

CORPORATE PARENTING CABINET COMMITTEE - 20 SEPTEMBER 2011

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING CABINET COMMITTEE
HELD IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2/3, CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, ON
TUESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2011 AT 3.50PM

Present:

Councillor M E J Nott - Leader
Councillor D Sage - Deputy Leader
Councillor H J David - Cabinet Member - Resources
Councillor L C Morgan - Cabinet Member - Wellbeing

Invitees:

Councillor K R T Deere
Councillor M Thomas
Councillor K S Hunt

Officers:

C Turner - Interim Head of Safeguarding and Family Support
S Driscoll - Aftercare Team Manager
L Wilkinson - Principal Officer Accommodation and Regulated Services
G P Jones - Democratic Services Manager

105 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

In the absence of Councillor A E Davies, Councillor H J David was nominated and seconded to take the role of the Chairperson for this meeting

RESOLVED: That Councillor HJ Councillor H J David was elected to take the role of the Chairperson for this meeting

106 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the following Members and Officers:-

Councillor A E Davies - Unwell
Councillor P White - Holiday
Councillor R D Jenkins - Unwell
Councillor K Watts - Unwell
H Anthony - Other Council Business
S Pryce - Family commitments

107 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

108 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of a meeting of the Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee dated 26 July 2011 be approved as a true and accurate record.

109 POST 16 SERVICE

The Interim Head of Safeguarding and Family Support introduced a report to update the Committee regarding progress on the 'Designing the Future' project which related to developing a universal integrated Post 16 Service for all children and young people in need of support, living within Bridgend County Borough.

The Aftercare Team Manager explained that the draft report proposing the new model for a universal multi-disciplinary service for young people aged 16-25 was presented to Cabinet on April 5 2011. The proposal sought approval for the continued development of a new Post 16 Service which included reconfiguration of existing services and the development of a specialist team to target services for all young people aged 16 to 25 living within Bridgend County Borough..

He informed the meeting that a Project Management Group had been formed with representatives from Adult Mental Health, Housing and Homelessness, The Youth Service, The Youth Offending Service, the Substance Misuse Team and a representative from BAVO who provided information and feedback to the other third sector organisations.

Three productive meetings had been held to develop the Terms of Reference and to agree the governance arrangements. These meetings would continue on a monthly basis with the aim of providing senior managers with information relating to the management, structure and cost of this service.

Data was also being collected to provide evidence for the demand that will be placed on the service and the implications for future service delivery. He added that a meeting had also been planned on 29 September to consider the views of young people and discuss any relevant issues with them.

The Cabinet Member for Wellbeing queried the one-off funding referred to in the report and his concerns regarding the sustainability of the project. He was advised that Bridgend had received funding from WAG as a pilot authority and had access to project consultants to assist the authority in formulating the response to the challenges faced by both housing and children's social services in light of the Southwark Judgment. The funding to deliver the new service model, will be gained from the effective use of existing resources by utilising a joined up approach to service delivery and complement other existing projects.

Members queried whether the project would include a one-stop shop with an outreach capability. The Interim Head of Safeguarding & Family Support explained that there was an aspiration to develop an inter-agency hub with its main team in Bridgend but to have satellite facilities within the community.

The Committee requested confirmation when the new model of the service would commence. The Aftercare Team Manager advised that an ambitious target had been set within the Project Initiation Document for April 2012 and all efforts were being made to achieve that target. The Leader queried whether there were any barriers to meeting the stated target date. He was advised that further involvement and funding would be required from the health sector and although initial discussions had been received positively at a local management level the proposals, still required appropriate support from the senior health sector managers. The Leader requested that he be advised if Cabinet could provide any assistance in overcoming any outstanding matters regarding the project.

RESOLVED: The Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee:-

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- (1) noted the progress made with regard to the initial development of a Post 16 Service.
- (2) approved the continued development of this project to include consultation taking into account views across a range of potential partners and services.

110 THE RESIDENTIAL REDESIGN PROJECT

The Interim Head of Safeguarding and Family Support introduced a report which updated the Committee on the progress of the implementation of the Residential Redesign project. He informed the committee that the Residential Services Review was initiated in September 2008 and endorsed as part of the corporate *Supporting Vulnerable Children* programme. Its remit was to examine the provision of residential services within Bridgend's community homes to identify whether a redesigned service can improve the outcomes of children and young people who become looked after.

Principal Officer Accommodation and Regulated Services explained that the report identified that children and young people who require residential care often have complex needs. It was essential for those agencies with the responsibility for working with children and young people to be involved in the planning and delivery of services and to ensure that all services were of a high quality and readily available.

She described the progress that had been made to date regarding the re-design of the service which included the change in the role of each facility, the staffing re-structure, consultation with children, young people and their families to ensure that their future plans are progressed, consulting on the Statements of Purpose and Children's Guides that have been developed for each of the new units and a review of all relevant policies and procedures.

The Committee was also advised that a competition to "name" the two new units was launched 8 August 2011 and the winning names will be proposed to a subsequent meeting of Cabinet for approval.

Members welcomed the report, the draft Statements of Purpose and children's guide. The Members queried whether the facilities would be completed by the date stated in the report. They were advised that the most of works were relatively minor and were due to be carried out by the internal building services. The Chairperson requested that he be informed if there were any further delays to the commencement of the work so that he could discuss the situation with the appropriate Head of Service.

RESOLVED: The Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee:-

- (1) noted the progress of the Residential Redesign Project.
- (2) requested that the proposal for the naming of the 2 facilities be presented to the appropriate meeting for approval

111 INFORMAL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME - OCT 2011 TO APRIL 2012

The Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee considered the proposed Informal Forward Work Programme - October 2011 to April 2012 and it was:-

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RESOLVED: That the Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee approved the proposed Informal Forward Work Programme.

The meeting closed at 4.40pm.