

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

At a meeting of **DISABILITY OVERSIGHT PANEL** held on **MONDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER, 2024** at 5.00 pm in Crowndale Centre, 218 Eversholt Street, London, NW1 1BD

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL PRESENT

Councillors Lorraine Revah (Chair), Kemi Atolagbe (Vice-Chair), Anna Burrage and Judy Dixey

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL ABSENT

Councillors Richard Cotton and Lorna Greenwood

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor Anna Wright

The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting. They are subject to approval and signature at the next meeting of Disability Oversight Panel and any corrections approved at that meeting will be recorded in those minutes.

MINUTES

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lorna Greenwood.

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Judy Dixey.

2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF STATUTORY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, COMPULSORY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND VOLUNTARY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA

No declarations were made.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Order of items on the agenda

The Chair proposed that item 7: Update on Sport and Physical Activity Opportunities for Disabled Citizens in Camden be taken first, due to a number of external officers attending the meeting for that item. This was agreed.

4. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT

There was no such business.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2024 be agreed.

6. UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS ACROSS THE DIGITAL ESTATE

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Experience and Information Officer, the report was introduced by the Head of Digital Product.

In response to a request from the Panel around ensuring that letters sent by the council were accessible to people with visual impairments, the Director of Equalities and Community Strength agreed to speak with colleagues in the Communications team about how this could be achieved.

Action by: the Director of Equalities and Community Strength

The Panel discussed the accessibility features of the website, and the Head of Digital product agreed to look into ways of having larger font sizes on web pages for residents who needed it.

Action by: the Head of Digital Product

Members were interested in having more of an online presence for the Disability Oversight Panel and suggested expanding the section of the website around inclusion and equalities. The Director of Equalities and Community Strength agreed to look into this request and provide a response.

Action by: the Director of Equalities and Community Strength

The Head of Digital Product commented that accessibility was a core priority of digital work and improvement being carried out by the Council, including supporting staff with disabilities. They said that there were some people in the Technology Adoption team working specifically on adaptive technologies.

The Director of Equalities and Community Strength said that a review was happening on the interpreting and transcription offer and an update would be brought the Panel.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

7. UPDATE ON SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISABLED CITIZENS IN CAMDEN

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Recreation. The report was introduced by the Active Living Manager, Strategy and Partnership Manager and officers from GLL.

In their discussion of the report, the Panel made the following comments:

Members were interested in the concessions and offers that had been negotiated into the contract with GLL, particularly those available for carers, noting that other boroughs had different concession offers.

The Partnerships Manager, GLL, said that they were happy to have discussions on Camden's vision for concession provision, however, it was important to remember that, specifically with the free swimming, it was free to customers but not a free provision.

The Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care commented that there could be scope to join the work for the Carers Action Plan.

The Active Living Manager spoke about the work to engage with the deaf and hard of hearing community and the ambition of future work to make services accessible for them. The Partnerships Manager, GLL, outlined a model of engagement used to engage with the visually impaired community.

Members were pleased with the ambition to engage with specific communities with disabilities and asked for Champions to be included in future conversations.

In response to a question from the Panel, The Partnerships Manager, GLL spoke about the work that done to follow up with the engagement session, actions and contact with those who attended.

The Panel asked about contact within the community, the forms of communication and whether there were easy read versions available. The Partnerships Manager, GLL, said that there was easy read versions of activity guides and work was being carried out to improve the accessibility of information.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

The meeting ended at 6.00 pm.

Disability Oversight Panel - Monday, 25th November, 2024

CHAIR

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MINUTES END