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ACHIEVING FOR CHILDREN JOINT COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2019

PRESENT: Councillors Stuart Carroll, Andrew Johnson, Penelope Frost, Gareth Roberts, Alison Holt and Kim Bailey, Ian Dodds

Officers: Duncan Sharkey, Hilary Hall, Shilpa Manek, Elizabeth Broadhurst, Mandy Skinner, Kirsty Hogg, Cenine Whitebourne, Rob Garner, Sarah Ireland, Ian Thomas and Sian Wicks

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed all to Windsor for the Achieving for Children Joint Committee.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hilton (RBWM), Davis, Green and White (Kingston), Hodgins (Richmond) and David Archibald. Councillors Bailey and Holt were substituting from Kingston.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were received.

MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: the minutes of the meeting held on 24 June were approved.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No questions or representations had been received.

APPROVAL OF AFC BUSINESS PLAN - REPORT

Ian Dodds, Managing Director, Achieving for Children, informed the Committee that they had seen the framework for the business plan at the last meeting. All comments made at the last meeting had been taken on board and additional actions had been added. The draft business plan included the changed position, less focus on growth and commercial development and a greater focus on the services it provided in Kingston, Richmond and RBWM. This was reflected in the shape of the business plan with an overarching introduction and a statement of what AfC would look like as a company by 2024 and then a separate section on what AfC would deliver for the three commissioning councils plus a separate section specific to each council, each based on the councils' corporate objectives set out in their corporate plans. This was the second business plan for AfC, first one was until 2017-18 and then an interim one was in place. This would be published in March 2020 and would be active from April 2020. There were no further comments from the Committee.

RESOLVED Unanimously: Joint Committee approved the draft business plan for Achieving for Children, from 2020 to 2024 as required by Reserved Matter 13.

RESERVED MATTERS TAKEN SINCE LAST MEETING - VERBAL

Ian Dodds, Managing Director, Achieving for Children, informed the Committee that no reserved matters had been taken since the last meeting.

TRADING UPDATE - REPORT

Ian Dodds, Managing Director, Achieving for Children, informed the Committee that a trading update was provided to every joint committee explaining the contracts that AfC had won and the funding submitted. Since the last meeting, no new contracts had been taken on by AfC. There were some applications for grant funding that had been submitted and these had been included in the report. Where funding was specific to a local authority area, this was specified in the table, Kingston in this instance.

RESOLED Unanimously: The Joint Committee noted the income generated by Achieving for Children through its business development activities, and the potential opportunities to generate further income in 2020/21.

UPDATE ON RICHMOND/KINGSTON RECOMMISSIONING PROCESS - VERBAL

Sarah Ireland, Director of Corporate and Commercial, Kingston, provided an update to the Committee informing them that both Kingston and Richmond had contract extensions coming up in March 2021. Both councils needed to give one year’s notice if they were going to change that. Both councils had reports going through the system now. The options were to re-enact the contract extension with some changes to specifications, a different contract or not to re-enact and look at a shared service. The decision will be made at Kingston this week and Richmond the following week and then other partners would be informed of the decision once taken. Sarah Ireland confirmed that the recommendation for Kingston was to extend with different specifications and a review of governance arrangements going forward.

AOB

No other business was discussed.

DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The clerk advised the Committee that the date was to be confirmed.

The meeting, which began at 11.30 am, finished at 11.43 am

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....