committee will evaluate the key areas of success and areas to be developed in the Annual Education Report.	Ian Heggs
<b>Children's Centres</b>	To critically examine the changes to children's centres across the borough.	Jayne Vertkin

### ROUND FOUR – 1 February 2016 Main Theme – Sport, Leisure and Open Spaces

Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
<b>Cabinet Member questioning</b>	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio holder.	Cabinet Member for Sport, Leisure and Open Spaces
<b>Regional Schools Commissioner</b>	The committee will examine the role of the schools commissioner and how he carries this out, especially in overseeing free schools in Westminster.	Richard Stanley, Martin Post (Region Schools Commissioner)
<b>Year 6 to Year 7 Transition</b>	To examine the identification, intervention and evaluation process of the Year 6 to Year 7 Transition and the work being undertaken in the wider context of the new 'on track' project.	Jayne Vertkin
<b>Children and Families of Service Personnel</b>	At the meeting of 9 February 2015 members requested that they be provided with an annual update on the needs of children of Service Personnel. (For information).	Steve Bywater

# Work Programme



## Children, Sports and Customer Services Committee

### ROUND FIVE – 14 March 2016 Main Theme – Children and Young People

Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
<b>Cabinet Member questioning</b>	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio holder.	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
<b>Female Genital Mutilation</b>	To examine what the council and partner organisations have in place to deal with and prevent FGM.	
<b>Child Sexual Exploitation</b>	To examine the processes and procedures in place to protect children at risk of sexual exploitation.	Melissa Caslake

### ROUND SIX – 9 May 2016 Main Theme – Children and Young People

Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
<b>Cabinet Member questioning</b>	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio holder.	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
<b>A review of PE and School Sport Activities</b>	A review paper on the strategy and activities relating to PE and School Sport including the impact on the wider curriculum.	Richard Barker/ Andy Durrant

### Other Committee Events & Task Groups

Group/ Issue	Update	Type
<b>Youth Mental Health</b>	Meeting dates tbc.	T/G

This page is intentionally left blank



## Sports, Leisure and Children's Policy and Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016

**Report of:** Cllr David Harvey

**Portfolio:** Cabinet Member for Sports and Leisure

**Report Author and  
Contact Details:** Cllr David Harvey  
[davidharvey@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:davidharvey@westminster.gov.uk)

### 1. Sports and Leisure

#### Sports and Leisure Performance

- 1.1 As reported to Members at the last Committee meeting, the attendance figures for 13/14 and 14/15 across the Council's sports facilities are provided in the table below.

<u>Sports and Leisure Centres - usage</u>	2013/14	2014/15	% of WCC Residents
Jubilee Sports Centre	229,364	237,743	60%
Marshall Street Leisure Centre	241,828	269,698	N/A
The Porchester Centre	502,399	610,306	60%
Queen Mother Sports Centre	471,285	519,198	39%
Seymour Leisure Centre	429,184	393,368	55%
Little Venice Sports Centre	98,410	109,678	N/A
Moberly Sports & Education Centre	112,650	66,174	N/A
Paddington Recreation Ground	1,319,456	1,261,560	88%
<b>Total Usage</b>	<b>3,404,576</b>	<b>3,467,725</b>	<b>48%</b>

- 1.2 In response to a query at the previous meeting, I can confirm that the 'N/A' was shown in the last column against Marshall Street Leisure Centre, Little Venice Sports Centre and Moberly Sports Centre as these facilities were not included as part of this commissioned analysis in 2008 (Marshall Street and Little Venice were also not open at that point).

- 1.3 In response to a query at the previous meeting, I can also confirm that a continued upward trend in usage across the sports facilities is predicted, primarily as a result of further capital developments, particularly the redevelopment of the Moberly and Jubilee Sports Centre sites and through new improvement works which will be delivered by the new leisure management contractor as part of the sports and leisure centre re-procurement process.

#### **Participation in Sport and Physical Activity.**

- 1.4 Although the latest annual report carried out by Sport England (published in December 2015) shows that participation in sport and physical activity has declined in west London, I am pleased to report that participation in Westminster continues to rise and the City is one of the most active boroughs in the country with 44 per cent of adults participating in sport and physical activity for at least one hour per month.

#### **The Active Queens Park Project - the redevelopment of Moberly & Jubilee Sports Centres**

- 1.5 Progress continues to be made with the Active Queens Park project. Contractual work is being finalised and 'phase 1' of the works programme is scheduled to begin at Moberly in February/ March 2016. Jubilee will remain open whilst Moberly is redeveloped. The new centre at the Moberly site is expected to be completed in February 2018.

#### **Sayers Croft**

- 1.6 Works to extend and improve the 'Holbury' accommodation block at the site are progressing. The works are anticipated to commence in early 2016 and will provide integrated toilet and shower accommodation for the one remaining block which currently doesn't provide these facilities. The works will make a positive response to feedback from customers regarding the lack of facilities.
- 1.7 A new 'Forest School' outreach programme has been launched at Paddington Recreation Ground. The externally funded programme provides an opportunity for local school children to experience a range of activities and learning opportunities in biodiversity and outdoor education and is delivered by qualified staff based at the Sayers Croft Centre.

#### **Paddington Rec – Tennis provision**

- 1.8 In response to a query at the previous meeting, I can confirm that the works to replace the worn synthetic tennis courts at Paddington Recreation Ground were completed in mid-December 2015. The works were delivered on time and to budget and to a high standard. The improved facilities will support the delivery of a wide range of nationally accredited tennis programmes which take place at the site.

#### **Leisure Centre contract re-let**

- 1.9 Evaluations from the final stage tender submissions have been undertaken by Officers and a Cabinet Member decision to appoint the successful contractor will be made at the end of February. The new contract will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016.

## **ActiveWestminster Awards**

- 1.10 The flagship ActiveWestminster Awards event took place on 27<sup>th</sup> November. The event was extremely successful and attracted over 150 attendees to celebrate a variety of achievements in sport and physical activity across 10 award categories. England footballer, Sue Smith and David Garrido, the Sky Sports presenter, hosted the event which took place at Lord's Cricket Ground.

