

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE CABINET MEMBER MEETING

Agenda Item 94

Brighton & Hove City Council

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE CABINET MEMBER MEETING

4.00pm, 2 MARCH 2009

BANQUETING ROOM, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Mrs Brown (Cabinet Member)

Also in attendance: Councillor Hawkes (Opposition Spokesperson)

Other Members present: Councillors Fryer and Kemble

PART ONE

75. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

75a Declarations of Interest

75.1 Councillor Hawkes declared a personal interest in Item 89 in so far as she is the relevant Ward Councillor.

75b Exclusion of Press and Public

75.2 In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ('the Act'), the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press or public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100I(1) of the Act).

75.3 **RESOLVED** – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the Item 91 in Part Two of the agenda.

76. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

76.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2009 be approved and signed by the Cabinet Member as a correct record.

77. CABINET MEMBER'S COMMUNICATIONS

77.1 There were none.

78. ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION

78.1 **RESOLVED** – All items were reserved for discussion by the Cabinet Member.

79. PETITIONS

79.1 No petitions had been received.

80. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

80.1 No public questions had been received.

81. DEPUTATIONS

81. No deputations had been received.

82. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

82.1 No Letters from Councillors had been received.

83. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

83.1 No Written Questions from Councillors had been received.

84. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

84.1 No Notices of Motion had been received.

85. SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS IN BRIGHTON & HOVE FOR 2010/11

85.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services concerning the School Admission Arrangements in Brighton & Hove for 2010/11 (for copy see minute book).

85.2 The Head of School Admissions & Transport explained that the Local Authority had to consult annually on its proposed school admission arrangements. He indicated that, in future, the consultation process would only be required every three years provided there had been no changes in the arrangements.

85.3 He explained that no major changes were being proposed in the arrangements, except those specifically referred to in the report, in terms of the potential changes at Davigdor Infant and Somerhill Junior, and at Balfour Infant and Junior Schools and St Luke's Infant and Junior schools at primary level. In terms of secondary schools, the change referred to the revised Patcham High catchment area, which had been approved at the last Cabinet Member meeting.

- 85.4 The Head of Admissions also explained that there were no changes proposed to the oversubscription criteria for primary or secondary admissions, and no other changes in admission number. He further clarified that, for the first time this year, there had been a public consultation in line with the requirements of the Education and Skills Act 2008, as well as consultation with all B&H schools, the neighbouring LAs and the Diocesan Authorities.
- 85.5 The Cabinet Member and the Opposition Spokesperson welcomed the report.
- 85.6 **RESOLVED-** That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:
- (1) That the proposed admission arrangements and school admission numbers set out in the consultation documents be adopted for the admissions year 2010/11, noting the change in the Patcham High School catchment area previously approved at the Cabinet Member Meeting of 19 January 2009.
 - (2) That the proposed Voluntary Aided School admission arrangements be noted as conforming to the requirements of the Admissions Code.
 - (3) That the co-ordinated schemes of admission be approved.
 - (4) That the City boundary be retained as the relevant area for consultation for school admissions.

86. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2009/2010

- 86.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services, concerning the Capital programme 2009/10, which sought to allocate funding available in the Capital Programme (for copy see minute book).
- 86.2 The Head of Capital Strategy and Development Planning indicated that six of the principal headings in the programme related to funding for adaptations, improvements and extensions of schools buildings and they were the New Deal for Schools Modernisation, Structural Maintenance, New Pupils Place, Schools Access Initiative, Primary Capital Programme and Targeted Capital Fund. She explained that the funding had increased from last year and indicated that the most urgent areas would be addressed first.
- 86.3 The Opposition Spokesperson welcomed the report. She sought clarification about how the city was meeting its accessibility strategy and how the money allocated to it would be spent.
- 86.4 The Head of Capital Strategy and Development Planning explained the fund would be spent mainly on children with special educational needs. She indicated that works had started around Blatchington Mill and Patcham High schools and might expand to other schools as and when required. She reported that officers had started to consider other areas, such as the Rottingdean/ Woodingdean and Saltdean, as the next places to go for these accessibility works.

86.5 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:

- (1) That the allocation of funding on the basis set out in paragraphs 3.3. to 3.50 of the report be recommended to Cabinet.
- (2) That, subject to Cabinet approval, the allocation of funding as shown in appendices 2 to 7 of the report be approved.

87. PROPOSED EXPANSION OF BALFOUR JUNIOR SCHOOL

87.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services concerning the proposed expansion of Balfour Junior School, which informed the Cabinet Member of the outcome of the statutory consultation on the proposed permanent expansion of Balfour Junior School by one form of entry from September 2010 and resultant enlargement of the premises (for copy see minute book).

87.2 The Assistant Director, Central Area and Schools Support, highlighted the fact that the proposed expansion had been welcomed by all consultees. He explained that the only concerns received were in relation to the planning aspect of the proposal.

87.3 The Cabinet Member and the Opposition Spokesperson welcomed the report.

87.4 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:

- (1) That the statutory notice be confirmed.
- (2) That the recommendation to permanently expand Balfour Junior School by one form of entry from September 2010, and enlarge the premises accordingly, be approved.

88. ST LUKE'S INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL PROPOSED MERGER

88.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services concerning the proposed merger of St Luke's Infant and St Luke's Junior, which informed the Cabinet Member of the outcome of the statutory consultation on the proposed discontinuance of St Luke's Infant School and the change in age range and expansion of the premises for St Luke's Junior School (for copy see minute book).

88.2 The proposal was welcomed by both the Cabinet Member and the Opposition Spokesperson.

88.3 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:

- (1) That the statutory notice be confirmed.

- (2) That the recommendation to discontinue St Luke's Infant School, extend the age range and expand the premises of St Luke's Junior School from September 2009 be approved.

89. ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE AT 13 HOLLINGBURY PLACE

- 89.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services concerning the assignment of lease at 13 Hollingbury Place. The venue had been occupied on an informal basis since April 2008, providing a Connexions Plus Access Point (for copy see minute book).
- 89.2 The Commissioning Manager, Youth and Connexions Services, explained that this particular Connexions Service had been a very successful service and was regarded by all as a model service. In view of this, officers would like to keep it.
- 89.3 The Opposition Spokesperson welcomed the report and hoped the council would keep the same level of services and the relevant location in the future.
- 89.4 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:
 - (1) That the proposal to take an assignment of the lease for the ground floor of 13 Hollingbury Place be approved.

90. RELOCATION OF YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM (YOT) SERVICE FROM SHIP STREET

- 90.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services concerning the relocation of the Youth Offending Team (YOT) service from Ship Street (for copy see minute book).
- 90.2 The Head of Youth Strategy & Justice explained that the lease in the current premise was due for renewal in September 2009 and officers would like to take the opportunity to look for alternative accommodation.
- 90.3 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:
 - (1) That the proposal not to renew the lease the council holds on 22 Ship Street be approved.
 - (2) That the taking of a lease of suitable premises, yet to be identified, within the next 6 months, be approved, with terms to be negotiated on behalf of Children Services by Property & Design under general delegations.
 - (3) That the 'fall back' position currently being negotiated be noted, should it not be possible to identify suitable premises prior to the expiry of the current lease, which is to renew the existing lease, but on a short term basis thus allowing more time to source alternative accommodation.

**91. RELOCATION OF YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM (YOT) SERVICE FROM SHIP STREET
[EXEMPT CATEGORY 3]**

91.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services concerning the relocation of the Youth Offending Team (YOT) service from Ship Street (for copy see minute book).

91.2 **RESOLVED** – That the recommendations detailed in Item 90 in Part One of the Agenda be adopted.

92. PART TWO ITEMS

92.1 **RESOLVED** – That Item 91 remains exempt from disclosure to the press and public.

The meeting concluded at 4.25pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated this

day of

2009