

Children & Young People Select Committee

A meeting of Children & Young People Select Committee was held on Wednesday, 29th October, 2008.

Present: Cllr David Harrington (Chairman), Cllr Jim Beall, Cllr Phillip Broughton, Cllr Cains (Vice Cllr Frankland), Cllr Mrs Ann Cains, Cllr Cockerill (Vice Cllr Sherris), Cllr Mick Eddy, Cllr Miss Barbara Inman, Cllr Alan Lewis. Mr D Campbell, Mr G Davies (Non voting co-opted representatives).

Officers: Dave Adams, Khalid Azam, Elizabeth Shassere (CESC). Graham Birtle, Fiona Shayler (LD).

Also in attendance:

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Cllr Frankland and Cllr Sherris. Mr Cash (Parent Governor Representative).

1 **Declarations of Interest**

None

2 **Minutes for Signing - 9th and 30th July 2008**

The minutes of the meeting of 9th and 30th July 2008 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3 **Draft Minutes - 8th October 2008**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 8th October 2008 were agreed as a correct record.

4 **Scrutiny Review of Obesity**

Witnesses invited to attend:- Khalid Azam, Joint Strategic Commissioner and Dave Adams, Strategic Service Manager

Khalid Azam, Joint Strategic Commissioner and Dave Adams, Strategic Service Manager were in attendance to provide Members with information on Extended Schools.

The Government has set out a 'core offer' of services that they want all children and families to be able to access by 2010. Extended Schools/Services were part of a national programme of reform to provide more opportunities and better support to children. There were five areas as part of the every child matters agenda:

to be healthy;
to be safe;
to enjoy and achieve;
to make a positive contribution;
to achieve economic wellbeing.

The Schools within the Borough had been arranged into clusters with services being provided either on site or at a nearby school or childcare provider.

A joined up approach was required to enable the services and funding required to be provided appropriately. It was felt that some schools were offering more of the core offer than others and depended on the individual Schools' perspective of the strategy. It was stated that the Government wanted the funding to focus on all areas of the core offer not just physical exercise.

Discussion was held on breakfast clubs. 10 Schools within the borough had been provided with funding through the Childrens Fund to enable breakfast to be provided to children at a subsidised rate. The response to the breakfast clubs in these areas had been positive. Breakfast clubs were provided at other schools within the borough, however, there was no standard rate and each individual school had their own set fee. The catering department had been asked to calculate a

unit cost per breakfast to include staffing. Members requested a list of the Schools participating in a breakfast club.

Discussion was held on the physical activities that were provided by schools. Members requested information on the activities provided and the fees charged. At present there was a list of some activities provided through the Family Zone link via the Council's website. It was hoped that a full list of activities would be provided on the website in due course.

Members had concerns over the cluster arrangements and felt that children being transported to other sites was not preferable, but were aware of the funding issues.

Discussion was held on school gate policies and safe open spaces that were available within the borough for children to play.

David Campbell had recently represented the authority at the National Extended Schools Conference in London and would provide a report to Members at a future meeting.

CONCLUDED that the information received be noted.

5 Work Programme

The next meeting was to be held on 19th November with Neil Russell, Leisure and Sports Development Manager and Steven Chaytor, Director of Tees Active Ltd. Members were requested to prepare questions if possible in advance of the meeting.

CONCLUDED that the Work Programme be noted.

6 Chairmans Update

The Chairman updated Members of further meetings and witnesses to be invited and anticipated that Members would draw conclusions and recommendations at its meeting on 3rd December, 2008.

CONCLUDED that the update be noted.