

CPG on Govanhill

Monday 20 May 2019

Govanhill Neighbourhood Centre, 6 Daisy Street, G42 8JL

6pm

Name	Organisation
Annie Wells MSP	The Scottish Parliament
Anas Sarwar MSP	The Scottish Parliament
Cheryl McCormick	Crosshill and Govanhill Community Council
Marion Nisbet	Crosshill and Govanhill Community Council
Damien Tausney	Crosshill and Govanhill Community Council
Grant McManus	Crosshill and Govanhill Community Council
Timothee Elhuraux	Crosshill and Govanhill Community Council
Alasdair Henderson	Support Services Manager, Education, Glasgow City Council
Donnie MacLeod	Head of Service (South), Education, Glasgow City Council
Sophie Castle	The Scottish Parliament
Eunis Jassemi-Zargani	The Scottish Parliament

Meeting 6 | Education

1. Welcome and apologies
 - Apologies from Patrick Harvie MSP & Keith Hawley.
2. AGM
 - Re-election of office bearers & secretariat.
3. Minutes of previous meeting
 - No corrections noted for previous minutes.
4. Introductory remarks from Co-Conveners
 - Annie Wells MSP opens the meeting
5. Presentation 1 – Donnie MacLeod, Glasgow City Council, Head of Service (South), Education
 - Presentation combined with Q/A session;
 - a) Absenteeism
 - Discussion of the issue of young people not presenting themselves at school when not allocated a school in their catchment area;
 - DM stated that this is an issue and, in particular knowing what comes of these youngsters thereafter;
 - AS asked about truancing and whether there's a demographic pattern;

- DM stated there are two known cohorts of youngsters and that the council was working with the police;
- He highlighted a current pilot project which provides an alternative curriculum for children at risk of disengaging;
- He spoke of the need for an ‘entire community solution’;
- AH stated an Education Liaison Officer had recently been appointed by the council and would work on this issue;
- He stated that overall attendance was quite good in comparison to the rest of the city.

b) Capacity

- GM asked how the council would promote local schools so that parents don’t put in applications for schools outside of their catchment areas;
- DM stated that the council needed to create positive media around local establishments, and this could be done by local schools working together e.g. by addressing the litter problem in the area;
- MN asked about the impact new housing will have on school capacity;
- AH stated that 300 new houses will bring around 100 new children (0.4 children per dwelling) to the area, and once these are split into nursery, primary and secondary ages, the impact will be fairly minimal

c) Languages

- AS asked about languages in schools, how teachers were able to communicate properly, and the overall impact this had on pupils’ attainment;
- DM stated that recent Education Scotland reports have shown that Govanhill is holding up reasonably well attainment wise in comparison with the rest of the city;
- AH stated that a thematic study into English as an Additional Language will be taking place this year.

d) ‘Other’

- CM asked about how common breakfast clubs were in the area and what food was served at them;
- DM highlighted a walking bus used at Annette Street Primary;
- AH highlighted that another school in Glasgow was looking into a dog that could be used to walk with pupils to and from school.

6. Q/A session

- See above.

7. Actions to be taken

Lead	Action
Donnie MacLeod	Provide more information on breakfast clubs and local initiatives such as the walking club.

Alasdair Henderson	Look further into statutory guidance on application process & update group on what support MSPs could possibly provide.
Donnie MacLeod	Provide an update c. December 19 on the study into English as an additional language.
Sophie Castle	Set up email chain to discuss next meeting dates/topics.
Donne Macleod	Provide information on the staffing formula adopted by local schools.

8. Discussion on topic of next meeting
 - Sophie Castle to set up email chain.

9. Date and time of next meetings
 - See action points.

10. AOB
 - No other business.

- Ask Donnie for presentation to circulate with minutes.