

**Coventry City Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board (2)**  
**held at 10.00 am on Thursday, 13 February 2020**

Present:

Members: Councillor K Sandhu (Chair)  
Councillor P Akhtar  
Councillor J Blundell  
Councillor B Kaur  
Councillor J Lepoidevin  
Councillor G Lloyd  
Councillor R Thay  
Councillor C Thomas

Co-Opted Members: Mrs S Hanson and Mrs K Jones

Employees (by Directorate):

People A Brennan, J Gregg, G Lewis N MacDonald, K Nelson, N  
MacDonald, J Silverton  
Place G Holmes, M Rose, J White

Apologies: Councillor L Kelly  
Councillor K Maton (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills)  
Councillor P Seaman (Cabinet Member for Children and  
Young People)  
Councillor B Gittins (Deputy Cabinet Member for Children and  
Young People)

Invited: P Thomas - Chief Executive of The Futures Trust Multi-  
Academy Trust  
D Benson - Chair Safeguarding Board  
DI J Edmonds - West Midlands Police

## **Public Business**

### **37. Declarations of Interests**

Councillor Kaur declared an interest in minutes 41 and 44 below, headed 'Serious Case Review' and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the matter.

### **38. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th January, 2020 were approved.

### **39. Exclusion of Press and Public**

**RESOLVED** that the Scrutiny Board agrees to exclude the press and public under Sections 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 relating to the

private report in Minute 44 below headed “Serious Case Review” on the grounds that the report involves the likely disclosure of information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, the grounds for privacy are that it contains information relating to an individual and contains information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual. The public interest in maintaining the exemption under Schedule 12A outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

#### 40. **Coventry Education Performance 2019**

Further to minute 14/19 the Scrutiny Board considered a briefing note and presentation of the Deputy Chief Executive (People) which provided information about Education Performance. The data was now validated and the presentation detailed the headline achievements, OfSTED profile, successes and priorities for Early Years, Primary, Key Stage 4 and 16-18 including vulnerable groups.

The Scrutiny Board had invited the Chief Executive of the Futures Trust (A Multi-Academy Trust) to contribute to discussions regarding the Coventry Partnership between schools in the city.

The Scrutiny Board questioned the officers on the following:

- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision, progress and priority status as well as working from early years
- The Ofsted profile for Secondary schools in the city being significantly lower than National
- Vulnerable groups
- Data comparisons between key stages and against national
- Improving outcomes

Officers discussed the positive SEND inspection feedback and linking with early years education providers and Public Health partners to identify support early. Officers recognised that schools were on a journey and Ofsted assessment was a point in time and the framework had changed. Primary schools had significantly improved in the city. Schools measured progress and value added but also aimed to improve life chances for Young People and destination data for the city was positive.

**RESOLVED that the Board noted the update on Education Performance and request that a review of how the education performance data and narrative is presented take place prior to the consideration of 2020’s Education Performance report.**

#### 41. **Serious Case Review**

The Scrutiny Board considered a briefing note of the Scrutiny Co-ordinator, which requested consideration of the progress against recommendations made following a Serious Case Review.

A corresponding private report was also submitted to the meeting detailing the confidential matters of the recommendations. (Minute 44 below refers.)

The Scrutiny Board had invited representation from West Midlands Police and the Safeguarding Partnership Chair to contribute to discussions regarding the Serious Case Review.

**RESOLVED that the Board:**

- 1) note the findings of the Serious Case Review**
- 2) note the progress against the recommendations**

**42. Work Programme**

The Board noted the work programme and that the meeting scheduled for Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board (2) on 19<sup>th</sup> March had been cancelled but that they were invited to Join the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) meeting on the 11th March, 2020 to discuss Autism Spectrum Condition Pathway Support for Children and Young People in Coventry and Maternity and Child Health Programme Update. Children Missing Education would be considered in April by the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board (2).

**43. Any Other Business**

There were no other items of business.

**44. Serious Case Review**

Further to Minute 41 above, the Scrutiny Board considered a private report of the Deputy Chief Executive (People), setting out the confidential matters relating to the Serious Case Review.

**RESOLVED that the Board:**

- 1) note the findings of the Serious Case Review**
- 2) note the progress against the recommendations**
- 3) request that an all members briefing on contextual safeguarding be arranged**
- 4) the following information be circulated:**
  - a) the link to access the working together guide 2018**
  - b) the 1-minute guide**

**45. Any Other Private Business**

There were no other items of private business.

(Meeting closed at 12.10 pm)