## **2 Libraries and Culture**

### **Victoria Library**

- 2.1 In 2009, Land Securities was granted planning permission for the Nova development, to include a new library expected by 2018. A fresh planning application was submitted to the Council for Permissions 2 and 3 of the Nova development. In these schemes Permission 2 is now known as Nova Place and Permission 3 as Nova East.
- 2.2 A key amendment to the Nova Place planning application is that the library space is now to be provided at a peppercorn rent. The size and location of the library, which faces onto Victoria Street, remain the same as approved in January 2012. The application was approved by committee on 8 December 2015. Planning permission is subject to the completion of a s106 legal agreement to secure the free library space and to the views of the Mayor. The Mayor has 14 days from receipt in which to decide whether to refuse the application, to call it in for determination or to allow the Council to determine the application itself. The application was referred to the Mayor on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

### **Mayfair Library**

- 2.3 Under the terms of the lease, the Council is responsible for repairs to the roof fabric. Property Services had planned to complete the works in two phases: initial roof repairs to the building as phase 1 and roof replacement as phase 2. However it was concluded that there are benefits to completing these works as a single project. Approval has subsequently been secured from Capital Review Group to fund all the works in 2016/2017 so that the roof works can be procured as one contract.

## **3 Parks, Open Spaces and Cemeteries**

### **Park Events**

- 3.1 The annual Christmas events in our parks and open spaces have ended and a number of sites are being prepared for re-turfing and refurbishment works – the most notable being Leicester Square, Marble Arch and Victoria Embankment Gardens. The cost of all works is being fully met by the event organisers and, weather permitting, most grassed sections should be fully established and accessible to visitors again during February.

### **Christmas Tree Composting**

- 3.2 The Christmas trees in a number of our parks (including Berkeley Square, St Anne's Garden, Paddington Street and Norfolk Square) donated and sponsored by local organisations have now been removed and shredded for composting. The mulch will be used on our parks flower beds. A number of our parks have also acted as delivery points for residents to have their own tree put to good use.

## **4 Volunteering and Voluntary Sector**

### **Time Credits**

- 4.1 The time credits programme run by Spice is going well and we are continuing to work together to integrate the scheme across a broader range of Council services and programmes commissioned by the Council.

### **Team Westminster Flagship Volunteering programme**

- 4.2 The emphasis in Quarter 1 (August – September 2015) has been focussed on the transfer of the existing services for the Ambassadors and Active strands, working with our communications team to finalise the marketing and branding of the service and establishing activity around the established Ambassadors and Active strands.
- 4.3 Groundwork are looking to recruit a dedicated resource to lead on the new Social Action strand for the long term but in the meantime, they have support from their Community Programme Team to develop an approach and are planning their first community event for early 2016.

### **Do It Local website**

- 4.4 There has been a short delay in the soft launch deadline for the website but it is now in the final stages of development and expected to go live early in 2016. A separate contract is currently being put in place for maintenance of the app from February 2016.

### **Volunteer Outreach & Development service**

- 4.5 One Westminster started providing this service on 1 November 2015 and the contract is for 3 years with an option to extend for 2 years.
- 4.6 In addition to providing this volunteer recruitment service, One Westminster will be providing dedicated volunteering opportunity development support to local voluntary and community organisations to ensure there are quality opportunities available that meet community and Council's needs. One Westminster will utilise the Do It local website as the primary engagement tool for both people interested in volunteering and for organisations interested in developing volunteering opportunities.

### **Westminster Advice Service Partnership**

- 4.7 WASP submitted their P8 quarterly return (Jul – Sept 2015) to officers in mid-November. A strong performance showed all the council KPI'S being met for the Open Access/ Community Language gateway, and all advice and casework services.

### **VCS support service**

- 4.8 One Westminster started providing this service on 1 August 2015 on an 8 month contract which ends on 31 March 2016. Officers are working with other departments on redesigning the service before a longer term contract can be commissioned.
- 4.9 One Westminster submitted their report for the period August – December 2015. During this period they have worked on establishing themselves and transitioning services, resources and information from the previous provider. At this early stage of



the contract, they are performing well in their main role of networking and advocacy for the VCS sector and also in updating and improving the database of VCS organisations in Westminster.

## **5 Community Engagement**

- 5.1 In a response to our evaluation of Area Forums, we have established Open Forum. Open Forum is a new co-ordinated package of engagement opportunities that keeps the very best of our old face-to-face Area Forums, gathers information from other community face-to-face meetings and uses new digital technology. The overall aim of Open Forum is to provide a greater range of opportunities for the public to understand and scrutinise the work of the Council than the old Area Forums by re-launching the Leaders' Tour and establishing an online discussion forum.

### **Online Forum**

- 5.2 The online forum, which was launched at the end of October, provides a quicker, more efficient and more convenient way for residents to give feedback to the Council and discuss 'hot topics' with other residents, Councillors and officers alike. The forum can be found at the following link: <https://openforum.westminster.gov.uk/>

### **Leader's Tour**

- 5.3 The Leader's Tour will consist of three set meetings a year, hosted by the Leader of the Council. It will be open to all residents on a rota of locations around the city. The first meeting will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February.
- 5.4 These meetings respond directly to feedback about the old Area Forums formats and will follow a clear relevant agenda.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact Lucy Hoyte x5729**  
[lhoyte@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:lhoyte@westminster.gov.uk)

This page is intentionally left blank



City of Westminster

## January 2016 Cabinet Member Update

**Meeting:** *Children Sport & Leisure Policy and Scrutiny Committee*  
**Date:** *For the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016*  
**Title:** *City for All, Children and Young People Progress Report*  
**Report of:** *Councillor Chalkley, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People*

### 1 City for All Priorities

#### 1.1 We will increase the proportion of children in Westminster Primary Schools who achieve or exceed Level 4 in reading, writing and mathematics in Standard Attainment Tests [SATs] and sustain the rate of 86%.

- The Primary school Key Stage 2 L4+ final results for 2015 were 84% (down from 86% in 2014).
- The overall results will contain improvements and dips in the results for individual schools. The Education service has taken prompt action to target, support and challenge the schools seeing the most significant drop in results and to provide professional development in identified areas of weakness.

#### 1.2 We will work with and challenge the City's schools to exceed GCSE pass rates of 2014 to 70%.

- The 2015 provisional results for GCSE pass rates showed that 67% of Westminster pupils achieved 5 grade A\*-C GCSEs, including English and mathematics. Westminster's results would currently place it as the eighth highest performing local authority nationally and the highest in inner London.
- We will continue funding the Education Excellence Programme which includes an allocation of funding to schools (£5k) and workshops. We will provide targeted support to those schools that buy into the Council's School Improvement Service Level Agreement.

#### 1.3 We will reward our valued Tri-borough foster carers living in Westminster by helping them ease their financial pressures through a refund of their Council Tax.

- During 2015-16, the target is for twenty-two eligible Tri-borough foster carers living in Westminster to have their Council Tax refunded. Current placement records indicate that local carers are responding to the request to provide proof of eligibility for a Council Tax reimbursement. Foster carers responses are being monitored by the Head of the Fostering Service.

#### 1.4 We will ensure that at least 80% of children in foster care are placed through the Tri-borough Fostering and Adoption Service.

