



Haverling

LONDON BOROUGH

CHILDREN & LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA

7.30 pm

Thursday
1 November 2012

Town Hall

Members 14: Quorum 6

COUNCILLORS:

Sandra Binion (Chairman)
Gillian Ford (Vice-Chair)
Nic Dodin

Peter Gardner
Robby Misir
Pat Murray

Frederick Thompson
Melvin Wallace
Keith Wells

CO-OPTED MEMBERS:

Statutory Members representing the Churches

Phillip Grundy, Church of
England
Jack How, Roman Catholic
Church

Statutory Members representing parent governors

Julie Lamb, Special Schools
Anne Ling, Primary Schools
Garry Dennis, Secondary
Schools

Non-voting members representing local teacher unions and professional associations:
Margaret Cameron (NAHT), Keith Passingham (NASUWT), Bev Whitehead (NUT)

**For information about the meeting please contact:
Sean Cable 01708 432436
sean.cable@haverling.gov.uk**

What is Overview & Scrutiny?

Each local authority is required by law to establish an overview and scrutiny function to support and scrutinise the Council's executive arrangements. Each overview and scrutiny committee has its own remit as set out in the terms of reference but they each meet to consider issues of local importance.

They have a number of key roles:

1. Providing a critical friend challenge to policy and decision makers.
2. Driving improvement in public services.
3. Holding key local partners to account.
4. Enabling the voice and concerns of the public.

The committees consider issues by receiving information from, and questioning, Cabinet Members, officers and external partners to develop an understanding of proposals, policy and practices. They can then develop recommendations that they believe will improve performance, or as a response to public consultations.

Committees will often establish Topic Groups to examine specific areas in much greater detail. These groups consist of a number of Members and the review period can last for anything from a few weeks to a year or more to allow the Members to comprehensively examine an issue through interviewing expert witnesses, conducting research and site visits. Once the topic group has finished its work it will send a report to the Committee that created it and it will often suggest recommendations to the executive.

Terms of Reference

The areas scrutinised by the Committee are:

- School Improvement (BSF)
- Pupil and Student Services (including the Youth Service)
- Children's Social Services
- Safeguarding
- Adult Education
- 14-19 Diploma
- Scrutiny of relevant aspects of the LAA
- Councillor Calls for Action
- Social Inclusion

AGENDA ITEMS

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

(if any) - receive.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members are invited to declare any interests in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting. Members may still declare an interest in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter.

3 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman will announce details of the arrangements in case of fire or other events that might require the meeting room or building's evacuation.

4 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 12)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 20 September 2012 and 11 October 2012 (special meeting) and authorise the Chairman to sign them.

5 CRITERIA TO ASSESS FREE SCHOOL PROVIDERS

Report to follow.

6 COMPLAINTS & COMPLIMENTS REPORT (Pages 13 - 32)

Report and first appendix attached, further appendix to follow.

7 CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE & GUIDANCE (Pages 33 - 36)

Report attached.

8 FUTURE AGENDAS

Committee Members are invited to indicate to the Chairman, items within this Committee's terms of reference they would like to see discussed at a future meeting. Note: it is not considered appropriate for issues relating to individuals to be discussed under this provision.

9 URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any other item in respect of which the Chairman is of the opinion, by reason of special circumstances which shall be specified in the minutes, that the item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

**Ian Buckmaster
Committee Administration &
Member Support Manager**