

## **Children & Young People Select Committee**

A meeting of Children & Young People Select Committee was held on Wednesday, 14th April, 2010.

**Present:** Cllr David Harrington (Chairman), Cllr Mrs Ann Cains, Cllr Dick Cains, Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Aidan Cockerill (vice Cllr Andrew Sherris), Cllr Mick Eddy, Cllr Maurice Frankland

**Officers:** Peter Mennear, Fiona Shayler (LD); Terry Frank, Peter Seller, Paul Surtees, John Tierney (CESC)

**Also in attendance:** Mr G Davies (Non voting co-opted representative); Adam Newsham (Yarm), Paul Blackburn, Stacey Woods, Andrea Millar (Eastbourne), Sean Wright (Hardwick), Scott Thompson (Billingham), Tom Kelly, Jodi Fahey (Stockton), Teissy Easton, Joseph Lee (Norton), Stephanie Rees (Teesdale), Gemma Walmsley (Primrose Hill), Danielle Lamb (Roseworth), Robinson Anton (Oxbridge), James Youmans (Hartburn), Connor Knowles, Elizabeth Shearer, Chris Watt (Thornaby).

**Apologies:** were submitted on behalf of Cllr Broughton, Cllr Inman, Cllr Sherris.

### **CYP 1/10      Declarations of Interest**

None

### **CYP 2/10      Draft minutes of the meeting held on the 24th February 2010.**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 24th February 2010 were agreed as a correct record.

### **CYP 3/10      Youth Service Review**

Members were provided with a table of evidence for their review of Youth Services. Peter Seller and Terry Frank were in attendance to provide further information. Young people from throughout the borough were in attendance at the meeting to provide their views and comments on the draft survey. The Chairman thanked the young people for attending.

It was stated that at least 1008 copies of the survey needed to be completed in order for the survey to be viable. Officers would be making sure that the survey would be accessible in youth clubs, schools, and would be targeting specific groups of young people.

Members were planning on visiting each of the youth centres within the borough. The Chairman suggested that members visit centres that were not in their own wards or the Ward that the Member lives in and that they provide their availability to the scrutiny officer in order for a timetable to be produced. It was also suggested that a young person assist Members during their visit if possible to enable any questions to be answered. A proforma would be produced to ensure that Members all collated similar information at each of the centres.

It was also suggested that some Members attend a meeting of the Youth Assembly to gain the views of young people. The Chairman informed Members that there was a meeting at the Library on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6pm. Members were to inform the Chairman if they were able to attend.

Members and the young people discussed the questionnaire that had been

drafted. The following comments were made:-

- The presentation needed to be colourful and eye-catching
- Less wording to make the survey look shorter
- A text box for people to make comments
- An incentive for people to complete the questionnaire such as an iPod, or vouchers such as High Street Vouchers
- Some information to be added at the beginning of the questionnaire stating reasons for the survey.
- Additional question regarding the Youth Bus.

Members thanked the young people for attending the meeting and providing such enthusiastic feedback.

Further discussion was then held by Members on the Site Visits and whether members required any additional information.

Members were informed that Sunderland and Gateshead Councils were both good examples of having successful youth centres. It was suggested that further information be received on what youth services/facilities they offered, including undertaking a site visit.

Members requested further data on the funding that youth centres received and a breakdown of income from all sources. Members also requested maps that showed the potential catchment areas of the youth centres. It was suggested that the pattern and provision of youth centre opening times as well as transport available be considered. Officers stated that they would gather such information in order to fulfil the aims of the review.

A query was raised on youth provision in other countries; it was stated that this could be an issue raised with regional representatives.

CONCLUDED that the information received be noted.

**CYP  
4/10**      **Work Programme**

The next meeting would be held on 19th May 2010. It was agreed that evidence would be taken from the Head of the Regional Youth Unit. It was also suggested that the meeting on 9th June be extended to invite all Members.

CONCLUDED that the Work Programme be noted.

**CYP  
5/10**      **Chairs Update**

Members were informed that the review of Child Placements and Residential Care had been fully agreed by Cabinet.

Further to Members recommendations as part of their review of Obesity, the guided walk booklet had now been produced and was available for the public to use.

Positive comments had been received back following Members discussion at the last meeting regarding the action plan for Obesity.

Following the Annual Meeting, Cllr Mrs McCoy was now the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People. It was suggested that the Chair and Vice Chair have a briefing meeting with her.

CONCLUDED that the Chairs Update be noted.