

**Minutes****EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES POLICY  
OVERVIEW COMMITTEE****24 April 2012****Meeting held at Committee Room 5 - Civic Centre,  
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW**

	<p><b>Committee Members Present:</b> Councillors Catherine Dann (Chairman), Judith Cooper (Vice-Chairman), David Benson Peter Curling, John Hensley, Susan O'Brien, David Allam</p> <p><b>LBH Officers Present:</b> Linda Sanders, Corporate Director – Social Care, Health &amp; Housing, Merlin Joseph – Deputy Director, Children &amp; Families, David Fry – Service Manager - Children's Resources, Paul Hewitt – Service Manager, Safeguarding Children &amp; Quality Assurance, Tricia Collis – Universal Service for Education and Skills, Gill Brice – Democratic Services</p>	
81.	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>Apologies had been received from Councillor John Riley and Councillor Lindsay Bliss; Councillor Dave Allam substituted for Councillor Lindsay Bliss.</p>	
82.	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS COMING BEFORE THIS MEETING.</b> (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p>	<b>Action by</b>
	<p>Councillor Judith Cooper declared a personal interest on Item 9 – Review on Adoption &amp; Permanence for Looked After Children and remained in the meeting to discuss the item.</p> <p>Councillor John Hensley declared a personal interest in Item 9 – Review on Adoption &amp; Permanence for Looked After Children and remained in the meeting to discuss the item.</p> <p>Councillor Catherine Dann declared a personal interest in Item 7 – Schools Update, as she was a Governor of Newham Junior School and Bishop Ramsay C of E School. She remained in the room during the meeting and took part in the discussion.</p> <p>Councillor Judith Cooper declared a personal interest Item 7 – Schools Update, as she was a Governor of Charville &amp; St Andrews Schools. She remained in the room during the meeting and took part in the discussion.</p> <p>Councillor Susan O'Brien declared a personal interest Item 7 – Schools Update, as she was a Governor at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic School. She remained in the room during the meeting and took part in the discussion.</p> <p>Councillor David Benson declared a personal interest in Item 7 – Schools Update, as he was a Governor of Uxbridge High School. He remained in the room during the meeting and took part in the discussion.</p>	<i>Gill Brice</i>