- Since April 2015, 83% of completed referrals to the Tri-borough Fostering Service have resulted in a placement with Tri-borough foster carers. This represents improved performance when compared to the overall percentage for 2014-15 (71%).
- The Commissioning Service has entered into a partnership arrangement with Cornerstone (a third sector organisation) to undertake the recruitment of and marketing for foster carers, aiming to increase foster carer numbers by September 2016. Cornerstone are now actively working with the Fostering Service to develop different approaches to recruitment.

**We will ensure that the majority (55%) of Westminster children in foster care are placed locally**

- At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015, 53% of Westminster young people in foster carer placements were placed in one of the three boroughs of Westminster, Kensington & Chelsea or Hammersmith & Fulham or one borough outside of the three boroughs' boundaries. At the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015, performance remains broadly consistent, with 58% of young people placed in one of the three boroughs of Westminster, Kensington & Chelsea or Hammersmith & Fulham or one borough outside of the three boroughs' boundaries.
- The Tri-borough Fostering service continues to work towards placing all children within one hour travel to their schools. There will sometimes be circumstances where a young person may need to move further away. The placements service will continue to monitor performance against this target to establish the scope for improvement.

**1.5 We will ensure that at least 75% of children with placement orders, where possible, will be placed with their adopters within 12 months of the court order.**

- Since April 2015, 67% of relevant young people have been placed with permanent carers within 12 months of the placement order. Whilst the current performance is marginally below the target, the current rate represents an improvement from 65% at 2014-15 year end.
- We have identified that earlier and more effective permanency planning is required to improve the rate of children placed within 12 months. We are also part of London-wide activity exploring the potential of developing regional adoption agencies as proposed by the Department for Education, with the aim of improving overall quality and timeliness of adoption work.

**1.6 We will improve the health of children and young people by actively promoting Practice Champions in the new primary care services provided through the Connecting Care for Children model and double the number to 20 Practice Champions by the end of 2015-16.**

- In 2014-15, ten Practice Champions were recruited from the community. Since April 2015, 13 Practice Champions had been recruited.
- A recruitment drive continues, advertising the potential opportunities to a wider variety of people.

**1.7 We will improve the quality of social work practice through the innovative Focus on Practice programme, so that the City's social workers are able to effect sustainable improvements with families, children and young people.**

- 244 members of staff are in scope to attend training. Since April 2015, 187 members of staff in Westminster have been engaged on the programme (133 practitioners and 46 managers).
- We will be ensuring that all eligible staff (permanent staff, working 0.5 WTE or more) will have attended training by April 2016. We are beginning to see the impact of the Focus on Practice work through the improved quality of intervention and case work, and a slight reduction in cases requiring care applications to court, and in care entrants.

**1.8 We will identify more young carers and ensure more of those who need help engage with the support available for them. We will increase to 139 the number of young carers identified by support services.**

- Since April 2015, 154 young people have been known to the Young Carers service, representing 28 more carers than last year's outturn.

**We will increase to 54 the number of young carers engaging with group activities.**

- Since April 2015, seventeen young carers (12% of known young carers) engaged in young carer group activity sessions (term-time or holiday) in Westminster. Based on this performance, the projection is for 34 Westminster young carers to have engaged with group activities which mean the target of 54 is unlikely to be met. A service review is being undertaken in light of this poor performance.

**1.9 We will reduce the number of Westminster resident adolescents (excluding young people accommodated as a result of LASPO Act 2012 or UASC status) aged 14 to 17 years entering into care to 23.**

- Since April 2015, there have been 15 Westminster resident adolescents (excluding UASC status or remand) aged 14 to 17 years needing to come into care. This represents an improvement from 28 at year end in 2014-15.
- The range of actions implemented to reduce this indicator, include examining alternatives to remand for young offenders, the development of a range of interventions linked to the 'Focus On Practice' change initiative to support families and the development of robust rehabilitation home support packages.

**1.10 We will ensure there are sufficient and flexible two year old places to meet demand from eligible families. We will actively market the targeted 2 year offer to increase take up to 80%.**

- Take up has increased to 61% this term as targeted 3 year olds have moved into maintained nursery provision and thereby created vacancies for newly eligible 2 year olds. 32 places have opened at Essendine and Paddington Green Children's Centre. An additional 24 places at Micky Star Children's centre are now available. Three new nursery providers will also be delivering places from Spring 2016. 71 newly eligible children have been allocated a place for Spring 2016.
- Capacity building is still ongoing; the places pending at Bayswater Children's Centre are expected to be available by the end of Spring 2016 once the remaining capital works have been completed. As part of the further repurposing of children's centres, the Early Help Service are exploring options for 2 year old delivery at Maida Vale, Westbourne and Queensway Children's Centres. Opportunities with schools are still being explored. A comprehensive marketing campaign is now fully embedded with targeted outreach being delivered through Family Lives in conjunction with children's centres.

**1.11 We will promote school readiness, testing new approaches through the Neighbourhood Community Budget Pilot in Queen's Park.**

**Our intention is for 95% of all children with a free 2 year old placement to have a 2 year developmental review by their setting so that early support plans can be developed.**

- Since April 2015, 97% of all children with a free 2 year old placement in Queens Park had a 2 year assessment by their setting. The Integrated Review is now being rolled out across Westminster. This combines the Education Progress Check and the Health Developmental review.

**Our intention is to ensure 20 parents attend parenting skills training in the 1st year of their child's life.**

- Since April 2015, fifteen parents who have a child under the age of one accessed parenting skills training. This represents an improvement from 2014-15 when 10 attended.

**Our intention is to increase the number of specially trained community champions to support access to antenatal, postnatal and primary care in Queens Park.**

- Since April 2015, the number of Maternity Champions has increased to 9 and is on track to achieve the target of 12. 20 Community Champions have been recruited and there is a waiting list of 5 for Community Champions.

**1.12 We will ensure that 75% of 2 year olds in Westminster will receive a developmental review.**

- Since April 2015, 52.2% of eligible 2 year olds in Westminster have received a developmental review. This compares unfavourably to the 2014/15 outturn when 73.8% of 2 year olds in Westminster received a developmental review.
- Responsibility for Health Visiting officially transferred to the Westminster's Public Health Department in October 2015, and the first contract monitoring meeting took place in October. It is understood that problems with the recording and reporting system employed by the Health Visiting provider (Central London Community Healthcare) means that current performance figures may not be reliable.

