

DISCLAIMER

The attached minutes are DRAFT minutes. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, statements and decisions recorded in them, their status will remain that of a draft until such time as they are confirmed as a correct record at the subsequent meeting.

Bristol City Council

**Minutes of a meeting of the
Children, Young People and
Families Scrutiny Commission
held on 2 April 2014**

P Councillor Campion-Smith (in the Chair)
A Councillor Clark
A Councillor Daniels
P Councillor Hance
A Councillor Jama
P Councillor Jethwa
P Councillor Norman
P Councillor Telford
P Councillor Watson

Statutory co-optees:

P	John Swainston	-	Bristol Diocesan Board
P	Roger White	-	Parent governor representative
	Vacant	-	Parent governor representative
	Vacant	-	Clifton Diocesan School Commission

Non-statutory co-optees:

A	Rajni Mamgai	-	Bristol Youth Council
P	Theo Davies	-	Bristol Youth Council
P	Prof. Ron Ritchie	-	University of the West of England
A	Dr Danielle Turney	-	Bristol University

CYPF

40.4/14

**Membership, apologies for absence, substitutions and
apologies for absence**

CYPF

41.4/13

Public Forum

There were no Public Forum items

**CYPF
42.4/13 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**CYPF
43.4/13 Whipping**

There was no Whipping.

**CYPF
44.4/13 Chair's business**

The Chair thanked members and officers for their input and support over the last municipal year.

The Chair invited Ron Ritchie to provide a short update from Ron Ritchie on the Mayor's Education and Skills Commission.

The following points were noted:

- The draft final report and recommendations have been tested with stakeholders
- The big „ideas“ are a Learning City Passport and Engagement Hub – possibly in Temple Quarter
- The report will be sent in the first instance to the Mayor and consideration given to the recommendations and how these may be progressed
- Consideration will need to be given to briefing councillors and also the Bristol Youth Council, who were engaged in the evidence gathering for the report alongside a wider communications strategy
- There is a great deal of positive momentum for taking forward the recommendations
- The Assistant Mayor was fully supportive of the recommendations in the report
- The final report will come to a future meeting of the Commission (or successor body)

**CYPF
45.4/13 Minutes – Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny
Commission – 16 December 2013**

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Commission held on 16

December 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair, subject to Cllrs Fi Hance and Rob Telford being added to the attendance.

**CYPF
46.4/13**

Report back following the 3 February 2014 adoption inquiry

The commission considered the report and recommendations from the Adoption Inquiry.

Key points raised / noted included:

- The session had been useful but the format more of a briefing than Inquiry
- Future Inquiry sessions need to build in time to evaluate evidence and produce recommendations
- In particular further thought needs to be given to the issues raised in paragraph 15 of the report concerning school support and understanding of adopted children's needs, including what role the Council might play in this.

RESOLVED - that the recommendations and comments be referred to the Assistant Mayor for Children, Young People and Education for response.

**CYPF
47.4/13**

Bristol youth links review – 3 March 2014 – Report and recommendations

The commission considered a report of the Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Commission and Bristol Youth Council (agenda item no. 8) describing the background to and activities undertaken at the inquiry into progress made by Bristol Youth Links held on 3 March 2014, in collaboration with Bristol Youth Council and setting out the inquiry recommendations.

Key points raised / noted included:

- Commissioning issues are key and there needs to be a recognition that whilst the commissioning process is „outcome focussed“ this should not necessarily mean not having regard for things already in place
- Members agreed that involvement of young assessors was very important in the contract monitoring process – this involvement could also be linked to the Learning City Passport identified in

the Mayoral Education and Skills Commission recommendations

- Shaping services with the input from young people is also essential.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the report and recommendations be referred to the Assistant Mayor for response; and**
- (2) That an Action Plan is produced and progress monitored on a 6 monthly basis through the relevant scrutiny body and Bristol Youth Council**

CYPF 48.4/14

Response to recommendations from the Select Committee on the Role of the Local Authority in Education

The commission considered a report of the Strategic Director, People (agenda item no. 9) reporting on the response to the recommendations in the select committee's report "Altogether now" and progress made.

The commission also considered the minutes of the Select Committee meeting.

