

## **THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN**

At a meeting of the **CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held on **MONDAY, 5TH JULY, 2021** at 5.30 pm in The Council Chamber, Crowndale Centre, 218 Eversholt Street, London, NW1 1BD

### **MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE PRESENT**

Councillors Maryam Eslamdoust (Chair), Julian Fulbrook, Alison Kelly, Samata Khatoon, Gail McAnena, Stephen Stark, and (Co-opted members) Imogen Sharp and Rachel Wrangham

### **MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ABSENT**

Councillor Nasim Ali, Councillor Shiva Tiwari, Margaret Harvey, Reverend Guy Pope and Camden Youth Council representative

**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 the Children, Schools and Families Scrutiny Committee and any corrections approved at that meeting will be recorded in those minutes.**

### **MINUTES**

#### **1. GUIDANCE ON HYBRID MEETINGS**

##### **RESOLVED**

THAT the guidance on hybrid meetings be noted.

**To Note: All**

#### **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Ali, Councillor Tiwari, Margaret Harvey and Guy Pope.

Councillor Hai, Cabinet Member for Young People and Inclusion and Councillor Mason, Cabinet Member for Best Start for Children and Families had also sent apologies for absence.

**To Note: All**

#### **3. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA**

No declarations were made.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair announced –

In addition to the rights by law that the public and press have to record this meeting, I would like to remind everyone that this meeting is being broadcast live by the Council to the Internet and can be viewed on our website for twelve months after the meeting. After that time, webcasts are archived and can be made available upon request.

If you have asked to address the meeting, you are deemed to be consenting to having your contributions recorded and broadcast, including video when switched on, and to the use of those sound recordings and images for webcasting and/or training purposes.

**5. DEPUTATIONS ( IF ANY)**

No deputations were made.

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

There was no urgent business.

**7. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**RESOLVED**

THAT the terms of reference for the scrutiny committee be noted.

**To Note: All**

**8. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22 March 2021 be agreed as an accurate record.

**To Note: All**

**9. PROCUREMENT STRATEGY FOR MINDING THE GAP (THE HIVE, COUNSELLING AND PSYCHOTHERAPY AND SYSTEMIC INTEGRATIVE THERAPY)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Best Start for Children and Families that set out the proposed procurement strategy for key services that form part of Minding the Gap (MTG) an innovative approach to mental health services for young people aged 16-24. The strategy also included Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) systemic integrative therapy (a progressive, intensive form of family-based psychotherapy for children and their families).

The following information was provided in response to questions from the committee:

- The comments from members that future updates on this service should include more detailed information on the engagement and involvement of young people in the development of the service, were noted. It was confirmed for the committee that the HIVE had been co-produced with young people, who had been part of its continued development. The service included a range of activities with constant engagement with service users
- There had been 4,000 visits to the HIVE by 2,500 young people. With 125 young people having one to one meetings at any one time. The Brandon Centre had seen 270 young people
- The Brandon Centre was a well known service and was publicised to potential users of the service by GPs and schools referrals
- The services in place for 18 - 25 year olds included one to one services to meet specific needs that included support to unaccompanied asylum seeking young people
- The services were open access, where no one was turned away. There were no waiting lists but that was not the same as saying that all needs were being met. The level of support would be kept under review for the lifetime of the service contract
- There were a range of complex needs being supported, with a high case load of young people who were self-harming and or suicidal
- Additional resources had been made available in response to the Covid 19 Pandemic because of the significant issues being experienced by young people. This included Minding the Gap and CAMHS support being made available in schools
- There were many opportunities to hear from young people about their experiences of life and services in Camden. Young people had attended and presented reports to this Committee and there would be opportunities for this going forward
- There would be a detailed report on children's health to the committee as part of the work programme in March
- This procurement was part of an open bids process for a new contract and the existing provider was able to bid. Officers did not know what the cost of the procurement process was, but there was a balance of duty to ensure that the service provided best value in meeting the needs of a vulnerable population.

The specific skills required of the service provider were set out in the selection criteria. In market testing there had not been any interest from the private sector.

More detailed data on outcomes, that had not been included in the report, would be circulated to the committee.

**Action By: Executive Director Supporting People**

**RESOLVED**

THAT the report be noted

**To Note: All**

**Action By: Executive Director Supporting People**

**10. PROCUREMENT STRATEGY FOR THE PROVISION OF SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN CAMDEN AND ISLINGTON**

Consideration was given to a report of Cabinet Member for Best Start for Children and Families and the Cabinet Member for Healthy and Caring Camden.

The report was seeking Cabinet approval for the procurement of the young people's sexual health services in Camden and Islington; providing a more inclusive service representative of the local population and access to services they need to keep themselves well. Services would include building-based sexual health screenings; pregnancy tests and access to contraception; relationship and sex education in schools and other events; targeted support to groups of young people or individuals and sexual health outreach clinics to youth settings and other locations.

During consideration of the report the committee welcomed the plans for the service, and it was requested that a report on Social Value be added to the Committee's work programme.

**RESOLVED**

THAT the application be noted.

**To Note: All**

## **11. CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKER 2021/2022**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director for Supporting People that set out the work programme for the 2021/22 municipal year.

During consideration of the report the committee listed the following for the work programme and further discussion:

- Social Value Framework, learning from success and disappointments
- Sharing a strategic risk register with the committee
- The impact of healthy streets on young people (if within the committee's terms of reference)
- Impact and recovery report on the effects of the last year on children and young people
- Special Education Needs funding
- Education Strategy
- Exclusion Panel – update on the response to the panel's recommendations
- Girls and young women in sport - update on the panel report with available data
- Listening more to young people, hearing the voice of young people/attending this committee and other opportunities for them to engage and be heard

**To Note: All**

## **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE MEETING DATES**

It was noted that the next meeting would take place at **6.30pm** on **Wednesday 1 September 2021** and the following schedule of meeting dates was also noted:

- Tuesday 12 October 2021 - special meeting to consider the Education Strategy
- Monday 8 November 2021
- Tuesday 14 December 2021
- Tuesday 18 January 2022
- Tuesday 1 March 2022

For the November and March dates there was a membership clash with the Resources and Corporate Performance Scrutiny Committee. Alternative options for meeting dates would be scheduled where possible.

**Action By: The Borough Solicitor**

**13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR DECIDES TO CONSIDER AS URGENT**

There was no urgent business.

The meeting ended at 6.45 pm.

**CHAIR**

**Contact Officer: Donna Alexander-Morrison**

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**MINUTES END**