



Minutes

Name of meeting	POLICY COMMISSION FOR CHILDREN AND SCHOOL RESULTS
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2009 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM
Venue	COMMITTEE ROOM ONE, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Commission	Cllrs George Cameron (Commissioner), John Effemey, Roger Mazillius, David Whittaker
Officers Present	Alison Dempsey, Clare Messenger; Julie Martin, Keith Simmonds, Paul Thistlewood, Keith Woods – Isle of Wight Council Rachael Hayes – PCT Jo Blake – CSC Consultants
Apologies	Cllrs Charles Hancock, Lady Pigot, Alan Wells

16. **Minutes**

The Minutes arising at the meeting held on [14 January 2009](#) were agreed

17. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations at this stage.

18. **Short Breaks for Children with Disability**

Feedback from the Aiming High for Disabled Children was reported. The attendance and evaluation of the day had been good and parental involvement was excellent.

An exercise relating to specification for children with disabilities was undertaken at the end of the day, which asked what leisure facilities you would like to see in place for your child. This would help identify what type of services could be included within the programme and how these could be developed. In addition to this a mapping exercise of existing provision and providers was being collated. The outcome included items such as staff training, CRB checks, child protection awareness training and participation of children and families.

An exercise entitled Stay, Stop, Start was undertaken. The message coming out of that was that people valued what was currently on offer but wanted more of it, wanting both universal and bespoke services.

An open day for providers of leisure facilities on the Island was to be held at the Quay Arts Centre on 19 February 2009 which would consist of three separate sessions. The outcome of the exercise would be shared with those providers who would be asked for their responses.

The intention of the programme was to help reduce the need for long term residential care and give parents, carers and clients a better quality and range of service provision designed to meet individual needs. This could be through a care package or by direct payment. Provision could be delivered by a partner organisation or individual if this fulfilled the criteria.

Training was seen as one important element. Key staff should have the necessary skills to help cascade appropriate training to other staff, volunteers and parents. This had to be cost effective and use a variety of delivery methods and should be relevant to identified needs.

Work was also being done in conjunction with other work streams such as extended schools and positive activities through the Youth Service. The Aiming High project should not be seen in isolation and where possible thought given to incorporation in mainstream service provision.

Members were advised of the actions that would be undertaken to ensure that a draft plan was completed by the end of March 2009. Given this it would be necessary to consider holding a special meeting of the Commission.

The Commission continued to raise concerns about funding from the Government for this programme. There was no indication as to how any service provision was to be funded after the ring fenced grant ceased in 2012. This matter had been raised on a number of occasions by many authorities. Planning therefore had to be on the basis of using the money for pump priming of sustainable projects.

RESOLVED

THAT the meeting due to be held on 8 April 2009 be brought forward to a date to be agreed at the end of March to assist in meeting the target date to demonstrate to the Government the Council's "state of readiness" to meet the objectives of the Aiming High programme.

CHAIRMAN