

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

CHILDREN, FAMILY AND SCHOOLS SUB-COMMITTEE

5.05pm – 9 JUNE 2003

BRIGHTON TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Hawkes (Chair); Councillors McCaffery (Deputy Chair), Mrs Brown (OS), Burgess, Edmond-Smith, Giebeler, Pidgeon, Mallender, Turton and Young.

PART ONE

ACTION

1. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

1A. Declarations of Substitutes

1.1	<u>Substitute Councillor</u>	<u>For Councillor</u>
	Turton	John
	Pidgeon	Hyde

1B. Declarations of Interest

1.2 There were none.

1C. Exclusion of Press and Public

1.3 The Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in Section 100A(3) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

1.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting during consideration of any items on the agenda.

2. MINUTES

2.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 March

2003 be approved and signed by the Chair.

3. CALLOVER

3.1 **RESOLVED** - That all items on the agenda be reserved for consideration except item 10

4. MEMBER INDUCTION PROGRAMME

4.1 The Director of Children, Families and Schools informed Members of the forthcoming Member Induction Programme that will comprise of an informal seminar (with Assistant Directors of the department) regarding Children, Families & Schools, and two inductions on Child Protection and Children's Rights and Young People's participation.

4.2 **RESOLVED** - (1) That members note the details given by the Director of Children, Families & Schools.

David Hawker

(2) That the Director inform members of dates of the induction sessions.

5. SSI INSPECTION OF CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES AND CLIMBIÉ AUDIT

5.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Children, Families and Schools detailing the response to the Social Services Inspectorate (SSI) Child Protection Inspection and the audit of child protection services following receipt of the 'Victoria Climbié Inquiry' report (for copy see minute book).

5.2 **RESOLVED** - That the contents of the report be noted and the Action Plan endorsed.

6. EAST BRIGHTON COLLEGE OF MEDIA ARTS

6.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Children, Families and Schools setting out the current situation at East Brighton College of Media Arts and future prospects for the College (for copy see minute book).

6.2 **RESOLVED** - (1) That the Director of Children, Families and Schools prepare a paper setting out options for the future of East Brighton College of Media Arts, as a basis for a public consultation.

David Hawker

(2) That the options paper to be approved by Members at the next meeting of the Sub-Committee on 8 September 2003.

7. CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES BEST VALUE REVIEW – UPDATE

7.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Children, Families and Schools detailing the progress made against the Joint Review Action Plan and the Children, Young People and Families Best Value Review Action Plan (for copy see minute book).

7.2 **RESOLVED** - That the contents of the report be noted and the progress made endorsed.

8. SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLAN – ANNUAL REVIEW

8.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Children, Families and Schools seeking approval of a draft of the School Organisation Plan (for copy see minute book).

8.2 **RESOLVED** - (1) That the draft of the plan as the basis for consultation with schools, other interested parties and the public at large be approved along with the following amendment:

4.4 (c) be amended to include a reference to Comart being under review at the time the Plan was drawn up.

John Atkin

9. CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN SCHOOLS

9.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Children, Families and Schools concerning a consultative paper issued by the Department for Education and Skills and indicative allocations for capital funding in 2004/05 and 2005/06 (for copy see minute book).

9.2 **RESOLVED** - That the contents of the report be noted and the Director of Children, Families and Schools be asked to discuss this funding initiative with Heads of secondary schools and with colleagues in other departments – with a view to formulating investment proposals for submission to the DfES at an appropriate time.

David Hawker

10. SECONDARY STRATEGY

10.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Children, Families and Schools setting out the strategy for a comprehensive approach to raising attainment in the secondary schools in Brighton and Hove taking account of the range of education initiatives, now and in the future, which will impact on secondary education. It is in line with the key aims of Children, Families and Schools to provide an integrated approach to secondary education encompassing all relevant services within the department (for copy see minute book).

10.2 **RESOLVED** - That the Strategy be endorsed in principle and the Director of Children, Families and Schools be authorised to publish it.

David Hawker

11. ANNUAL ADOPTION AGENCY REPORT

11.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Children, Families and Schools concerning the activities of the Adoption Agency (for copy see minute book).

11.2 **RESOLVED** - (1) That the report and the progress of the Agency in relation to adoption and permanence activity be noted and the Adoption Agency Statement of Purpose be endorsed.

(2) That Councillor McCaffery be appointed to join the Permanence Panel as required by national standards and outlined in the Adoption and Permanence Panel Report by the Independent Chair.

12. ANNUAL FOSTERING SERVICE REPORT

12.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Children, Families and Schools seeking approval of the Fostering Service Statement of Purpose and the revised Fostering Panel Constitution and Terms of Reference (for copy see minute book).

12.2 The report also advised of the national developments including the implementation of the Fostering Services Regulations and National Minimum Standards and the Choice Protects review, the service developments during the year and fostering activity during the year April 2002-March 2003.

12.3 **RESOLVED** - (1) That the Fostering Service Statement of Purpose be approved.

(2) That the revised Brighton and Hove Fostering Panel Constitution and Terms of Reference be approved and implemented immediately.

(3) That the Director of Children, Families and Schools, after consultation with the Chair and Opposition Spokesperson, be given delegated powers to appoint a member to attend the monthly Fostering Panel meetings as required by regulation 24(3)[c] of the Fostering Service Regulations.

David Hawker

13. EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PLAN: PROGRESS REPORT

13.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Children, Families and Schools representing a twelve month review of progress on the Education Development Plan (EDP) Action Plan for 2002-03. It also outlined the new Action Plan for 2003-04 which had been prepared and would be submitted to the DfES by the mid July 2003 deadline (for copy see minute book).

13.2 **RESOLVED** - (1) That the report and comment on progress be noted.

(2) That the new Action Plan for 2003/04 be approved.

14. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMON PLANNING FRAMEWORK FOR THE YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICE

14.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Children, Families and Schools providing an update on the development of the service and information on the recent government guidance on "Resourcing Excellent Youth Services" and also seeing approval for the adoption of a Youth Service Plan for 2003-2004, in line with the National Common Planning Framework (for copy see minute book).

14.2 **RESOLVED** - (1) That the proposed Youth Service Plan for 2003/04 be agreed.

(2) That the implementation of the plan and the allocation of existing resources within the new service be agreed.

(3) That the implications of recent Government guidance on "Resourcing Excellent Youth Services" be considered and that officers should work on a proposed funding strategy.

15. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL

15.1 **RESOLVED** – That the political groups be asked to notify the Chief Executive as soon as possible but no later than 27 June 2003 of any items to be referred to Council.

The meeting concluded at 7.15pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2003

