

**CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL**

**Meeting held on Wednesday 25 September 2013 at 5.00pm**

**DRAFT MINUTES - PART A**

**Present:** Councillor Janet Marshall (Chair)  
Councillor Lynne Hale (Vice-Chair)  
Councillors, Kathy Bee, Jan Buttinger, Donna Gray, Tim Pollard  
and Susan Winborn

Co-optees: Paul Fallon (Chair of Children's Safeguarding), Martin Williams (Foster Carers) Ashleigh Searle (Children in Care Council Representative), Dionne Sang (Social Worker, CiCC, 10-18 LAC Team)

**Officers** Paul Chadwick, Kate Naish, David Worlock, Martin Hudson, Wendy Tomlinson, Jane McAllister, Sue Goode, Sukriti Sen

**Apologies:** Paul Fallon

**A26/13 MINUTES** (agenda item 1)

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 03 July 2013 be agreed and signed by the Chair.

**A27/13 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST** (agenda item 3)

None

**A28/13 URGENT BUSINESS** (agenda item 4)

None

**A29/13 EXEMPT ITEMS** (agenda item 5)

There were no exempt items

**A30/13 Croydon Adoption Service, Statement of Purpose 2013/14**  
(agenda item 6)

Croydon Council acts as an Adoption Agency, and in that role provides an Adoption Service to all parties, adults and children, involved in the adoption process.

Legislation requires that an Adoption Agency have a Statement of Purpose, setting out the key services and objectives to be delivered by the Agency, and that the Statement of Purpose is reviewed annually to take account of changes both nationally and locally. Officers presented the report and explained the statutory basis and content. Following discussion officers were complimented for a clear report and the performance of the service was noted.

**RESOLVED:** to receive the report

**A31/13 Children on the Edge of Care** (Agenda item 7)

Officers presented the report. Panel had previously asked for a report on this theme. The Panel was keen to explore how the significant financial costs incurred when a child is received into care is instead re-focused on supporting families to become resilient and look after their own children, unless it is absolutely necessary to provide care as an alternative. Panel thanked the officers for a good report **and**

**RESOLVED-** to note the report

**A32/13 Croydon Fostering Service Statement of Purpose and Foster**  
(Agenda item 8) The Fostering Services Regulations 2011 Part 2 state that a fostering service must compile a written statement of purpose which sets out the aims and objectives of the service as a whole, and the services, and facilities which are provided. Officers presented the report to Panel and after a number of questions panel **RESOLVED** to note the report.

**A33/13 Looked After Children Strategy and Forward Plan 2013/14**  
(Agenda item 9) The LAC Strategy is based on the principles and objectives of good corporate parenting and sets out the actions for achievement against which Croydon council, together with its partners, holds itself accountable in caring for looked after children and doing the best for them.. The LAC strategy is stated and delivered in the Forward Plan. The objectives and actions of the Forward Plan are framed within the outcomes of *Every Child Matters* for looked after children. The LAC Strategic Partnership undertakes an annual review of the Strategy and Forward Plan. Officers presented this report as part of the review. Following a

number of questions The recommendations in the report were considered and Panel

**RESOLVED:** That the LAC Strategy and Forward Plan 2013/14 is noted . However the recommendation for Panel to appoint one or two of its members to attend and participate in meetings of the LAC Strategic Partnership to be held in 2013/14 was deferred.

**RESOLVED:**

**A34/13      Dates of Future Meetings** (agenda item 9)

- ⌚ The dates of future meetings were noted as
- ⌚ 08 January 2014 at 5pm
- ⌚ 25 March 2014 at 5pm

The panel therefore **RESOLVED** that the following reports will be on the agenda for the next meeting in March 2014:

- ⌚ Education Achievements of LAC – Virtual School
- ⌚ Economic Well Being (Leaving Care, Employment and Training)
- ⌚ Annual Complaints Report

**PART B**

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The meeting ended at 6.00pm