

ACHIEVING FOR CHILDREN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

May 2018

The Achieving for Children (AfC) Board of Directors met on 6 February in Twickenham. The following substantive items were considered:

Business Plan and Medium Term Financial Plan

The Board noted the outline three year business plan which focuses on 5 key principles. There are specific actions captured in the plan that are not business as usual.

The final plan will come back to the Board in June with submission to Joint Committee on 11 July.

Budget 2018/19

The Board received the 2018/19 budget report. This includes the outcome of both internal meetings and meetings with the Chief Executives of Richmond and Kingston Councils.

Decisions:

Windsor and Maidenhead: The decision to agree the budget was deferred due to the budget meeting not yet having taken place. This decision will come back to the Board in June.

Richmond: The Board agreed that the budget be signed off

Kingston: The Board agreed that the budget be signed off

Recovery Plans

The Board were briefed on the latest recovery plan updates that were discussed at the Kingston Recovery Board meeting. Key areas were SEND, SEN Transport and Children Looked After. A verbal update was received for Windsor and Maidenhead.

The Board were informed that a government Select Committee was being set up to review support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). It was agreed that all three boroughs would submit separate submissions.

Q4 Performance Updates

The Q4 performance report for RBWM was presented to the Board who noted improvement in performance in all areas.

The Q4 performance report for Kingston and Richmond was received. Key points of note were the increase in unaccompanied asylum seeking children and the challenges of creating an independent fostering agency.

The Board then received the Q4 performance report from the Chief Operating Officer. The Board noted that:

- there were delays in both Richmond and Kingston on the establishment of the children's homes
- a delay in the building of the overnight respite accommodation
- compliance with GDPR is on track
- a bid for £1.25m to provide training and development for social workers was successful. The Board recorded their thanks to the team for their work in securing this money.