

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FORUM

Tuesday 1st March 2011, 10.00am – 12.30pm

Ian McKellan Hall, London Lighthouse,

Chair: Mary Gardiner (Kensington & Chelsea Social Council)

Attendance list attached

1.	WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES (Mary Gardiner - Chief Executive KCSC)	ACTION
1.1	Mary Gardiner welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited people to introduce themselves and their organisation.	
2.	UPDATE: NORTH KENSINGTON ACADEMY SPD (James Masini - Planning Officer RBKC)	
2.1	James Masini thanked Mary for the opportunity to update the forum and began his presentation. He said that he and his team were still trying to consult residents on the SPD. He explained that the SPD supplements the strategy which provides a framework for planning and development for the next 20 years and reiterated that the SPD is a high level document.	
2.2	The consultation has seen some different approaches being taken, such as taking residents on tours of the premises. He said the last consultation held in the leisure centre was very well attended and informed the forum that the consultation will close on the 8 th March.	
2.3	<p>Val Williams pointed out that she was unaware of the consultations and asked how they were advertised.</p> <p>James replied saying the consultations were advertised through different channels including leafleting, posters and notice boards.</p> <p>Dee Dainton said letters/leaflets weren't sent to residents home, and suggested this could be done in the future.</p>	
2.4	James said the next phase of the consultation will be very important and much more relevant to residents, and in particular parents. They will have the opportunity to share their views, ideas and comments on how the school will run and operate.	
2.5	<p>James went on to explain the plan of the premises using PowerPoint. He said the new leisure centre may be smaller in circumference, but that would be made up in height. He confirmed Lancaster Green will be retained and reassured that while the initial thoughts were that a lot of open space would be lost, they are now confident that that will not be the case.</p> <p>Mary Gardiner asked where the issue of not losing green/open space fits in with the core strategy.</p> <p>James replied saying one would have to look at what is overall better for the area. For example to lose some green space so that a much needed school could be built would be better than to preserve a small amount of open space and lose the school.</p> <p>Mary pointed out that the school will be open for everyone in the community.</p>	

2.6	<p>Belinda Evans asked if the school will have its own sports facilities or if it will use Kensington Leisure Centre, and whether the schools use will disrupt in any way the public's use of the leisure centre.</p> <p>James said he wasn't quite sure how the schools use of the leisure centre will fit in, but insisted there will be some interaction. He said there were a number of different options on the table.</p> <p>Mary said the schools were likely to be built American style i.e. built higher with no separate outdoor space.</p> <p>Rosemary Keenan asked if building the schools higher would result in the release of increased CO² emissions and pollution. She also pointed out that there are a high and increasing number of children on inhalers.</p> <p>Councillor Emma Will clarified it won't be significantly high like a skyscraper.</p>	
2.7	<p>Trevor Hutchinson said traffic flow around the school is a major concern and asked what has been taken into account to avoid problems in the future.</p> <p>James said that the traffic flow and potential problematic scenarios have been taken into consideration. He explained that secondary schools do not cause as much traffic as primary schools do, as most student make their own way to school either by foot or public transport. He said the scenario will most likely be a similar to that of Chelsea Academy, and that they are working closely with their colleagues in transportation on this matter. They will also discuss plans for a new bus route with Transport For London.</p>	
2.8	<p>Asked about the costs of the school, James said that Chelsea Academy cost £36million and Holland Park cost £80million. The government are paying £17.5 million towards the cost of the new academy.</p>	
2.9	<p>James said the new roads were a concern for some, who fear an increased number of drivers may use it to avoid Lancaster road. James reassured the forum the transport team have advised the new road will not be of any use to motorists as a short cut, if it designed to be predominantly for pedestrian and cycle use.</p> <p>He also argued that having cars on the road would help prevent crime, otherwise becoming an alleyway attractive to crime.</p> <p>Mary Gardiner argued good lighting is what prevents crime and would be more effective than having cars on the road. She said it is vital that there is good street lighting regardless of whether there is a road or not.</p> <p>Dee Dainton questioned why the area would suddenly become a hot spot for crime, if it isn't currently one.</p> <p>Asked about whether the loss of car park space would have a negative impact, James said it wouldn't as there are plenty of local residential and pay and display bays. He also clarified that while there will be some sort of limited parking at the school, there won't be a staff car park. If there is enough space left that could be used for development, it will most likely be used for housing.</p> <p>James said the school will be designed to be fully accessible to all, including the disabled.</p> <p>James said the school had priority over the leisure centre and that the aim was to have the school open by 2014.</p>	