**1.13 We will increase the percentage of Care Leavers who are in Education, Employment and Training [EET] to 75%.**

- Provisional rates indicate that of 67% of the extended care leavers cohort (aged 17 to 21) are currently engaged in Education, Employment or Training. This currently represents a dip from 2014-15, when 71% of care leavers were in Education, Employment and Training (EET). Work is continuing to confirm the take up of offers since the start of Autumn term so there is some scope for performance to improve.
- Young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), are tracked and monitored through a monthly Transitions Panel. Young people are referred to an EET Personal Adviser who works intensively with them and each of these young people has an EET Action Plan. The Virtual School organises a number of specific EET programmes for NEET care leavers e.g. weekly EET support session at Crompton Street. A Tri-borough work experience programme is being launched in January 2016 – this has been developed by the Virtual School and Education Business Partnership.

**1.14 Reduce the numbers and percentage of young people resident in Westminster in school years 12, 13 and 14 whose education status is 'not known' to 10%.**

- Comparing September 2014 and September 2015, the rate of young people whose education status was 'not known' remains comparable at 83% whilst actual numbers increased by 109. For both years the rates are above both the London and England rates. Comparing November 2014 and November 2015 the rates show a -1.1% reduction from 20.5% to 19.4%. National figures for November 2015 have not yet been published by DfE.
- Reporting varies during the autumn term while the activity survey information is finalised. DfE will publish activity status information and national comparisons in January 2016.

**Academic Age 16 -18 (year 12-14)**

Not known	2014-15		2015-16		November variation
	Sep-14	Nov-14	Sep-15	Nov-15	
Westminster	82.9%	20.5%	83.1%	19.40%	-1.1%
Number of young people	2,800	752	2,909	707	-45
LONDON	63.7%	13.2%	64.7%	Not yet available	
ENGLAND	42.1%	11%	39.8%	Not yet available	

- Further work is being commissioned to tackle and reduce the number of 16-18 year old 'not knowns'. Once tracked, it is likely that over half of them will turn out to be NEET, thus increasing the NEET figure shown in the table below.

**Academic Age 16 -18 (year 12-14)**

NEET	2014-15		2015-16		November variation
	Sep-14	Nov-14	Sep-15	Nov-15	
Westminster	8.8%	1.8%	6.8%	1.3%	-0.50%
Number of young people	54	55	40	39	-16
LONDON	6.3%	3.2%	5.5%	Not yet available	
ENGLAND	5.9%	4.6%	5.2%	Not yet available	

- Comparing the rates of NEET at September 2014 (8.8%) and September 2015 (6.8%) both are above the London and England rates. However, they represent a -2% reduction which is 14 young people and exceeds the reduction seen in both London (-0.8%) and England (-0.7%). Comparing November 2014 (1.8%) and November 2015 (1.3%), there was -0.5% reduction which represents 16 young people. National figures for November 2015 have not yet been published by DfE.

**1.15 We will improve our approach to joint safeguarding with the Police in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation [CSE] ensuring 100% of CSE referrals are jointly investigated by Westminster and Police.**

- Since April 2015, there have been 9 referrals to Westminster in relation to potential CSE of which 9 (100%) have had a joint investigation with police.
- The Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) panel has revised terms of reference to improve case monitoring and focus on perpetrators.

**1.16 We will improve safeguarding actions by Children's Services, Health and Police in relation to FGM.**

- Since April 2015, 32 referrals have been received in relation to potential FGM. This is on track to achieve a similar rate of referrals as in 2014-15 when 34 were recorded over the course of the year. Schools are showing a keen interest in wanting to train their staff about FGM. This is a positive outcome for girls at risk of FGM, who in the future will have more avenues to access support from should they want to seek this; FGM is now being seen by partner agencies as a safeguarding issue that they have a duty to protect girls from.
- We foresee that with increased awareness raising and training opportunities for partner agencies, alongside with Mandatory Reporting coming into force, professionals will be more tuned into picking up concerns related to FGM and recognising when girls have been subjected to FGM. Girls who have been victims of FGM will require specialist support services. In anticipation of this need, we are in the process of setting up a Child and Adolescent clinic at St Mary's Hospital to ensure that any girl identified as having been a victim of FGM will receive the best possible care and support.

**1.17 We will ensure that children continue to have a choice of nutritious school meals and we will get a better deal, allowing us to put more money back in the classroom.**

There are five performance measures for this pledge.

- **Take up of free school meals by those eligible** - for the Summer Term this was 84% compared to a target of 86%. (This figure currently only relates to nursery and KS2 pupils).
- **Overall take up of the school meals** - Performance is at 71%, demonstrating good progress towards the 72% target.
- **Westminster schools with centrally held contracts who meet the silver standard Food for Life criteria** - The current menus offered meet the silver standard Food for Life criteria, offering organic, seasonal, locally sourced and free range products. All menus have been nutritionally analysed and meet all government and nutritional standards.
- **The take up of the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) for reception and KS1** – Performance is at 86%. This figure is lower than the 2014-15 baselines of 94% and 2015-16 targets of 95%. This is as a result of lower pupil numbers due to extended holidays at Easter and summer periods, School trips when lunches are not required and sports days were held. It is expected that this figure will increase in the subsequent term.
- Currently 100% of Westminster schools meet the 1st January 2015 School Food Standards.

**1.18 We will provide an extra 176 primary school and 120 secondary school places in 2015/16, ensuring we keep pace with projected demand.**

- All additional places are being delivered according to target. The additional Primary school places are being provided at ARK Atwood (60, Year 4), Minerva Academy (56, Year 4) and Pimlico (60, Year 2). An additional 120 Year 8 secondary school places are to be provided at Marylebone Boys'.

**1.19 We will train 15 young people with special educational needs to enable them to travel to and from school independently.**

- During the summer term, nine young people were enabled to travel to and from school independently. This performance means that the service is on track to meet this target and exceed last years' performance (10).

**1.20 We will continue to convert SEN statements to EHC plans in line with our published transfer plan.**

- Our initial target was to ensure that all Year 11 and Year 13 transfers from a statement of SEN to an EHC Plan taking place in the academic year 2014/15 were completed by end of September 2015. 53 (34%) of the total number of transfers that needed to be undertaken were completed by September 2015. However almost all were completed by the end of October. A small number of year 11 and year 13 statements were ceased following the annual review when it became clear that these pupils had made progress to an extent that they are achieving within the average educational range or that needs could be met within the local offer below the level of a statement or plan.
- During the first year of delivery under the new legislation, all local authorities have reported difficulties in delivering the transfer review programme. These difficulties have been recognised by the DfE, and this is reflected in their recent amendments to the review process. In response to DfE amendments, a revised transfer review plan is to be delivered by August 2018. By January 2016 our target is to ensure that 65% of EHC Assessments are completed within the 20 week timescale, rising to 85% by July 2016, when we want to ensure that the SEN Service consistently comply with statutory deadlines and are at least matching national averages in this performance measure.

