

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE
Appointment Centre Room 10 & 11, Town Hall, Romford
5 December 2023 (7.01 - 7.30 pm)**

Present:

COUNCILLORS

Conservative Group	Judith Holt and Christine Smith
Havering Residents' Group	Laurance Garrard, Jacqueline McArdle and Bryan Vincent
Labour Group	Frankie Walker (Vice-Chair) and Patricia Brown

71 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Apologies were received for the absence of Councillors Jason Frost, Robert Benham, Julie Wilkes and Jack How.

72 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

The following members declared non-pecuniary interests:

Cllr Christine Smith – Board Member for Havering Association of Disabilities
Ian Rusha – Governor for Corbets Tey School
Julie Lamb – Chair of Governors for Corbets Tey School

73 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reminded Members of the action to be taken in an emergency.

74 MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th September 2023 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

75 END OF PROVISION FOR AUTISM SUPPORT

The Sub-Committee was presented with a report on the provision for Autism Support.

It was explained to members that the current contract with Sycamore Trust started in February 2018 and then extended in 2021 due to a failed

procurement cycle where no bid was gained with an end date of 31st January 2024 however this had been further extended by 6 months to allow for plans to take place. It was explained that the service would work with families and users on what provision would follow.

Members noted the service was only for adults over 18 years old and was not a statutory service the council had to provide. Members noted the decision had no monetary savings attached to it and the Council would work with the Hub and service users on how to spend money the best way. It was also noted by the Sub-Committee a proposal from Officers of a mobile provision which would be run out of various centres and libraries across the Borough.

The Sub-Committee noted the report and made no recommendations.

76 **PASSENGER TRANSPORT**

The Sub-Committee was given a verbal update on the home to school transport provision.

Officers explained the public consultation had ended in November 2023 and the data had not been processed by the deadline of the agenda's publication.

The Sub-Committee noted the position of the service and agreed for the full consultation responses to be brought back at a future meeting.

Chairman