

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY (O&S)  
COMMITTEE – PUBLIC MEETING**

**15:30 hours on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018, Ellen Pinsent Committee Room – Actions**

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**Present:**

Councillor Mohammed Aikhlaq (Chair)

Councillors: Diane Donaldson, Shabrana Hussain, Morriam Jan, Kerry Jenkins, Lucy Seymour-Smith and Alex Yip.

**Also Present:**

Councillor Kate Booth, Cabinet Member for Children's Wellbeing

Councillor Debbie Clancy

Councillor Kath Scott, Learning, Culture and Physical Activity O&S Committee

Anne Ainsworth, Acting Corporate Director for Children and Young People

Rose Kiely, Group Overview & Scrutiny Manager

Amanda Simcox, Scrutiny Officer

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**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillor Charlotte Hodivala.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

None.

**3. REQUEST FOR CALL IN: WRITTEN STATEMENT OF ACTION (WSOA) - SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY (SEND)**

(See documents 1, 2 and 3)

The Chair advised Members that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss whether the Committee should, or should not, exercise its power of Call In – that is: whether to formally request that the Executive reconsiders its decision.

The Committee is considering a request by two Members, Councillor Alex Yip and Councillor Debbie Clancy to call in a decision made on Friday 7 December 2018 by the

Cabinet Member for Children's Wellbeing and the Acting Corporate Director for Children and Young People.

Members of the Learning, Culture and Physical Activity O&S Committee have been invited to attend committee meetings when SEND is being discussed and the Chair welcomed Councillor Kath Scott to the meeting.

**4. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)**

No further requests for call in had been received.

**5. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

**6. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

The Chair stated 'that in view of the nature of the business to be transacted which includes Confidential Information: information given to the Council by a government department on terms which forbid its public disclosure. The public must be excluded from meetings for items where confidential information would be disclosed'.

The Committee agreed the resolution.

**PRIVATE AGENDA**

**7. REQUEST FOR CALL IN: WRITTEN STATEMENT OF ACTION (WSOA) - SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY (SEND)**

Councillors: Debbie Clancy and Alex Yip presented the reasons for the call in request and Councillor Kate Booth, Cabinet Member for Children's Wellbeing and Anne Ainsworth, Acting Corporate Director for Children and Young People presented the reasons for the decision and confirmed there were background documents to support the WSOA that provided clarity.

The Cabinet Member has just been made aware that there are documents that sit behind the WSoA that provide much more detail and clarity – these include an action plan and risk register and although not requested by Ofsted, these were included with the WSoA.

The Chair stated that there had been a lack of openness and transparency, a breakdown in communication and lessons needed to be learned.

**RESOLVED:**

The Cabinet Member for Children's Wellbeing agreed to circulate the background documents including the action plan and risk assessment to the Committee and Councillor Alex Yip agreed to withdraw the request for call-in.

**8. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS (EXEMPT INFORMATION)**

None.

**9. 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.

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The meeting ended at 16.35 hours.