**1.21 We will build on the successful approaches tried and tested through our Family Recovery Programme to help families with vulnerable children address problems that they may face which stop them getting work.**

- By the end of Q4 2014-15 we will have begun to identify the families who qualify for the programme against its expanded criteria. At subsequent claim windows throughout 2016/17 we will be in a position to evidence how many of these families have achieved significant and sustained improvement against their qualifying criteria.

**1.22 We will provide more support to address criminal activity by young people by giving those leaving custody and those at risk of custody (by the gravity or persistent nature of their offending/associations) the opportunity of working with a mentor for up to 12 months. We will actively increase our pool of volunteer mentors by recruiting throughout the year.**

- Between April and September 2015, 9 young people were released from custody and 100% were offered a mentor, 2 (22%) engaged with the support offered. This is comparable to last year's performance.
- Mentoring is offered to all young people leaving custody providing they are below 18 years old. One training session has been delivered so far and a second is planned for November. Further training sessions are being planned and work is continuing with the young people to encourage engagement with the mentors.





## Policy and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016</b>
<b>Classification:</b>	<b>General Release</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>The role of the Regional Schools Commissioner</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Ian Heggs, Director of Schools</b>
<b>Cabinet Member Portfolio</b>	<b>Children and Young People</b>
<b>Wards Involved:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>Policy Context:</b>	<b>Aspiration</b>
<b>Report Author and Contact Details:</b>	<b>Steve Bywater 020 8753 5809</b> <a href="mailto:steve.bywater@lbhf.gov.uk">steve.bywater@lbhf.gov.uk</a>

### **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This report provides an introductory overview of the role of the Regional Schools Commissioner and links that are currently being developed regarding schools in Westminster.

### **2. Background**

- 2.1 The Department for Education established eight schools commissioner regions across England in September 2014. Westminster City Council is within the North West London and South Central Region. The designated Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) for the region is Martin Post, former Headmaster of Watford Grammar School for Boys. The Regional Commissioner is advised by and works with a Head teacher Board (HTB) of elected Academy school head teachers from across the region.

- 2.2 The role of the RSC is to:

- Monitor the performance and to intervene to secure improvement in educationally underperforming academies and free schools and in poor governance.
- Take decisions on the creation of new academies by approving applications from maintained schools wishing to convert to academy status and approving new schools under the 'presumption' arrangements.

- Encourage new academy sponsors and approve new sponsors to operate in the region, monitoring the performance and capacity of existing sponsors and recommending suitable sponsors to ministers for maintained schools that have selected to become academies.
- Make decisions about any changes to Academies that are open.
- Advise on the approval of new free schools and oversee open free schools
- Approve new free schools.

### **3 Local developments**

- 3.1 On behalf of Westminster, the Director of Schools, Ian Heggs and Assistant Director, Richard Stanley have met with the RSC. The performance of local academy schools and all schools where the Department for Education have concerns was discussed. Mr Stanley also attended the recent conference organised by the RSC for the North West London and South Central Region.

### **4 Wider developments**

- 4.1 As part of the Parliamentary Select Committee consultation on the role of RSCs, concerns have been raised by Local Authorities about their lack of capacity to support academies which are in need of support across the broad regions served by RSCs.
- 4.2 The Department of Education has just completed a consultation on the Schools Causing Concern guidance, which proposes a further enhancement of the role of the RSC, including determining which schools meet the new 'coasting schools' criteria and are eligible for statutory intervention.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact Steve Bywater, Policy Manager**  
[steve.bywater@lbhf.gov.uk](mailto:steve.bywater@lbhf.gov.uk)



City of Westminster

## Children, Sports and Leisure Policy and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date:</b>	Monday 1 February
<b>Classification:</b>	General Release
<b>Title:</b>	Year 6 – 7 Transition
<b>Report of:</b>	Jayne Vertkin, Head of Early Help, Family Services.
<b>Cabinet Member Portfolio</b>	Danny Chalkley, Cabinet member for Children and Young People.
<b>Wards Involved:</b>	All
<b>Policy Context:</b>	Aspiration
<b>Report Authors and Contact Details:</b>	Eleanor Abrahall, Early help Development Manager eabrahall@westminster.gov.uk

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This paper provides an update on how the early help service is continuing to support year 6 – 7 transition and follows on from the report presented to this Policy and Scrutiny Committee in January 2015. It relates to the cohort that made this transition in September 2015 and is based on interim data. The full report on outcomes will be completed in June 2016 as it was decided for this year to track the children for a longer period.
- 1.2 To recap, most children will cope with the transition from primary to secondary school with support from their family, school and peers but children who are more vulnerable, because of their social or family circumstances, may be less resilient and find the move a lonely and challenging time that can spiral into poor outcomes. Westminster's early help teams see the **year 6 – 7 transition as a key opportunity to offer targeted support to these children** with the

aim of helping them to achieve and enjoy their school experience. Over the last 2 years we have been **working with partner organisations to create a more consistent and systematic framework** for this work that we have broken down into - identification, intervention and monitoring / evaluation.

- 1.3 This work is now linked with the wider Focus on Practice initiative and in particular the On Track project and continues to form a key part of our early help work. 'On track' is a Tri-borough initiative, which is a part of Focus on Practice, and aims to reduce the number of older children (10 years plus) from entering the care system. The hypothesis being that there are a number of 'missed opportunities' in a child's life when we could work with the family to prevent problems reaching a crisis later; the year 6 – 7 transition will be seen as a key opportunity to identify children more at risk of becoming late entrants to care.
- 1.4 This update provides information on the 2015 work against the 3 areas of our framework – identification, intervention and evaluation – and explores the learning that we have implemented since the last update in relation to the following areas:
  - Parent involvement;
  - Improved evaluation of the work;
  - Earlier identification;
  - And a transition review meeting in the secondary schools.

## **2. Key Matters for the Committee's Consideration**

- 2.1 The committee are asked to note progress made in this area of work.

## **3. Background**

This section outlines progress to date against the 3 areas of the framework

### **3.1 Identification**

- 3.1.1 In 2015 **87 children were identified** for additional support with the year 6 – 7 transition. In previous years, children were identified at the beginning of the summer term but for 2015 **we identified children a term earlier**. This enabled us to have a longer period of time to assess their needs, as well as improve our relationship building with the children and it provided more opportunities to engage with parents.

3.1.2 The actual process of identification was felt to be good and was again undertaken with primary schools, using school information, previous referrals to family services, children who had been subject to a CAF (common assessment framework) and those already known to our services. A full list of the criteria used to identify children is attached at appendix 1.

3.1.3 The children identified were then discussed at each primary school in a meeting that we call the 'Transition TAS' (Team around the School) and prioritised into two levels of support depending on their needs.

