

## **CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL**

**THURSDAY, 14 JUNE, 2012 AT 6.00 P.M. AT THE COUNCIL HOUSE**

<b>Panel Members Present</b>	Councillor B. Cassidy Councillor R. Martin Councillor G. Perry Councillor E. Hughes Councillor R. Thomas Councillor D. Shires Councillor T. Jukes
<b>Non elected voting members present</b>	S. Rayner (Lichfield Diocesan Education)
<b>Non elected non-voting members present</b>	D. Jones (Primary Teacher representative) R. Bragger (Secondary Teacher representative)
<b>Portfolio holder present</b>	Councillor R. Andrew - Children's Services
<b>Officers Present</b>	Louise Hughes, Assistant Director, Children's Services Frank Barnes, Assistant Managing Director, Participation, Serco

### **190/12 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received for the duration of the meeting from Michelle Whiting and Denise Faulconbridge.

### **191/12 SUBSTITUTIONS**

None.

### **192/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND PARTY WHIP**

There were no declarations of interest or party whip identified at this meeting.

### **193/12 MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting were noted.

## **Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2012, copies having previously been circulated, be approved as a true and accurate record.

### **194/12 WORK PROGRAMME 2012/13**

The Chair introduced the item explaining that it was intended to consider potential Work Programme items for the year ahead.

### **195/12 SAFE GUARDING VULNERABLE AND LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN INSPECTION.**

The Chair highlighted the importance of the Panel considering the outcomes of the inspection and that it might assist in shaping the remit of a possible related working group.

It was agreed that the Panel would receive an update on the inspection at its next meeting together with findings of the safeguarding peer review which took place earlier this year. It was also agreed that the Panel would consider the published report and the current inspection at its September meeting by which time it was anticipated to be available.

### **196/12 THINK FAMILY – AREA FAMILY SUPPORT TEAMS**

The Chair highlighted the value of the Panel continuing to consider the work of the recently introduced Area Family Support Teams throughout the Municipal Year. It was suggested that this might include Member visits to view the new arrangements in operation. Officers explained that a national expert contacted the council regarding the new arrangements and had made reference to them in a recent report.

### **197/12 ACADEMIES**

The Panel agreed that it would be important to consider the ongoing performance of academies within Walsall. The Chair expressed concern regarding a local academy which received a notice to improve but did not advise either the council or Serco as it was not required to. A member also highlighted a local primary school of which he was a governor which had made an impact by providing support to other schools and sharing good practice. He explained that the school would not be keen to relinquish the strong relationship it had established with the council. A further Panel Member also emphasised the importance of the council ensuring that the council maintain strong relationship with those schools who choose not to become academies.

The Assistant Director of Children's Services explained that strong partnership arrangements were being established with local academies and it was apparent that many local schools wanted to maintain a relationship with the council. She cited the partnership work being undertaken by the council with the E-ACT academy at its innovation centre. It was explained that the council continues to undertake some community work with head teachers to further strengthen relationships within the context of national policy changes. This included the development of a Memorandum Of Understanding between the council and schools. This would feature a dash board of performance of all schools.

#### **198/12 EARLY YEARS AND SCHOOL READINESS**

It was agreed that the Panel would consider this item at a future meeting.

#### **199/12 INTEGRATED YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORT SERVICES (IYPSS) ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

It was agreed that the Panel would receive an update in relation to good practice being undertaken by the IYPSS at its next meeting, in particular the role of Targeted Youth Support (TYS) workers and the positive results that have been achieved.

#### **200/12 WALSALL AND THE UNITED KINGDOM YOUTH PARLIAMENT**

It was also agreed that the Panel would receive guidance regarding the recent review which had identified Walsall as a national leader at its next meeting. This would include a presentation from young people.

#### **201/12 COMMUNITY SERVICES AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL - INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHOOL CATERING WORKING GROUP**

It was agreed that Councillor Rose Martin would represent the Panel in the working group.

#### **202/12 SCHOOL FUNDING**

It was agreed that the Panel would consider this issue at a future meeting. Other items identified by the Panel for possible future inclusion in the work programme included the council's role as both provider and commissioner of services.

**Resolved**

That the items identified form part of the Panel's work programme and the Forward Plan be noted.

**203/12 EDUCATION DEVELOPMENTS**

(Exempt information under Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972) as amended.

The Panel received an update from the Assistant Director, Children's Services

**Resolved**

That: the report be noted.

**204/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chair informed Members that the date of the next meeting would be 17 July 2012 at 6.00 pm.

The meeting terminated at 7:00 pm

Chair:

Date: