

**CHILDREN'S AND CULTURE SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 11TH JUNE, 2014

Present – Councillors Ashcroft (Chairman), Wild (Vice-Chairman), Cunliffe, Hall, Mistry, Murray, Richardson, Shaw, Spencer, Mrs Swarbrick and Watters.

Also in attendance

Ms. M. Raja	-	Co-opted Member
Councillor Sherrington	-	Cabinet Member for Schools and Safeguarding
Councillor J. Byrne	-	Cabinet Member for Culture and Youth
Mr. J. Livesey	-	Assistant Director of Children's Services
Ms. S. Scatenby	-	Interim Assistant Director of Children's Services
Mr. J. Rowlands	-	Assistant Director Customer Services
Ms. D. Ball	-	Assistant Director Environmental Services and Committee Chief Officer Support
Mr. D. Smith	-	Head of Finance
Mrs. S. Bailey	-	Principal Democratic Services Officer

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors L. Byrne, S. Harkin, A. Ismail, Jones, Kay and Mrs. Thomas (Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leaders Portfolio).

Councillor Ashcroft in the Chair.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Children's and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee held on 9th April, 2014 were submitted.

Resolved – That the minutes be received and signed as a correct record.

2. MONITORING OF DECISIONS

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which detailed the progress of decisions taken at previous meetings of this Committee

Resolved - That the position be noted.

3. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received presentations from the Assistant Directors of Children's and Adult Services and Customer Services on the big issues and priorities relevant to the remit of this Scrutiny Committee to aid members in their deliberations on possible work programme items.

In addition to the presentations members were provided with information on the following:-

- The Committee remit;
- The Work Programmes for the last Municipal Year;
- Details of issues to be taken into account when putting forward work programme items; and
- Matters left over from the last Municipal Year.

In terms of possible items for inclusion in the 2014/2015 work programme, members put forward the following suggestions:-

Children's Services

- The impact on children as a result of the budget pressures;
- The implications for the Authority in relation to Academies and Free Schools;
- The potential impact of the growth in secondary school places;
- Implications around free nursery provision for 2 year olds;
- Progress reports on the Children and Families Act 2014: SEN Reforms;
- Community cohesion in schools;
- International New Arrivals;
- The budget pressures on Children's Centres;
- Post OFSTED Action Plan Safeguarding and Looked After Children; and
- Implications of the Family Justice Review.

Culture

- The promotion of culture;
- The cultural offer in Bolton;
- The budget pressures;
- The involvement of community groups;
- Details of what was happening in schools;
- Information Technology for the elderly and voluntary sector.

Sports

- Update on Leisure Trust Programme;
- Increasing participation in Sport for People with a Disability; and
- Bolton Leisure Trust – Update on Arena Outlook Programme.

Resolved – (i) That the various documents and presentations be noted.

(ii) That the suggested work programme items be noted and that discussions be now held with the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of this Committee, the Chief Support Officer and the

Director of Children's and Adult Services and a draft programme be prepared for submission to the next meeting.

4. MEMBERS BUSINESS

The Committee received the extracts of minutes of other meetings of the Council relevant to the remit of this Committee:-

- The Executive Cabinet Deputy Leader's Portfolio held on 14th April, 2014;
- Children's Services, Safeguarding and Skills PDG held on 13th May, 2014; and
- Sports, Libraries and Culture PDG held on 24th April, 2014.

Resolved – That the minutes of the various meetings be noted.

(The meeting commenced at 5.00pm and ended at 6.25pm)