1. High level of support;
2. Targeted support.

3.1.4 Previously there was a third level; those identified for low level support. However, following a review, we decided to remove this option from our menu as these provisions, such as positive activities delivered through local youth clubs, the play service and Edutain sports were already widely available and known to the schools we worked with. It risked becoming confusing to schools as we were not actually delivering a service to this group. There have been no negative outcomes that we are aware of as a result of offering a more targeted service.

Other improvements in 2015 included the following:

3.1.5 In 2015 we ensured that all secondary schools received a list of children across the borough to reduce the issue of schools not being aware of children who might have been identified in a primary school outside of their locality.<sup>1</sup> This was in response to feedback in 2014. However, **secondary schools still felt that they received the data too late in the term** and so for 2016 there are on-going discussions regarding bringing the identification period forward to before the summer term.

3.1.6 A **transition review meeting has been introduced to take place** in the autumn term once the children are at their secondary school. This meeting is separate to the normal school TAS so that the focus is on this specific cohort. The data from these meetings is still being collated but will be included in the final report in June 2016.

---

<sup>1</sup> The early help service is grouped into 3 localities – North East, North West and South – and work is planned and delivered in these local areas.

3.1.7 It needs to be noted that for schools there is still the issue of out of borough children who attend Westminster schools as these boroughs may not offer a similar level of support and this is something that needs to be reviewed further.

### 3.2 Interventions

3.2.1 The early help team work with partners to create an integrated 'menu of interventions' and then each child has a programme offered depending on their needs. An example of the support a child could receive, who is assessed with a high level of need, is set out below:

Intervention offered	When is it offered?	By whom?
Homework support, home routines	As soon as identified	Befriend A Family
Gangs Awareness	As soon as identified	Integrated Gangs Unit (IGU)
Going Places Programme for children with speech and language needs, details of this programme are attached at appendix 2.	Dependant on school timetable but usually summer term	Going Places a part of Westminster's Special school Outreach Programme.
Early help transition programme – <b>stepping up to secondary school</b> . This covers routines, what happens when you have a detention, organising yourself, friendships, peer pressure and bullying.	Summer holiday	Early help team, family services.
1:1 support from an early help practitioner	From summer term of primary school to spring term in secondary school	Early help team, family services.
In My Backyard Group	Now February after starting secondary school	Early help team, family services.

### 3.3 In My Backyard (IMBY)

3.3.1 Following training from Save the Children in 2014, the early help team have been delivering IMBY as a part of the transition offer. IMBY is a 20 week programme where children are encouraged to share their fears and work on communication skills with other children **aimed at increasing their confidence and continued success in their move to secondary school.** However, feedback from children invited to attend the programme in 2014 suggested that attendance was difficult because IMBY was delivered alongside other transition activities in the summer or autumn term. In the Autumn, it meant that these children who had just started secondary school had to stay behind later, or travel to another location, at the end of a long day, it was dark by the time the sessions finished and this left participants unwilling to attend. It was also challenging for practitioners to manage this time over the summer, delivering two programmes to the same cohort simultaneously.

3.3.2 In 2015 Save the Children trained additional members of our early help staff in order to support delivery as well as to make it more likely that the programme will remain sustainable in the future. As a response to this for 2015/16 the IMBY programme will be delivered from February 2016 and run for 20 weeks. This will be delivered in one secondary school in each locality and will be offered to the existing transition group initially, but also **widened out to include those struggling with transition who were not identified in year six.** This enables the **inclusion of children who might have attended a primary school outside of the borough** and it removes the requirement for children to travel to another location after school. We are also hoping that in some cases it may be possible to deliver during the school day. This is a trial for 2015/16 and feedback will be included in the final report.

### 3.4 Learning and next steps about the interventions.

#### Participation

The table below outlines participation levels.

	North East		North West		South	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
Original number of children identified & invited to programme	24	<b>43</b>	16	<b>19</b>	9	<b>25</b>
No. who participated	16	<b>13</b>	7	<b>10</b>	5	<b>12</b>
No. of non-engaged	8	<b>30</b>	9	<b>9</b>	4	<b>13</b>

3.4.1 The number of children identified has increased across all localities with a higher number of children being identified by schools. Participation has increased alongside this in two of the three localities but **non- engagement is a significant issue.**

3.4.2 Reasons for non-engagement include - parents not wanting their children to attend, families being on holiday throughout the summer period, practitioners not being able to make contact with families despite concerted efforts.

### **One to one support for children**

3.4.3 In 2015 all children identified as having a high level of need by the primary school, who did not already have an allocated worker, **were allocated a Young People's Practitioner** to continue to work with them and their family and offer support on a one to one basis at least until the spring term 2016. Our experience tells us that the first few weeks back in the second term can be crucial and therefore workers will continue to engage up until the first half term – outcomes of this will be available in the final report.

### **Parent involvement**

3.4.4 A **parenting component was added to the work this year** and 2 different approaches were trialled as follows:

1. In one locality, a practitioner conducted joint meetings at the primary school with the school staff, parents and children before the transition programme started and a further four home visits to each family (at the beginning of summer programme, at the end of summer, during October half term and during the Christmas holidays). This enabled the practitioner to build relationships individually, and go through the programme in detail. Out of 14 children, 14 home visits were attempted and 2 were unsuccessful. From the practitioners point of view this improved their engagement as it enabled them to go through the child's school report, which the parents appreciated and the practitioner was able to see the impact of the home life on the child in question. The practitioner also ended up advocating for the parents with issues such as housing, which perhaps would not have been brought to light in a coffee morning or group setting.
2. Another locality offered coffee mornings in a nominated school. These were set up in order for parents to find out more about the parenting support available and to get to know the detail of the programme. However take up was poor, only one parent attended.



3.4.5 In addition, across all the localities parents had the option of being signposted to existing parenting programmes that were scheduled to run during that time.

**3.5 In 2016 the approach that will be adopted across all areas is offering a model of home visiting to build relationships with parents as early as possible.**

3.5.1 Learning will also be gathered from the On Track pilot work with parents in schools (see details under Next Steps below) and we will ensure that this learning is put into practice for 2016/17.

**3.6 Evaluation**

3.6.1 As mentioned in the original paper we have chosen to use the Outcomes Star in order to assess and measure the needs of the children accessing the Transition Programme.