Key points raised / noted included:

- Members noted the number of partnerships/forums associated with educational/children's services activity and supported a review and if appropriate rationalisation of these partnership arrangements
- It is important to understand the big picture in relation to educational partnerships in the city and also beyond its boundaries. A robust evaluation is needed including an understanding of the nature and hierarchy of partnerships
- Partnership activities need to be more coherent, and positive conversations are currently underway with key stakeholders – the time is right to make a reality of ideas around future working
- Discussions relating to partnership arrangements also need to include the role of scrutiny and more generally issues of accountability
- In any future partnership arrangements it will be important to be able to measure success and agree what the success factors are.

- The role of the Council in relation to partnership working is very much as facilitator and enabler
- There is also, however a role for the Council in terms of leadership, and moral leadership – as highlighted in the Select Committee report
- The proposal in the Select Committee report for an Ofsted/School Improvement Sub-Committee needs to be considered in the context of wider emerging partnership arrangements but there are opportunities to build in overview and scrutiny to the discussions.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That recommendations in relation to scrutiny to be considered alongside emerging partnership arrangements and form part of overall Action Plan; and**
- (2) That scrutiny leads meet with the Service Director, Strategy, Policy and Communications to discuss recommendations in relation to scrutiny alongside emerging partnership arrangements, and that the outcome of those discussions forms part of the overall Action Plan.**

**CYPF
49.4/14**

Update on the recommendations from the inquiry day on services for children with special educational needs and disabilities

The commission considered a report of the Service Director, Resource Planning and Performance (agenda item no. 10) providing an update on how the key issues and priorities identified at the inquiry day have been taken into account in further developing the proposals for an 0 to 25 integrated service for children and young adults with special educational needs and disabilities.

Key points raised / noted included:

- Members sought assurances about continued officer support for the developing service in the light of Council restructuring – assurances were given that there would be business change support and a clear handover plan.

- Members sought clarification on how „success“ is measured in this service and what performance measures/indicators were currently in place and whether they were fit for purpose.
- A review and refresh of these indicators would be appropriate to ensure we can properly understand whether the service is securing the desired outcomes
- It is particularly important to be able to assess how successful the service has been in terms of integration (health, care, education) and integrated plans.

RESOLVED – that a refresh of performance indicators and information relating to this service to be brought back to scrutiny for consideration.

CYPF

50.4/14

Children’s safeguarding update

This item was deferred as the Chair of the Children’s Safeguarding Board was unable to attend.

RESOLVED – To be rescheduled for future meeting and Chair of the Board invited to attend and outline draft Business Plan for 2014/15 to be considered.

CYPF

51.4/14

Annual report of the Corporate Parenting Panel

The commission considered a report of Councillor Brenda Massey, Executive Mayor and Executive Member for Children and Young People (agenda item no. 12) setting out the annual report of the Corporate Parenting Panel 12/13

Key points raised / noted included:

- Members noted that the 12/13 Annual Report had not gone to Full Council in Nov 13 as planned and agreed that this was not acceptable. In future it is essential that the Annual Report is presented to Council at the appropriate stage and it was noted that the 13/14 Annual Report would go to Full Council on the 16th September 14
- Members highlighted inaccuracies in the report, relating to wrong terminology e.g. Youth Select is now Bristol Youth Council and asked that the report be checked for factual accuracy

- Members commented that although the report highlights a large proportion of children feeling „safe“ it would be helpful to explain what the Council does in terms of following up those children who do not feel „safe“ i.e. individual follow up
- The current format of the Corporate Parenting Panel and member involvement was also debated. It was recommended that a review of current arrangements (Membership, Terms of Reference, Work Programme) take place.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Annual Report for 13/14 be scheduled to go to Full Council on the 16th September 2014;**
- (2) That Officers review the governance and operation of Corporate Parenting Panel**

CYPF

52.4/14

Annual review of the commission’s work programme

The commission noted that the work programme had been completed.

CYPF

53.4/14

Quarter 3 performance monitor

The commission considered a report of the Service Director, Policy, Strategy and Communication (agenda item no. 14) giving an overview of progress against the council’s strategic priorities at the end of quarter 3 (1 April 2013 to 31 December 2013) based on the information provided by directorates, at 28 January 2014.

The commission agreed that the future approach to reviewing performance should be through focussed „deep dive“ into particular areas.

RESOLVED –

- (1) that in future it would be more valuable for members to ‘deep dive’ into a particular performance issue.**

- (2) that first 'deep dive' should be into disabled 16 – 18 yr. olds not in education, employment or training**

(The meeting ended at 5pm)

CHAIR