



Leicester
City Council

EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: MONDAY, 8 JANUARY 2007 at 5.30pm

Councillor Waddington – Chair
Councillor Fitch – Focus Team Spokesperson
Councillor Johnson – Conservative Spokesperson
Councillor Karim - Liberal Democrat Spokesperson

Councillor Mrs Chambers
Councillor Dempster
Councillor Sood
Councillor Hunt
Councillor Keeling

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70. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cannon Peter Taylor (Church of England Diocese).

71. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members declared the following personal interests in the items on the agenda as School governors:

Cllr Mrs Chambers	Leicester Royal Infirmary Hospital School	LEA
Cllr Dempster	Imperial Avenue Infant Beaumont Lodge Primary	LEA LEA

Councillor Sood declared a personal interest in the items on the agenda as a member of the Leicester Council of Faiths and as a governor of Spinney Hills Primary.

**76. INSPECTION BY THE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL CARE INSPECTION OF
LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL ADOPTION SERVICE 2006**

A report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People was considered which advised Members of the outcome of the inspection of the adoption service which took place in September 2006. It was stated that the adoption service was delivered through a joint arrangement with Leicestershire and Rutland County Councils managed through an Adoption Joint Arrangement Liaison Group and so the inspection had treated the joint arrangement as a single agency. The

Commission for Social Care had made six statutory requirements and 12 good practice recommendations for improvements. The Liaison Group had met and agreed an Action Plan, which was attached to the report as an appendix, for completion of all the statutory requirements by April 2007. It was understood that currently only one statutory requirement remained outstanding. The good practice recommendations were in the process of being implemented.

Members enquired whether current services would be reduced in order to concentrate on statutory services. Information on which services were statutory and non-statutory, the funding in relation to the ring fenced grant and the publication costs of the Children's Guide was requested.

It was requested that information also be provided concerning the throughput and number of cases delayed within the judicial process. The Scrutiny Committee could then seek to highlight the impact of delays to the Courts if it wished.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Commission for Social Care Inspection into the Leicester City Joint Adoption Service be noted;
2. That the statutory requirements and good practice recommendations contained within the report be acknowledged;
3. That the work of the Adoption Team and the commitment of the staff in maintaining the service be recognised; and
4. That the Corporate Director be requested to provide a briefing note for Members of the Committee addressing the issues raised within the Committees discussion.

82. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 7.34pm.

