



Minutes

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| Name of meeting | CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY PANEL |
| Date and time | WEDNESDAY, 11 JULY 2012 COMMENCING AT 5.00 PM |
| Venue | COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT |
| Present | Cllrs George Cameron (Chairman), Paul Fuller, Julie Jones-Evans, David Stewart, Gary Taylor, Margaret Webster |
| Co-opted Members (voting) | David Miller, Sara Sheath (Parent Governor Representatives) |
| Cabinet Members | Cllr Dawn Cousins |
| Stakeholders present | Pam Anderson (IW Local Safeguarding Children Board) |
| Officers Present | Ali Matthews, Paul Thistlewood |
| Apologies | Cllr John Howe, Emily Fletcher and Urszula Topp (Diocesan Representatives) |

1. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [9 May 2012](#) be confirmed.

2. [Declarations of Interest](#)

Councillor Gary Taylor declared a personal interest in minutes 3 and 4 as he was a Local Authority Governor on Ryde Academy.

Councillor Paul Fuller declared a personal interest in minutes 3 and 4 as he had children at Cowes Enterprise College, was an authority governor at Northwood Primary School and was a Justice of the Peace and sat on the Domestic Abuse Panel.

Councillor Margaret Webster declared a personal interest in minutes 3 and 4 as she was a governor at Queensgate Primary School.

Councillor Julie Jones-Evans declared an interest in minutes 3 and 4 as she was a governor at Nine Acres Primary school and her son was a student at that school.

Mr David Miller declared a personal interest in minutes 3 and 4 as he had children at Gurnard Primary School and Cowes Enterprise College, his wife was a governor at Gurnard Primary School, he was a member of Cowes Community Partnership.

Mrs Sara Sheath declared a personal interest in minutes 3 and 4 as she was a member of the Schools Forum, a Local Authority Governor at Christ the King and Shanklin C of E Primary School and had children at Christ the King and Shanklin C of E Primary School.

Councillor Dave Stewart declared a personal interest in minutes 3 and 4 as a member of his family was employed at Carisbrooke College, another at Sandown Bay Primary and another at Sandown Bay Academy.

Councillor George Cameron declared a personal interest in minutes 3 and 4 as he was on the board of the Freshwater Early Years' Service and the management committee of West Wight Youth Centre.

3. **Safeguarding**

a) [Local safeguarding children's board \(LSCB\) annual report and business plan](#)

The chairman welcomed Pam Robinson who as chair of the Isle of Wight Local Safeguarding Board introduced the Board's annual report for 2011/2102. In addition to the full report the panel also had been [circulated with the executive summary and child version](#).

Pam indicated that she was standing down as chair of the Board after two years. An interim chair had been appointed whilst the recruitment process for a permanent replacement took place.

The government had recently published a document entitled "Working Together" and Professor Munro had released a progress report on the implementation of the recommendations arising from her report reviewing child protection. Rather than a business plan due to likely further changes in the child protection system the Board had identified seven key objectives for 2012/13.

The panel was taken through the progress made against the key themes during 2011/12. Within this a number of areas had been identified where further work was required to ensure effective service delivery. There had been a substantial amount of turbulence within partner agencies which impacted upon the Board. In particular attendance by some agencies at Board and group meetings was poor and steps were being taken on this. Also whilst in many areas performance had improved there was a need to ensure that this was of a good standard.

In discussing the content of the report the panel raised issues relating to the website information, engagement with schools, interagency training, priorities within the 2013/14 objectives, children who were

home educated, child sexual exploitation, Members were made aware that the national annual "Tell Us" survey had been discontinued. It was intended that the Board in conjunction with the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership would be undertaking its own survey in autumn 2012 because of the valuable information that arose.

RESOLVED :

- i. THAT Pam Robinson be thanked for her work as chair of the Isle of Wight Local Safeguarding Children's Board over the past two years and be given every best wishes for the future.
- ii. THAT the annual report be noted

b) **Review of child social care arrangements and monitoring of action plan**

The Deputy Director for Children's Safeguarding reported on the progress with delivering the action plan that was formulated as the result of the last Ofsted inspection. Members were advised of the latest situation regarding those where there was an amber or red indication. This also enabled the panel to be updated on the impact of the implementation of the recruitment and retention strategy for children's social care.

In looking at the issues highlighted by the Deputy Director it was noted that the replacement of the ICS system was underway with completion early in 2013. The monitoring of contract arrangements for placements for children with special needs had been strengthened.

The development of a robust training and development programme for staff had been implemented. The replacement of the Children's Trust with the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership had delayed a review of the performance framework. The outcomes for looked after children would come within the remit of the Corporate Parenting Board.

RESOLVED :

THAT the panel is satisfied with the progress made on implementing the action plan.

c) **Feedback from safeguarding peer review and action plan**

Members received a [powerpoint presentation](#) from the Deputy Director for Children's Safeguarding on the recent peer review undertaken by a team from the Local Government Improvement and Development Agency. Although the final report was still awaited and initial assessment of the main strengths and areas for consideration had been given.

Amongst the strengths identified was the number of personal education plans that were now completed, 97.9%, family therapy training, good

level of partnership working, safeguarding being a corporate priority and council commitment to making resources available.

The panel then discussed the areas where the review team believed that consideration should be given to improvements. These included exclusions, immunisation rates, quality assurance for services, commitment of partners to the LSCB and application of the Common Assessment Framework. The difficulties that could be encountered with safeguarding children who were educated at home was raised.

RESOLVED:

- a. THAT the cabinet member arrange for a briefing note to be circulated to the panel on issues relating to children educated at home.
- b. THAT the Health and Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel be asked to look at immunisation rates for the Island.

4. **Quarterly performance management report – quarter 4 – 2011/12**

Consideration was given to the corporate priorities report and data reports for raising educational standards and keeping children safe.

The number of exclusions from schools was significantly above target. The cabinet member advised that she would be submitting a report on this matter to the cabinet meeting in August 2012.

The cabinet member indicated that the provisional key stage 2 results would be available by the end of that week.

RESOLVED:

- a. THAT the report on exclusions to be considered by the cabinet be circulated to the panel.
- b. THAT the provisional key stage 2 results be circulated to the panel.

5. **Forward Plan and Consultations**

The panel noted the relevant items contained within the latest forward plan. With regard consultations a query was raised by a panel member on issues relating to the recent home to education transport policy.

The cabinet member indicated that the launch of the consultation on the future of music service provision would be considered at the August cabinet.

RESOLVED:

THAT the matters be noted.

6. **Progress report on recommendations and outcomes**

Members discussed the progress report. In identifying future workplan items there was a view that greater consideration could be given to being more thematic. With regard to the attendance of secondary providers this was aimed at the performance measures that had been previously agreed with them.

RESOLVED:

THAT the draft workplan be circulated to all members of the panel.

7. **Members' Question Time**

Mr Miller asked the chairman as to when the final school re-organisation report would be available and if a copy of the presentation made at the members information seminar could be circulated. The chairman indicated that he would speak to officers on these matters.

CHAIRMAN