

Corporate Parenting Board

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 6 February 2012 in
Committee Room No. 1, Civic Centre, Sunderland at 5.30p.m.**

Present:

Councillor P. Smith
Councillor Walker

Members of the Board

Executive Member, Children and Learning City
Washington North

Also in attendance:

Meg Boustead
Deborah Atkinson
Jane Hedley
Debra Dorward

All Supporting Officers

Head of Safeguarding
Assistant Fostering Officer (Change Council)
Solicitor
Governance Services Officer

Young People

Kieran Boyce
Daniel Bensley
Daniel Johnson
Shanice Sykes
Kallam Addison
Dillon Murray
Ronnie Gritchlow
Konner McCully
Saul Cranson

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Allan, Ball, Hall, Macknight and Williams.

As the meeting was inquorate, the following discussions could not be viewed as having been approved and therefore, could not be acted upon until approved at a future quorate meeting.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 October 2011

37. RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2011 be agreed as a correct record, subject to the following alteration:

- all references to CIC were to be replaced with Change Council

Looked After Children – Young People Access to Leisure Facilities and Wellness Services

Michael Dodds, Centre Manager and Christine Bulmer, Wellness Centre Manager delivered a verbal presentation on young peoples' access to leisure facilities and wellness services. In doing so, they briefly summarised the wide and varied range of leisure activities available in Sunderland.

The main benefits of the LifeCard were outlined and an overview of the concessionary pricing structure was circulated to the young people in attendance. Instructions describing how to set up a membership package were also explained.

An opportunity was offered for the young people and Members of the Board to ask questions.

The young people raised a number of enquiries, and all of these were responded to. During which it was confirmed that: -

- the LifeCard allowed young people in care to access gym facilities at a concessionary rate, and that a LifeCard was valid for 12 months.
- any young person was able to join the gym from age 11, however ages 11-13 must be accompanied by an adult. Young people aged 14 or over could use the gym on their own.
- within the pricing framework, the supervisor of an activity was able to enter free of charge. Concessionary rates were also available for carers wishing to take part in Wellness Centre activities.
- staff at all of the Wellness Centres in Sunderland were well experienced and would be able to assist design a suitable membership package.
- skiing lessons were available. Lessons were usually taken in two-hour group sessions on a Saturday. Mr Dodds stated that he would arrange a free visit for a group of up to twenty young people from the Change Council to visit and try the dry slope.
- the ice rink at Crowtree Leisure Centre would not be resurrected. The development of an ice rink in Sunderland would depend on what funding becomes available to the Council.

Mr Dodds reassured the young people that any form of membership package would be processed confidentially by trained staff, and that in order to qualify for the concessionary rate, a letter signed by a carer or social worker should be made available at the time to confirm care arrangements are in place. The letter will prove eligibility for the concessionary package.

The young people agreed that they would include the information that had been provided, including the information on pricing in the next edition of Change News. All social workers would also be notified.

The young people thanked the Wellness Programme Manager and Centre Manager of Silksworth Community Pool, Tennis and Wellness Centre for their informative update.

Update by the Young People – Change Council/Council Dialogue

Deborah Atkinson, Assistant Fostering Officer (Change Council) advised that a questionnaire had been circulated to the young people seeking their views regarding the Leaving Care Grant. The Change Council would be discussing the issue at their meeting scheduled to be held 22 February 2012.

It was intended that any proposals to change the grant would be brought back to a future meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board.

Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

At the instance of the Chairman, it was:-

38. RESOLVED that in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 the public be excluded during consideration of the remaining business as it was considered to involve a likely disclosure of information relating to an individual, or information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual (including the Authority holding that information) (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1 and 2).

(Signed) P. SMITH,
Chairman.

Note:-

The above minutes relate only to items considered during the time which the meeting was open to the public.

Additional minutes in respect of other items are included in Part II.

