

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

LEARNING, CULTURE AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (O&S) COMMITTEE – PUBLIC MEETING

13:30 hours on Wednesday 6th March 2019, Committee Rooms 3 & 4 – Actions

Present:

Councillor Mariam Khan (Chair)

Councillors: Alex Aitken (Deputy Chair), Mary Locke, Gary Sambrook, Kath Scott, Ron Storer and Martin Straker Welds.

Other Voting Representatives: Rabia Shami, Parent Governor Representative and Sarah Smith, Church of England Diocese Representative

Also Present:

Shagufta Anwar, Senior Intelligence Officer

Tim Boyes, Chief Executive, Birmingham Education Partnership (BEP)

Rose Kiely, Group Overview & Scrutiny Manager

Dr Tim O'Neill, Director, Education and Skills, Birmingham City Council

Tracy Ruddle, Director of Continuous School Improvement, BEP

Amanda Simcox, Scrutiny Officer

Julie Young, AD, Education Safeguarding

1. NOTICE OF RECORDING

The Chairman advised that this meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site (www.civico.net/birmingham) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillor Mike Sharpe and Adam Hardy, Roman Catholic Diocese Representative.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillor Gary Sambrook declared he is now a school governor at Oscott Manor School.

4. ACTION NOTES

(See document 1).

RESOLVED:

The action notes of the meeting held on the 6th February 2019 were confirmed.

5. SCHOOL ATTAINMENT (DETAILS DATA) AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

(See documents 2, 3 and 4).

Dr Tim O'Neill, Director for Education and Skills; Julie Young, AD, Education Safeguarding; Tim Boyes, Chief Executive, BEP; Tracy Ruddle, Director of Continuous School Improvement, BEP and Shagufta Anwar, Senior Intelligence Officer presented the item and answered Members' questions.

The following were among the main points raised:

- BEP has a two year contract with the Council for school improvement.
- The contract is for £1.08m and BEP has brought in an additional £1.4m funding.
- BEP are building a more self-sustaining system and the local authority has a critical role to play.
- There are a set of outcomes in the contract and there are monthly meetings where they discuss the schools that are causing concern.
- Schools do not become inadequate overnight so BEP try and work with the schools that might be vulnerable.
- There is an awareness of looking outwards and BEP work quite closely with some London areas.
- Primary School performance is below the national average across both attainment and progress measures (except for KS2 Math Progress).
- Reading in the majority of schools is keeping the KS2 figure down.
- Improvement Strategies include:
 - Pilot Maths Reasoning Project.
 - Strategic School Improvement Fund (SSIF) 1 bespoke.
 - Priority maintained schools support.
 - Completion of SSIF 2 reading project (this ends in July 2019 and provided £11,000 support work).
 - Pilot 3 reading packages based on SSIF 2.
 - DfE School Improvement Offer.
 - Families of Schools and the KS2 event and Families of Schools KS4.

- An indicator as to where improvement is working can be seen in the Ofsted Inspection reports. For instance, 16 schools had a strong paragraph about the quality of reading in their reports.
- 190 schools are taking part in one or more of the BEP offers.
- 68 priority schools have bespoke support.
- They could share information on the Families of Schools when they next attend a committee meeting.
- If Members have concerns or issues regarding a particular school then they can discuss these with BEP.

RESOLVED:

The update was noted.

6. WORK PROGRAMME

(See document 5).

The Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Culture is attending the April committee meeting and members requested that they are provided with detail and measurable outcomes. The Chair agreed to provide clear expectations of the committee to the Cabinet Member.

Councillor Mary Locke gave her apologies for the April committee meeting. Also, she felt that there had not been many culture items on the committee's work programme and she is interested in the Commonwealth Games and the impact across all wards. The Chair commented that the committee has such a wide remit and this needs to be picked up when it is the right time. The Chair will follow this up with the Leader and this can be added to the work programme for the new municipal year.

Members reiterated that the separation of the former committee into two committees has not really worked and this should be fed back to the leadership before the new municipal year. The Chair undertook to discuss this with the Leader.

Members requested whether a meeting or session could be organised for all councillors to attend so they can see the work and literature for the No Outsiders Programme, as this is being portrayed by some as not being age appropriate. This could also include the wider Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) work.

RESOLVED:

The Work Programme was noted and:

- The Chair to:
 - Provide clear expectations of the committee to the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Culture.
 - Discuss the Commonwealth Games with the Leader.
 - Discuss the issues arising from the separation of the two O&S Committees (Learning, Culture and Physical Activity and Children's Social Care O&S Committee) with the Leader.

7. DATES OF MEETINGS

The Committee noted the date of the future meeting is on 17 April 2019 at 1330 hours in the Council House, Committee Rooms 3 & 4.

8. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS

None.

9. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

None.

10. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

RESOLVED:

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 1530 hours.