	Dee felt there needs to be a push to keep the swimming pool open throughout the development.	
2.10	Mary thanked James for his presentation and offered to arrange another meeting at the next relevant stage of development if the forum was interested. Some groups present offered to hold meetings with planners to develop a stronger local understanding of why the new school is needed.	MM
3.	KCSC EVENTS AND TRAINING UPDATE (Mary Gardiner KCSC)	
3.1	Mary began with an update of the KCP and BVOAG Representatives election, saying there were still some vacancies available and the next round of elections will be held in the Main VOF on Monday 7 th March. Nominations are to be sent to Mohammed@kcsc.org.uk .	Deadline has passed
3.2	Mary explained that there had been some changes made to the VOF, which are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children, Young people and Families to remain the same • Three Main VOF's to be held, with an annual conference replacing the fourth Main VOF • Engaging Communities VOF to focus on Micro and BME organisations • Older Peoples VOF to be expanded, becoming the Health and Wellbeing VOF 	Proposed changes to OP VOF were discussed in more detail during 04 th April OP VOF
3.3	Dates of upcoming events were announced. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main VOF – 7th March, 9.45am - 1.00pm KTH Committee Room 1 • KCP – 8th March, 6.00om to 8.00pm Isaac Newton PDC. Pre meeting, 5.00pm - 6.00pm KCSC meeting room • BVOAG – 14th March 6.30pm - 8.30pm KTH. Pre meeting, 5.30pm - 6.30pm KTH Room 2 • Children and Families Practice Development Programme Workshop 3 – Partnership Working – 10th March, 5.45pm - 8.45pm KTH • Trustee Seminar – 12th March, 10.30am - 2.15pm, Small Hall, Chelsea Old Town Hall • Consortium Development Workshop – 17th March, 10.00am - 4.00pm, Latymer Christian Centre • Children and Families Practice Development Programme Workshop 4 - Agreeing Outcomes – 26th March, 10.15am - 1.15pm, Earls Court Family and Nursery Centre 	
4.	E-SAFETY (Belinda Evans - Primary ICT RBKC)	
4.1	Belinda Evans began her PowerPoint presentation about internet safety for young people. She highlighted the ever increasing role the internet is playing in the lives of young people and warned that, while benefits can be attained from it, there are also some extremely dangerous risks associated with it. She said the key was for parents as well as young people to be more informed and aware. Pupils have the knowledge of what they can do on the internet and with computers but they are still young and therefore do not have the wisdom to understand what they are doing and some of the consequences of their actions. From a schools internet survey that took place in RBKC primary schools it was found that 22% of children in years 3-6 (aged 7-11) have computers in their bedrooms, with parents often oblivious to the activities their children are involved in. Belinda warned this is very worrying as parents will have no idea what the children are doing online,	

	<p>who they are contacting or even how much time they are spending on the computer. The survey revealed also that 39% of pupils reported that their parents have limited or no knowledge of what they are doing.</p>	
4.2	<p>She explained that parents are often unaware of what their children are doing on their computers because they are not up to date with the latest crazes. For example many parents don't know that the age restriction for social networking sites like Facebook is 13yrs so pupils are lying about their age to create accounts.</p> <p>Belinda said the key concerns for internet safety was when pupils went online at home, as schools and libraries provided young people with secure and child friendly internet access. Belinda and her colleagues are tackling this by delivering similar presents to parents to educate them and raise awareness. Also the primary schools are well informed about e safety and it is taught as part of the curriculum alongside ICT, PSHE and other subjects where links can be made.</p> <p>Belinda also outlined that the 3 main potential risks are risk of inappropriate or unwanted contact (cyberbullying), risks of commerce (Blur between content & advertising) and the risk of content (Content that can be inappropriate and content that can be inaccurate or extreme).</p> <p>As well as providing information as what parents and carers can do to help and to support their child Belinda also quickly ran over some of the key 'new' dimensions in e-safety hacking, sexting and the use of the locator tools.</p> <p>Unfortunately, due to the lack of time, Belinda had to rush through much of her presentation. As there was a lot of interest in the subject, Belinda said she will send Mohammed the presentation to circulate along with the minutes.</p>	MM
5.	<p>CYPF SERVICES RE-COMMISSIONING PROCESS (Joanne Hay - Acting Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Performance RBKC)</p>	
5.1	<p>Joanne apologised for being late and introduced herself. She said she will spend about 10minutes giving an update on re-commissioning and following it with a question and answer session.</p> <p>Joanne said that there was a new government since the last round of commissioning and a national tide of change and reform. And this also includes change in the CYPF commissioning process, where the intention is to remove bureaucracy and make the commissioning process more outcomes focused, thereby getting more out of the contracts.</p> <p>She said the council has always supported the third sector and will continue to do so. Children's Services will be looking at early intervention and young people with high needs, and will identify from that what the outcomes will be. Once the outcomes are decided, they will establish the basis of the next round of commissioning. It is hoped that people will be involved in the feedback and evaluations process after, so that Children's Service can take in to account what worked well, or didn't, and make improvements for future rounds of commissioning, and identify how the process could be made easier.</p> <p>Local children's services may be ready to let groups know what is happening by the end of April 2011</p>	JH

