

Notes for the public:

These Minutes are DRAFT until approved by the Children's Homes Sub-Committee and signed by the Chair concerned as constituting a correct and formal record of the proceedings.

The 'Action Column' is for the use of officers only and does not form part of the formal record.

CH /88-89

MINUTES of a MEETING of the CHILDREN'S HOMES SUB-COMMITTEE held at LAMBETH TOWN HALL, Brixton Hill, SW2 on THURSDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY 1989 at 7.30 p.m.

Councillor NICHOLAS in the Chair

PRESENT:

MEMBERS: Councillors NICHOLAS (Vice-Chair), DUNIPACE, HARRISON and MOTLEY

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: The MAYOR

CO-OPTED MEMBERS: Mrs. PORTER

Also present under Standing Order 61: Councillor FRENCH.

Apologies: Councillors AKPENEYE and HIGGS

MINUTE
No.

ACTION
REQUIRED BY

MINUTES (17.11.88)

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Sub-Committee, held on 17th November, 1988, were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the proceedings.

STAFF VACANCIES: MONITORING (see report CH20/88-89)

An officer informed the meeting of changes in the staffing situation at Monkton Street. The holder of the grade seven post had resigned, as had one holder of a grade five post and two holders of grade three/four posts. The holder of a grade five/six post was on long term sick leave. Offers of employment were being made in connection with two grade three/four posts, and four basic grade posts.

The meeting was informed that officers were determined to keep Monkton Street open at all costs in order to avoid trauma to the children, who had learning difficulties and were therefore especially vulnerable.

MINUTE
No.

ACTION
REQUIRED BY

The Sub-Committee requested that in future they be informed of serious reductions in staffing levels as they occurred, rather than when a crisis was reached. Members extended their thanks to the staff remaining at Monkton Street who had worked to keep the home operating.

DSS

In response to questions, officers stated that Warham Road was now fully staffed.

Report otherwise RECEIVED.

INFORMATION ON NUMBERS OF STAFF AND CHILDREN (see report CH21/88-89 and CH21(a)/88-89)

The Mayor enquired why it was that in the case of Calais Street "Not Applicable" was given in the column for ancillary staff.

Officers advised that Calais Street was intended for young people preparing for independant adult life, and who therefore carried out for themselves the household tasks which might otherwise be done by ancillary staff.

Officers were able to provide the following figures which were not available at the time of writing the report (column headings as shown in report):-

44 Chestnut Rd	9	12	9	9	0	0	100%	75%	1xG5	0	86%	100%
33 Monkton St	6	3	6	7	0	1	100%	46%	1xG7 1xG5 2xG3/4	2xG4 4xBG	47%	60%

Report otherwise RECEIVED.

REPORT BY PRINCIPAL MANAGER AND PLACEMENTS OFFICER (see report CH22/88-89)

The report was introduced by the Placements Officer, who expressed sadness at the impending departure of the Assistant Director (Children and Young Persons) and of the Officer-in-Charge at Monkton Street.

He informed the Sub-Committee that following the critical situation experienced in November, when staff shortages obliged temporary closure, Stockwell Park would be reopening shortly whilst the closure of the Elms was continuing as envisaged: it would be possible to release staff under ERVS, and the sibling group of four would be relocated to Nottingham Road in preparation for fostering.