

Minutes of the Meeting of the OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

Held: THURSDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2007 at 5.30pm

<u>PRESENT:</u>

<u>Councillor Mugglestone – Chair</u> <u>Councillor J. Blackmore – Vice Chair</u>

Councillor Bajaj Councillor Newcombe

Councillor Naylor

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Mr Mohammed Alauddin Al-Azad - Parent Governor (Primary / Special Needs)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Blower – Task Group Leader, Children Schools and Young People Councillor Hall – Task Group Leader, Community Cohesion and Safety Councillor Joshi – Task Group Leader, Adults and Housing

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32. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests that they may have in the business on the agenda and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

Councillor Newcombe declared a personal interest in item C, 'Report on Private Fostering' as his parents were foster carers. Councillor Newcombe also declared a personal interest in Item G3) Regeneration and Transport Task Group – 'Movement of Bus Stops from High Street and its Impact' as he was a bus driver.

39. DEVELOPMENTS IN CORPORATE PARENTING

The Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services submitted a report informing the Board of developments around Corporate Parenting.

The Acting Head of Service noted that there were a number of positive developments in this area, particularly the bid for Beacon status that was currently being progressed.

The Task Group Leader, Children, Schools and Young People commented that the report was welcomed. She noted that corporate parenting was the responsibility of all Councillors and as such it was felt important that they take an active role in this area, such as through the Corporate Parenting Forum.

The Vice Chair also made enquiries about the level of involvement of Councillors. The Acting Head of Service commented that it would be helpful if Councillors were more involved, but noted that efforts were being made to provide Councillors with more information about their role in this area. It was recommended that the Whips and the Cabinet be made aware of the need to encourage Councillors to get involved in Corporate Parenting activities such as the Corporate Parenting Forum.

The Task Group Leader, Children, Schools and Young People commented that matters relating to corporate parenting should be incorporated into all areas of Council decision making, such as leisure passes and libraries.

The Vice Chair wished the Acting Head of Service all the best with the Beacon status bid.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board notes the progress made towards developing Corporate Parenting across the City Council;
- (2) that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board recommends that all political parties engage with and are represented on the Corporate Parenting Forum;
- (3) that a report on all aspects of Corporate Parenting be considered on a quarterly basis;
- (4) that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board receives a progress report at a future meeting highlighting the developments arising from the White Paper on Children in Care;
- (5) that the issue of Councillor attendance at the Corporate Parenting Forum be included on the Whips meeting agenda;
- (6) that the Cabinet be recommended to encourage Councillors to engage in Corporate Parenting activities.