

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

LEARNING, CULTURE AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (O&S)

COMMITTEE – PUBLIC MEETING

13:30 hours on Wednesday 5th December 2018, Committee Rooms 3 & 4 – Actions

Present:

Councillor Alex Aitken (Acting Chair)

Councillors: Gary Sambrook, Mike Sharpe and Martin Straker Welds.

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

Also Present:

- Shagufta Anwar, Senior Intelligence Officer
 - Anne Ainsworth, Acting Corporate Director, Children and Young People
 - Tim Boyes, CEX, Birmingham Education Partnership (BEP)
 - Alan Michell, Interim Lead for School Admissions and Fair Access
 - Tracy Ruddle, Director of Continuous School Improvement, BEP
 - Amanda Simcox, Scrutiny Officer
 - Julie Young, Interim AD, Education Safeguarding
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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:

Councillors: Mariam Khan, Mary Locke, Kath Scott and Ron Storer.

Adam Hardy, Roman Catholic Diocese Representative.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

4. ACTION NOTES

(See document 1).

RESOLVED:

The action notes of the meeting held on the 14th November 2018 were confirmed.

5. SCHOOL ATTAINMENT AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

(See document 2).

Anne Ainsworth, Acting Corporate Director, Children and Young People; Julie Young, Interim AD, Education Safeguarding; Tim Boyes, Chief Executive, Birmingham Education Partnership (BEP); Tracy Ruddle, Director of Continuous School Improvement, BEP and Shagufta Anwar, Senior Intelligence Officer, presented the item.

The following were among the main points raised:

- BEP's greatest contractual duties are to maintained schools, however BEP has a commitment to working with all schools in Birmingham and every school in the city is a member of BEP.
- BEP's contract with the Council funds them at a level that allows them to monitor and work with a sub-set of maintained schools that are the most vulnerable under the schools causing concern criteria.
- BEP has been successful in bringing additional resource into the city through the Strategic School Improvement Fund.
- The biggest concern in the city is not with A level grades but with not knowing where people end up.
- The data presented for 16 – 18 does not provide all the other qualifications and pathways young people are engaged in.
- There is not a core budget for a universal offer for governor support. The Council's School and Governor Support Service is a traded service which is purchased by maintained schools and a number of academies.
- Members were interested in having a further briefing / seminar and this could focus on elements such as exclusions, SEND, off rolling and elective home education and the support that is available for the child and the family.
- BEP is developing an impact tool / quality assurance tool that will assist schools with how they spend their money.

RESOLVED:

The update was noted.

6. SCHOOL ADMISSIONS AND FAIR ACCESS

(See document 3 and the amended paper document 4)

Julie Young, Interim AD, Education Safeguarding and Alan Michell, Interim Lead for School Admissions and Fair Access, presented the item.

The following were among the main points raised:

- The service is currently going through a significant change programme whilst maintaining business as usual.
- In year admissions is a challenge as the Council does not co-ordinate this and there is a dependency on schools to manage the applications appropriately.

- The fair access protocol has been signed up to by the majority of schools and therefore all schools are obligated.
- Members requested they receive the admissions report sent to the DfE and it was suggested that an overview of schools that admitted children under the fair access protocol and the notes of the Governance Board meetings would be more useful to Members.

RESOLVED:

The update was noted and Members are to be forwarded an overview of schools that have admitted children under the fair access protocol and the notes of the Governance Board meetings.

7. WORK PROGRAMME

(See document 5).

The January 2019 committee meeting will be brought forward to discuss the budget and a mutually convenient time is to be agreed.

The Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Culture to attend either the February 2019, March 2019 or April 2019 committee meeting. The update will include measurements and details on the high level statements already provided.

8. DATES OF MEETINGS

The dates of future meetings on the following Wednesdays at 1330 hours in the Council House were noted. However, as per the discussion under the work programme the 9th January 2019 meeting will be brought forward to allow for a focus on the budget before the end of the consultation period in December 2018.

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

None.

10. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

None.

11. 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 15.40 hours.