**3.7 Use of the Outcomes Star**

3.7.1 The Outcomes Star is a tool used to support and measure change when working with people; it provides a baseline measure and measures change over time. It is well researched and widely used and endorsed across several Local Authorities. The Star measures and supports progress for children and families towards self-reliance or other goals. It consists of a number of scales based on a model of change and a Star Chart onto which the child, family and worker together plot where the service user is on their journey. The attitudes and behaviour expected at each of the points on each scale are clearly defined, usually in detailed scale descriptions, summary ladders or a quiz format. An Outcomes Star reading is taken by the worker and service user at or near the beginning of their time with the project. Using the ladders or other scale descriptions, they identify together where on their ladder of change the service user is for each outcome area. Each step on the ladder is associated with a numerical score so at the end of the process the scores can be plotted onto the service user's Star. The process is then repeated at regular intervals (every three, six or 12 months depending on the project) to track progress. The data can be used to track the progress of an individual service user, as well as to measure the outcomes achieved by a whole project. The Star covers the following 8 key areas of a young person's life:

- Physical health
- Where you live
- Being safe
- Relationships
- Feelings and behaviour

- Friends
  - Confidence and self-esteem
  - Education and learning
- 3.7.2 Staff in Family Services have been trained in the use of My Star (for use with children and young people) and Family Star Plus (for use with Families).
- 3.7.3 As well as helping practitioners to assess the children participating on the transition programme use of My Star also supports the identification of any needs additional to those raised around transition and enables a measurement of distance travelled and evaluation of the programme.
- 3.7.4 Due to staff capacity it was decided to offer practitioners the opportunity to complete the My Star in a group setting. This method had both advantages and disadvantages. In one locality, they found that the group engaged well, however there were a lot of comparisons made between individual children for example they asked each other “what did you say for question x?”. This made us question the accuracy of their individual ratings. In another locality, due to the group dynamics, this task was not feasible. In the third locality the My Star worked well as it was completed on a one to one basis.
- 3.7.5 Across the three localities **37 Outcomes Stars** were completed, of these 17 have already completed a review star. In one locality no review stars have been completed, in another the review stars show a slightly increased score (a better outcome) in all but one area (where you live) and the score remained the same. In the third locality scores improved in three areas (physical health, where you live, being safe), but reduced in five (relationships, feelings and behaviours; friends, confidence and self-esteem and education and learning). It is very difficult to draw firm conclusions at this stage – we often see that scores can go down at review as children feel more comfortable revealing their true feelings about a situation, or their situation does genuinely get worse before it improves. It will be easier to draw clearer conclusions at the final closing review star in June 2016.
- 3.7.6 With regard to attendance currently data has only been collated from one locality. This shows an improvement in attendance for eight of the 13 children who participated, a slight reduction in attendance for three and there is no data available for two of the children. We are reliant on schools for this data and it can take time. There will be a more complete picture in the final analysis.

- 3.7.7 The data above is far from conclusive and more detailed information and analysis will be available with the final report.
- 3.7.8 One locality was able to give qualitative feedback on how the children were progressing. Of 10 children who took part in the programme nine are progressing well and two still have on-going concerns.
- 3.7.9 Given what we have also learnt regarding parental engagement in 2016 the plan is to use the Family Star Plus with families and the My Star completed in addition to this on an individual basis.

### **3.8 Parental survey**

- 3.8.1 Due to the limited engagement of parents in previous years, in 2015 we wanted to pilot capturing their views via Survey Monkey. The survey had aimed to find out what parents were most concerned about for transition. The aim was to make this accessible for parents to complete and to provide an easier way of analysing this data. The timing of the survey being sent out to practitioners meant that the localities did not capture the email addresses of the parents and so the survey was not viable. To correct this, the Parental Agreement Form has now been amended to gather this information for future years. The Parental Agreement Form has been devised to obtain consent from parents and enable practitioners to see their child in primary school, offer post summer support in secondary school by seeing them during their school day (timetable permitting) and to share any relevant information with the child's secondary school that may impact on their progress.

### **3.9 Next steps**

#### **Learning from On Track**

- 3.9.1 As stated earlier, On Track is a new Tri-borough programme, as part of Focus On Practice, with a focus on reducing the number of older children (10 years plus) from entering the care system.
- 3.9.2 In 2016 we will be delivering an On Track Transition Pilot in three primary schools. This programme will provide help to support parents around the most common themes which present themselves at transition over a ten week programme based on condensed session plans of Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities. This is a nationally recognised parenting programme. Alongside this there will be a six week programme delivered for the children within the school.

- 3.9.3 The three nominated schools will lead on engaging parents and guiding them through why they have been selected to participate to the pilot. The schools which have been identified are Hallfield, Gateway and Paddington Green Primary Schools, this is subject to change as we are still in the process of establishing where the programme best sits within the school year. The parenting element of the programme will also be delivered in the school and co facilitated with a school member of staff on hand, so they have a familiar face to connect to. **We are hoping that this will tackle some of the problems that we have encountered in engaging parents.**
- 3.9.4 The sessions for the children in year 6 will cover rules, routines and boundaries, peer pressure, friendships and resilience and being assertive. This will prepare them for participating in our Stepping up Transition summer programme which will be delivered to them in the summer/end of Year 6.
- 3.9.5 Children will be identified for the programme by using the University College of London STARS. 'STARS' is a research study based at University College London and Cardiff University which aims to find out what helps children make a successful move to secondary school (e.g. making new friends, doing well at school work, good attendance record).
- 3.9.6 In Westminster the current plan is that the On Track transition pilot will be delivered in primary schools in the three localities from January 2016. The programme will be evaluated through the On Track evaluation process, using trained researchers employed specifically for the evaluation of the On Track programme and the findings will provide some insight into how the localities might deliver transition programmes in the future especially in relation to parental engagement.

### **The Serpentine Gallery – including new partners**

- 3.9.7 The Serpentine Gallery have an artist based transition programme that has been piloted, which aims to give children the space to express their concerns about transitioning to secondary school through the medium of art. The Serpentine Gallery hope to roll out the programme for schools to deliver themselves, universally to the whole cohort (Year six). **We are considering the possibility of our practitioners working with schools at the introductory session of this series of workshops, alongside the teachers, and then re visiting the group towards the end of the series of workshops when the sessions will have supported the teachers to identify children who may have some concerns or difficulties around transition.** At this point it would be possible for the early help practitioner to undertake more in depth work with the child hopefully increasing their likelihood of attending the summer transition programme. This plan is very much in its infancy at the current time.

3.9.8 **In summary**, work with parents is key and this is the area that we need to continue to develop. The families we perhaps really need to focus on are those that don't engage. We need to take note of any learning from the On Track Transition Pilot to maximise the engagement of parents by replicating some elements of that programme.