	Councillor Peter Curling declared a personal interest in Item 7 – Schools Update, as he was a Governor of Hewens College and Harefield Academy. He remained in the room during the meeting and took part in the discussion.	
83.	<p><b>TO CONFIRM THAT ALL ITEMS MARKED PART 1 WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PUBLIC AND ALL PART 2 ITEMS WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 3</i>)</p> <p>It was confirmed that the all items would be heard in Part 1 except Item 8 - Quarterly Assurance Audit Framework as it contained sensitive information.</p>	
84.	<p><b>MATTERS THAT HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE OR URGENT</b> (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>There were no matters that were notified in advance or urgent.</p>	
85.	<p><b>TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 20 MARCH 2012</b> (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2012, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chairman.</p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p><i>Gill Brice</i></p>
86.	<b>CORPORATE PARENTING ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012</b> ( <i>Agenda Item 6</i> )	
	<p>The committee received the Annual report of the Corporate Parenting Board for 2011-2102.</p> <p>The report provided a summary of the work for Looked After Children and Care Leavers in and how as corporate parents how its responsibilities had been discharged. The report also provided information on the work of the Board over the past year and the recommended priorities for 2012/2013.</p> <p>Members asked for clarification on the following points:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why there had been a decrease in the number of asylum seeking children.</li> <li>• Can the committee be advised whether the figures in the table on page 10 are correct?</li> <li>• Does a representative from Step Up attend all meetings of the Corporate Parenting Board?</li> <li>• Why done so well in attainment for Hillingdon LAC.</li> <li>• Where officers aware of the new Ofsted Inspection regime starting in September.</li> </ul> <p>Officers gave the following response the points raised by the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) had decreased dramatically as there were less UAS children coming through Heathrow Airport.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were more care leavers and under the new regulations the Council had a duty to support Looked After Children until they were 25 years of age.</li> <li>• A representative from Step Up does attend all meetings and agendas had been re-designed to put items of interest to them at the beginning of the meeting.</li> <li>• There had been efforts by the Virtual School in targeting the Looked After Children population. The attainment figures were not as good as was wanted but was heading in the right direction.</li> <li>• The aspiration is to be outstanding and work was continuing to look at what was needed to achieve good/outstanding.</li> <li>• There had been no indication given of the care regime change. Work was ongoing on the ways of working to streamline adoption and fostering processes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolved – That the report be noted.</b></p>	
87.	<p><b>SCHOOL ADMISSIONS UPDATE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 7</i>)</p> <p>Officers introduced the report providing the committee with an update on the allocation of school places in Hillingdon. The report showed that there had been an increase in the number of first preferences offered in Secondary Schools, which was likely due to the expansion of Ruislip High School. In relation to Primary School allocation there had been additional places provided to meet the rising demand and those application received within the deadline had all been allocated places.</p> <p>The committee thanked the officer for the report, as last year there had been pressures on school places. The committee asked that an update on school admissions be provided to the committee in June each year.</p> <p><b>Resolved – 1. That the report be noted. 2. That an update on school admissions be provided to the committee in June each year.</b></p>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p><i>Tricia Collis Gill Brice</i></p>
88.	<p><b>QUALITY ASSURANCE AND AUDIT FRAMEWORK - CHILDREN'S SERVICES</b> (<i>Agenda Item 8</i>)</p>	
	<p>The committee received a report on the Quarterly Assurance and Audit Framework – Children's Services.</p> <p>The committee agreed that the report be moved into Part 2 as it contained a high level of detailed sensitive information.</p> <p>Officers introduced the report giving a brief outline of the information contained in the report. Following discussion the committee noted the report.</p> <p><b>Resolved – That the report be noted.</b></p>	

89.	<p><b>ADOPTION &amp; PERMANENCY FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN - DRAFT FINAL REPORT</b> (<i>Agenda Item 9</i>)</p> <p>The committee received a first draft of the final report on Adoption &amp; Permanency for Looked After Children.</p> <p>The committee made a number of amendments to the report and asked that recommendation 7 be re-worded to provide clarity.</p> <p>A member suggested that an additional recommendation should be added to ensure that parallel permanency planning for a child was undertaken. This would ensure that there was no delay in providing permanency for a child. An additional recommendation on parallel permanency planning was agreed by the committee.</p> <p><b>Resolved –</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. That the committee agreed the amended and additional recommendations as put forward at the meeting and the general content of the report;</b></li> <li><b>2. That the report as amended be endorsed and submitted to Cabinet in June and;</b></li> <li><b>3. Noted that the Chairman, in liaison with Democratic Services, make any minor amendments as required to the report prior to it's submission to Cabinet.</b></li> </ol>	<p><b>Action by</b></p> <p><i>David Fry</i> <i>Gill Brice</i></p>
90.	<p><b>FORWARD PLAN 2010/2011</b> (<i>Agenda Item 10</i>)</p> <p>The committee was asked to note that the Elective Home Education Final Report was unlikely to be presented to the May meeting of Cabinet.</p> <p>The committee noted the report setting out the items on the Forward Plan relating to Education &amp; Children's Services.</p> <p><b>Resolved – That the items on the Forward Plan be noted.</b></p>	
91.	<p><b>WORK PROGRAMME 2010/2011</b> (<i>Agenda Item 11</i>)</p> <p>The committee received a report setting out the Work Programme for 2011/2012.</p> <p><b>Resolved – That report be noted.</b></p>	
	<p>The meeting, which commenced at 7.00 pm, closed at 21.55 pm.</p>	

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Gill Brice on 01895 250693. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.