5.2	<p>Rosemary said she read an article by the Prime Minister saying that private companies will be given contracts to provide services for less, and may use third sector to deliver the service. She asked how smaller local groups who know the community and provide niche services will be protected over larger private companies who can provide the service for less money.</p> <p>Joanne said that the contracts will be announced to both the private and third sector, so they will have the same opportunity to bid for contracts. She also stressed that while price is a factor, it isn't the only factor and everything else will be considered. While there is a fear that the big players might dominate the market, local providers are highly valued, and will often have an advantage over the private groups. Children's Services will look across the borough to see where they want to keep local groups that are providing children, young people and families' services.</p>	
5.3	<p>Trevor asked how the Youth Service's decision to become an Employee Led Mutual will affect for YSDS staff that are seconded to work at Voluntary run youth centres. He wanted to know if the change will mean less money the projects they are involved in.</p> <p>Joanne said that while she can't specify at the moment which, or how, she stressed there will still be a need for those services.</p>	
5.4	<p>Val Patterson pointed out that the current contracts end in August and enquired if there is a timetable for the second round.</p> <p>She also asked if Joanne meant 'early intervention' for those in 'high needs' group and suggested if service providers intervened early, there shouldn't be high needs groups.</p> <p>Joanne agreed with Val and said it was about how we can reduce the need long term. She said she hasn't got a timetable yet for the second round of commissioning, but it will be out very soon.</p>	JH
5.5	<p>Val requested there be transparency in the figures, to which Joanne replied they are working to make that information available.</p> <p>Mary felt everything was being kept very secret at the moment. Cllr Will said that was probably because not all the answers are known at the moment.</p>	
5.6	<p>Rosemary said that under the current contracts, payment per unit is dependent on the number of young people you worked with. She argued that this shouldn't be the case and that the risk should be taken by the party most capable of dealing with it. She gave an example of Germany, where if the Local Authority agrees with a Voluntary Organisation that they will serve a specific number of people, the Authority is responsible for providing that number and the service provider gets paid regardless of the attendance.</p> <p>Joanne responded by assuring Rosemary that the Commissioner won't approach the matter in a hard-nosed way. She then closed her session.</p>	
5.7	<p>Mary offered to broker a meeting with senior commissioners to hold a longer dialogue if the forum members wanted.</p> <p>She also mentioned that a number of consortiums were developed in recent years, some but not all successful, and asked the forum if they were interested in setting one up for children, young people and families.</p>	MM KCSC
6.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS –	
7.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	Wednesday 25th May 2011. 10.00am to 12.30pm, Committee Room 1, Kensington Town Hall	

ATTENDANCE LIST

Children, Young People and Families Voluntary Organisations' Forum Meeting
10.00am, Tuesday 1st March 2011, Ian McKellan Hall, London Lighthouse

1. ATTENDANCE LIST

	Name	Organisation
1	Alex Hanratty	Clement James Centre
2	Emily Harle	Clement James Centre
3	Rosemary Keenan	Catholic Children's Society (Westminster)
4	Francis Oppong	Chapter 1
5	Regina Oke	Earls Court Nursery
6	Eileen Francis	Havengrove
7	Mary Gardiner	Kensington & Chelsea Social Council
8	Siobhan Sollis	Kensington & Chelsea Social Council
9	Mohammed Miah	Kensington & Chelsea Social Council
10	Warren Koehler	KIDS
11	Dee Dainton	Lancaster West Children's Community Network
12	Cllr Emma Will	Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea
13		
14	Meyrem Hassan	Royal London Society for the Blind
15	Liz Warren	SE2 UTD.
16	Val Williams	Volunteer Reading Help
17	Heather Boxer	West London Action for Children
18	Val Patterson	Westway Development Trust
19	Heidi Riedel	Woman's Trust
20	Trevor Hutchinson	Wornington Green Detached Project

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING

	Name	Organisation
1	Esma Dukali	Al-Hasaniya
2	Vicki Laville Davies	Dalgarno
3	Denise Murdoch	Eaves Housing
4	Stephen Duckworth	Kensington Housing Trust Community Fund