## Appendix 1

### Identification Criteria

Children who have one or more of the following:

- Social / emotional difficulties
- Speech / language / communication needs
- A statement of special educational needs (SEN) / education, health and care plan (EHCP)
- Display anti-social behaviour / are at risk of offending / have a gang affiliation
- Are at risk of exclusion
- Have a current CAF (common assessment)
- Are on the current TAS (team around the school) list
- Have an early intervention support process (EISP) plan
- Have a child in need (CIN) plan
- Are on a child protection (CP) plan
- Are a looked after child (LAC)
- Young carers
- In the school's opinion are likely to have particular difficulties with the transition to secondary school and feel the additional support would have a significant impact on their future outcomes.

## Appendix 2 - Going Places Transition Programme

Children with **speech and language** needs are offered a **targeted programme** by Westminster Specialist's Schools outreach programme. The programme is offered to all secondary schools (to date only King Solomon has not participated and this is because they have their own model). The programme covers the areas based on current research about the issues that are of concern to children in transition to secondary, these are as follows:

The programme is offered to all secondary schools (to date only King Solomon has not participated and this is because they have their own model). The programme covers the areas based on current research about the issues that are of concern to children in transition to secondary, these are as follows:

- Making new friends in school
- Standing up for yourself/bullying
- Getting to know new teachers
- Finding your way around your new school
- How to manage homework
- Feeling lost in a new environment
- Knowing who to ask for help
- Ordering and eating lunch

It is a 6 week programme (delivered in the final term of year 6), where children are taken from primary school to the secondary school they will attend; they therefore have the opportunity to meet other children in the same situation. The criteria for entry onto the programme are currently very broad, one criteria being 'any other vulnerable children' and so, at times, this has had to be prioritized further. Sessions are very structured and themed so for example, look at how to buy food in the canteen – what do you need to say to the dinner lady in ordering food, where do you sit, how do you buy the food. Feedback from teachers has been really positive in identifying children with issues earlier, who they may not have identified without this programme. ***The programme has now been published and locality staff have been trained to use the resources and co - deliver.***

If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact Report Author x2098 [eabrahall@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:eabrahall@westminster.gov.uk)

#### **APPENDICES:**

For any supplementary documentation; especially from external stakeholders or documents which do not fit this template.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

This section is for any background papers used to formulate the report or referred to in the body of the report.





City of Westminster

## Children, Sports & Leisure Policy and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date:</b>	1 February 2016
<b>Classification:</b>	General Release
<b>Title:</b>	Children and Families of Service Personnel
<b>Cabinet Member Portfolio:</b>	Children's Services
<b>Wards Involved</b>	All
<b>Report Author and Contact Details:</b>	Andrew Christie, Executive Director of Children's Services

### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report provides an update for information, following on from a series of previous reports on meeting the needs of children of Service Personnel. It provides an indication of the composition of this small group of children and work that has been done to improve their access to services where required as well as linking the families in with the wider community.

### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. A report "Meeting the Needs of Children of Service Personnel in Westminster" was presented to the Children and Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 16 September 2013 with subsequent reports for information provided to the Committee. The reports previously concluded that children from these families living in Westminster were not subject to any particular barriers in relation to issues such as access to school places and other universal services when they moved into the borough.
- 2.2. Since the last report, the numbers of children in this cohort have been monitored through the annual pupil census which is carried out in January each year. The 2016 figures are unlikely to be available until late February 2016 but the comparative numbers for 2014 and 2015 were as follows:

	2014	2015
Number of children attending Westminster schools (including academies)	33	29
Number in primary schools	33	29
Number in secondary schools	0	0
Number of Westminster schools with children on roll	6	5
Maximum number in a school	11	12
Minimum number in a school (where children from military families were on roll)	1	2

- 2.3. The numbers remain broadly constant although it should be pointed out that such children tend to be highly mobile as their parents are subject to changes to where they are stationed. Therefore there is likely to be some turnover in the cohort of children from year to year.
- 2.4. As with 2014's census, no children of secondary school aged from a Service family were recorded as attending local schools. Three of the children in the 2015 census were on their schools' Special Educational Needs register although none of the children had met the threshold to require a statement of special educational need or Education, Health and Care plan.
- 2.5. There is an ongoing a partnership between council officers and the London Central Garrison Welfare team. This has helped understanding of the profile of the community with a high number of Services Personnel working in a range of roles in Westminster but commuting in from outer London boroughs and beyond. In these cases, their families tend to live and their children are educated in their home boroughs. It was also pointed out that significant numbers of the older children tend to be educated in residential schools, particularly when their parents' roles involve frequent moves.
- 2.6. Funding has been received in 2015 from the Armed Forces Community Covenant to train parents from Service families to become childminders in Westminster. The grant was to cover the charge for attendance at local information sessions, formal registration and additional required training as well as a DBS check. The aim of this project was to find ways to respond to the wish of some parents from this community to work but finding it difficult to find employment that fits in with other responsibilities and demands. To date, 8 parents have taken part in the programme and are at different stages of registering to become childminders.
- 2.7. Those who successfully complete the process are able to take part in regular, flexible paid employment where their services are in high demand. Those trained

can also potentially work as childminders in other parts of the country, should they be stationed elsewhere. The training might also provide opportunities for employment in other parts of the childcare sector, for example in nannying. It also provides insight into running a small business which may lead to other potential self-employment opportunities for those who take part. Another aim of the project was to facilitate more integration of the families from an Armed Services background with those from the wider community who may choose to employ them to care for local children.

- 2.8. In summer 2015, the Army Welfare Service shared details of needs analysis carried out on local families. They identified 77 children aged 0-17 in Westminster. 20 of these were of primary school age (i.e. a smaller number than identified in the schools census at the start of 2015), 42 children aged 0-4 (i.e. below statutory school age) and 15 aged 12-17. The identification of the older children of statutory school age suggests that there may be an issue with local schools being made aware of or recording their status although it could also be that they attend schools in other boroughs. From the schools census, it has also been identified that no children of secondary school age have been recorded as attending schools in the nearby boroughs of Kensington and Chelsea or Hammersmith & Fulham.
- 2.9. The welfare service had recorded 42 children aged under 5 in a previous survey. The wider needs analysis carried out identified a particular issue with the cost of childcare and nursery places with children being on waiting lists for Ministry of Defence nursery provision and concern about the cost of other childcare. Consideration has been given to how to address this. It has recently been suggested that the Army Welfare Service may have undercounted the number of under-fives living in the borough as some were found to be living in other kinds of accommodation that they were not previously aware of and so the demand for childcare may be higher than thought.
- 2.10. Commissioners are planning to meet with Army Welfare representatives later this month to consider and agree further joint working to potentially access funding to meet the needs of children military families as well as providing services for the wider community.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact:**

Steve Bywater, Children's Services Policy Manager

020 8753 5809

[steve.bywater@lbhf.gov.uk](mailto:steve.bywater@lbhf.gov.uk)

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

This page is intentionally left blank