



CITY OF WESTMINSTER

MINUTES

**CHILDREN, ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
POLICY & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
19 MARCH 2018
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Children, Environment and Leisure Policy & Scrutiny Committee** held on Monday 19 March 2018 at 7pm at **Westminster City Hall, 5 Strand, London WC2 5HR.**

Members Present: Councillors Andrew Smith (Chairman), Peter Cuthbertson, Iain Bott, Barbara Grahame, Louise Hyams, Aicha Less and Robert Rigby.

Co-opted Members: Eugene Moriarty and Ann Townshend.

Also present: Councillor David Harvey (Cabinet Member for Environment, Sport and Leisure).

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Nick Evans.

1. MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 There were no changes to the Membership.
- 1.2 The Chairman welcomed Councillor David Harvey (Cabinet Member for Environment, Sports and Community) to the meeting.
- 1.3 The Chairman advised that Councillor Richard Holloway (Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Young People) would not be attending the meeting. Any questions that Members had regarding his portfolio would be placed on the Committee's Action Tracker.
- 1.4 The Chairman welcomed pupils from Paddington Academy who would be giving a presentation on the sorts of services they have experienced as well as focusing on how they think services could be made more appealing to young people.

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:

Councillor/Member of the Children, Environment and Leisure P&S Committee	Organisation	Nature of Interest
Iain Bott	One Westminster	Non-Voting Member of the Board
Aicha Less	Portman Children's Centre Local Authority Governor Appointment Panel	Governor Member
Eugene Moriarty	St Augustine's Church of England School	Eugene Moriarty
Robert Rigby	Our Lady's Secondary School, Hackney Local Authority Governor Appointment Panel London Marathon Charitable Trust	Governor Member Trustee
Ann Townshend	St Barnabas' CE Primary School	Headteacher

3. MINUTES

3.1 **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2018 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:** That the Action and Recommendation Trackers be noted.

4.2 COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

4.2.1 **RESOLVED:** That the Work Programme be noted.

5. PADDINGTON ACADEMY PRESENTATION

5.1 The Committee welcomed the pupils from Paddington Academy who gave a presentation on their perspective of Youth Services. The Committee heard the pupil's views on the strength of the current youth offer and the opportunities for future improvement by changing the perception and services offered in Youth Clubs. The Committee noted that the most successful services were ones that offered exciting activities in return for a young person taking part in a community project.

5.2 The Committee discussed the importance of physical activity and the possibility of reducing the cost of gym memberships for 16-18 year olds, the benefits of introducing The Come Correct (cCard) Scheme <http://www.comecorrect.org.uk/> in Westminster to promote good sexual health amongst teenagers and positive ways of reaching young people were through their schools and Instagram. The Committee congratulated the pupils on a very comprehensive presentation.

5.3 **ACTION:** That officers look into the possibility of reducing the cost of gym memberships for 16-18 year olds.

6. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION: CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, SPORTS AND COMMUNITY

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

7. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION: CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND YOUNG PEOPLE

7.1 The Committee received a written update from the Cabinet Member who responded to questions on the following topics:

- the opportunities to increase recycling by reducing single plastic and food contamination in recycling bins across the City.
- the opportunities to improve the efficiencies of buildings to improve air quality.
- the Marylebone Cricket Club and their outreach programmes in schools.
- the improvement works being carried out in parks across the City.
- the opportunities for young people to take part in daily physical activity.
- the success of the #DontBeldle air quality campaign.

8. SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PLAN 2017

- 8.1 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. The Committee noted the high performance of Westminster schools and that Westminster was now ranked 19th nationally in the country.
- 8.2 The Committee discussed the provisional education achievement data that had been set out in the report, each point of assessment, future challenges and considered key areas of success and areas to be developed for world-class provision in Westminster schools. The Committee focused on the new tests and measures introduced and the significant challenge these had caused schools, especially as the new tests were more challenging than the previous ones. The Committee noted that two schools were 'Requiring Improvement' and heard how the Council were working in partnership with the new Academies to improve standards.
- 8.3 The Committee further discussed the reduction in pupil numbers in primary schools and the impact this had on the budget of smaller schools, the difficulty of recruiting and retaining staff and the reluctance of eligible parents to take up the Pupil Premium offer. The Committee noted, that the new Progress 8 measure for secondary schools recognised the positive progress made by each pupil from Key Stage 2 even if an GCSE A*-C grade was not achieved. The Committee congratulated the schools on their continued focus on quality and the Council's commitment to working with schools to deliver continuous improvement.
- 8.4 **ACTION:** That details of the Hardy case (Home Education) be forward to the Committee.
- 8.5 **RESOLVED:** The Committee made the following comments which would be forwarded to the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Young People for consideration:
1. The Committee welcomed the report and the strong results that showed a continuous trajectory of improvement at all levels.
 2. The Committee highlighted the results that showed better outcomes for our pupils compared with the national average and welcomed the aspiration for further improvement to make Westminster schools world class.

3. The Committee highlighted the importance of Pupil Premium in helping schools in the City and the importance for schools to encourage eligible parents to take up free school meals.
4. The Committee underlined how this improvement had been delivered despite restricted budgets and the challenge of recruiting and retaining staff.

9. HEALTH VISITING REPORT

- 9.1 The Committee received a report outlining the performance of the Westminster Health Visiting Service delivered by Central London Community Healthcare Trust (CLCH). The contract was for a period of two years from 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2019.
 - 9.2 The Committee heard that CLCH had just completed a transformation programme to establish an improved skills mix team and that Nursery Nurses were now carrying out 12 month and two-year old developmental reviews that released the health visitors to focus more time on vulnerable families. The Committee noted that Public Health were working closely with Children's Social Care to ensure that Health Visitors be integrated into the Family Hub Model in the next few months.
 - 9.3 The Committee discussed the improvements made to the service by the provider and requested that the supply issues with the children's cup and brushing for life pack were addressed immediately. The Committee noted the action planning process that Public Health had instigated to drive further service improvements and provide assurances to the Council about current and future performance.
 - 9.4 **RESOLVED:** The Committee made the following comments which would be forwarded to the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Young People for consideration:
 1. The Committee welcomed the report and some evidence of more recent improvements of performance but had continuing concerns about the failures to meet KPI targets some of which seemed quite simple.
 2. The Committee urged for close attention to the service provision, service standards and user experience.
 3. The Committee requested that the supply issues with the children's cup and brushing for life pack be a top priority for the Council and CLCH.
- 10.1 UPDATE ON SAFEGUARDING ISSUES** (verbal update – see agenda item 10)

10.1 The Chairman advised that there was nothing to report.

11. TERMINATION OF MEETING

11 .1 The meeting ended at 9:04pm.

CHAIRMAN _____

DATE _____