

## REGULATORY COMMITTEE

### CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 24 April 2009 at 10:00am at County Hall, Lewes.

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PRESENT Councillor Waite (Chairman), Elkin, St Pierre and Taylor

ALSO PRESENT Councillor Mrs Stroude, Lead Cabinet Member for Children and Families

Alison Borland, Head of Children's Disability Services  
Helen Davies, Deputy Director, Children and Families  
Bernadette Dawes, Short Breaks Development Manager  
Steve Hunt, Operations Manager, The Fostering Service  
Teresa Lavelle-Hill, Head of Looked After Children's Services  
Carole Sykes, Operations Manager  
Tina Darby, East Sussex Foster Care Association  
Sandie Milligan, East Sussex Foster Care Association  
Annie Petch, Democratic Services Officer

Graham Beale, Unit Manager, Broderick House and Homefield Cottages  
Anthony Julyan, Operations Manager, Sorrell Drive  
Chris Makin, Unit Manager, Hazel Lodge and Rose Cottage  
Janet Osborne, Unit Manager, Acorns, 130 Dorset Road  
Helen Simmons, Unit Manager, Sorrell Drive  
Martin Sutcliffe, Unit Manager, Lansdowne Secure Unit

#### 36. MINUTES

36.1 RESOLVED – to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2009 as a correct record.

#### 37. REPORTS

37.1 Copies of the reports referred to below are included in the minute book.

#### 38. APOLOGIES

38.1 Apologies were received from Councillors Dowling, Livings, O'Keeffe and Skilton.

#### 39. ACTION PLAN OF EAST SUSSEX FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION, 1 APRIL 2009-31 MARCH 2014

39.1 The Panel considered a report by the Director of Children's Services. Tina Darby and Sandie Milligan from the East Sussex Foster Care Association (ESFCA) presented the action plan and answered questions.

39.2 The Panel was advised that

- The Association had organised a number of very successful single day and residential trips for children over the past year. The ESFCA would like to continue to organise these trips if further funding can be secured.
- ESFCA is trying to reduce travel expenses on trips which is one of the reasons why the residential trips were being moved from the Isle of Wight to Windmill Hill in East Sussex.
- ESFCA is focussing internally to review governance of the association and their longer-term financial plan

- ESFCA has a 5-year project, with each year focussing on a different theme. This year's theme is Children who Care which will be the focus of a conference to be held later in the year.

39.2 RESOLVED to (1) note and support the action plan; and

(2) thank the East Sussex Foster Care Association for their hard work and commitment.

40. ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT OF EAST SUSSEX FOSTERING SERVICE 1 APRIL 2008-31 MARCH 2009

40.1 The Panel considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which outlined the performance of the Fostering Service between 1 April 2008 - 31 March 2009.

40.2 The Panel extended an invitation to the Children in Care council to attend the next Corporate Parenting Panel meeting if there were any matters they would like to raise with the Panel.

40.3 RESOLVED to (1) note the contents of the report; and

(2) invite members of the Children in Care Council to the next Corporate Parenting Panel meeting.

41. ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT OF EAST SUSSEX ADOPTION AND PERMANENCE SERVICE 1 APRIL 2008 – 31 MARCH 2009

41.1 The Panel considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which outlined the performance of the Adoption and Permanence Service between 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009.

41.2 The Panel was advised that there had been a number of changes to the Adoption Panel membership this year and particular thanks were expressed to Councillor Skilton for his contributions to the work of the Panel.

41.3 RESOLVED to note contents of the report.

42. AIMING HIGH FOR DISABLED CHILDREN – IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMISSIONING PLAN

42.1 The Panel considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which informed them of how the increase in Short Break provision will be achieved.

42.2 The Panel was advised that a transition service for 14-25 year olds was being further developed to ensure an effective service and a report on the work would be presented to the Panel at a future meeting.

42.3 RESOLVED to (1) note the contents of the report;

(2) request a report at a future meeting on the improved transition service for 14-25 year olds.

43. LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN STATISTICS

43.1 The Panel considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which outlined changes to the statistics in the last quarter.

43.2 RESOLVED to note the report

#### 44. LAST MEETING

44.1 The Chairman reminded the Panel that this was the meeting of the current membership. She extended her thanks to all the Panel members for their hard work and thanked the officers for their continued support to the members.

#### 45. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

45.1 RESOLVED - to exclude the public and press from the meeting for the remaining items on the grounds that if the public and press were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as specified in category 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), namely information relating to any individual. It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

#### 46. OFSTED INSPECTION REPORTS

46.1 The Panel considered the following Ofsted Inspection Reports:

- Broderick House
- Hazel Lodge
- Lansdowne Secure Unit
- Rose Cottage
- The Bungalow, Sorrell Drive

46.2 RESOLVED note the inspection reports

#### 47. CHILDREN'S HOME REGULATIONS 1991, REGULATION 33: INSPECTION REPORTS

47.1 The Panel considered inspection reports for December 2008, January 2009 and February 2009 for the following children's homes:

- (i) Broderick House
- (ii) Acorns at Lansdowne
- (iii) Hazel Lodge
- (iv) Homefield Cottages
- (iii) Lansdowne Secure Unit
- (iv) Rose Cottage
- (v) The Bungalow, Sorrell Drive

47.2 RESOLVED – to note the reports