

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

held on Tuesday, 10th March, 2015 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor P Hoyland (Chairman)
Councillor A Moran (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors R Domleo, I Faseyi, D Flude, G Merry and J Saunders

Apologies

Councillors C Andrew and Kelly

14 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of held on 10 February 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

15 ALSO PRESENT

Councillor Rachel Bailey – Cabinet Member for Safeguarding Children and Adults
Councillor Rhoda bailey – Deputy Cabinet Member

16 OFFICERS PRESENT

Tony Crane – Director of Children’s Services
Fintan Bradley - Corporate Manager - Education Strategy

17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

18 DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of the existence of a party whip.

19 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak.

20 SCHOOL ATTAINMENT - CENTRE FOR PUBLIC SCRUTINY (CFPS) PROJECT

Su Turner Head of Programmes, Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) attended the meeting and gave a presentation on a pilot project that she was assisting the Council with, in relation to school attainment. The project would develop ways for

council scrutiny to influence local education, and support school leaders to improve results.

Specifically the project would:

Support the committee to:

- Conduct a review of school improvement
- Use learning from CfPS' back to school publication to review how the council can maintain an overview of school performance in a mixed provider economy
- Explore roles for ward councillors in developing effective relationships with schools
- Gain a better understanding of how the council can monitor school performance and continue to discharge its statutory duties with regard to children
- enhance local relationships with schools
- Improve further the level of education for children

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the involvement of this committee in the pilot project to improve school attainment across Cheshire East be approved;
- (b) That Su Turner be requested to consult with Councillors Dorothy Flude, Arthur Moran and Gill Merry on the contents of a draft scoping document outlining the committee's potential involvement in the project with a view to the committee becoming fully engaged in the project after the May elections.

21 WORK PROGRAMME

The committee reviewed its work programme in preparation for the handover to the new Council after the May elections. The committee divided items into 3 categories:

Essential - to go forward into 2015/16

Desirable

Items to be Monitored.

RESOLVED – That the work programme be approved as follows:

Essential Items

CSE

Review of HR policies
SEN Policy
CfPS School attainment project

Monitoring

Ofsted
Public health of 0-25 year olds
Care leavers
LSCB annual report

Desirable

Elective home education
Early years

22 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the latest version of the forward plan.

RESOLVED – That the Forward Plan be noted.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 3.20 pm

Councillor P Hoyland (Chairman)