

EXTRACT

THE EXECUTIVE

MEETING, 23RD NOVEMBER, 2009

Councillor Morris	Leader of the Council – Strategy and External Relations
Councillor J. Byrne	Development, Regeneration and Skills
Councillor Peel	Housing, Neighbourhoods and Regulation
Councillor Ibrahim	Environmental Services
Councillor Kay	Human Resources, Organisational Development and Diversity
Councillor Murray	Looked After Children
Councillor Sherrington	Adult Services

Non-Voting Members

Councillor Spencer
Councillor White
Councillor J. Walsh
Councillor Ashcroft
Councillor Shaw
Councillor Mrs Brierley
Councillor Hayes
Councillor D. A Wilkinson
Councillor Mrs Ronson

Officers

Mr. S. Harriss	Chief Executive
Mr. S. Arnfield	Director of Corporate Resources

Mr. A. Eastwood	Director of Chief Executive's Department
Ms M. Asquith	Director of Children's Services
Mr. J. Livesey	Assistant Director Performance, Planning and Resources
Mr. D. Grogan	Assistant Director Building Schools for the Future
Mr. A. Jennings	Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Adia, Bashir–Ismail, Mrs. Fairclough, Morgan and Mrs Thomas

Councillor Morris in the Chair

51. MINUTES

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Executive held on 26th October, 2009 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

53. PROPOSED INCREASE AND ENLARGEMENT OF BOLTON MUSLIM GIRLS SCHOOL

Councillors Morris and Ibrahim declared personal and prejudicial interests in the following matter as a member of the School's Governing Body and having children at the School respectively and left the meeting during consideration of the matter.

Councillor J.Byrne in the Chair

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report that considered the responses received to the recent consultation exercise regarding the proposed increase and enlargement of Bolton Muslim Girls School.

Members were reminded that, in order to respond to the continuing demands of parents and to address the current issue of oversubscription, together with planning for the

A3

expected future increase in demand for additional secondary school places in this part of the Borough, it was proposed to expand the school and to increase the number of allowed places admitted into Year 7 from 90 to 120 pupil places from September 2013. This would increase the overall number of places at the school from 450 to 600.

In the first instance the increase in the school's Published Admission Number would apply to Year 7 only, and the school would increase in size each year to reach its full capacity of 600 places in 2017.

Furthermore, as the existing site of the school was restricted it was proposed to build a new secondary school to accommodate an enlarged school as part of Bolton's BSF strategy. The existing school drew heavily from the local area and the majority of pupils lived within a short distance of the school. It was therefore considered important that the new school was built on a site which was close to the existing school and the local community it served. The Council had therefore identified the existing undeveloped site at Quebec Street as being the preferred site for the new school.

Appendix 1 to the report identified those parties that had been consulted and it was explained that the regulations relating to consultation stated that it should include the following:-

- allow adequate time;
- provide sufficient information to those consulted to form a view;
- make clear how their views could be known; and
- demonstrate how they had taken views into account in reaching a decision.

The report considered the responses received and each of the issues raised in detail.

The majority of responses received were in favour of the proposal to increase and expand the school, although a number of objections had been received but it was felt that they were not sufficient to justify amending or abandoning

the proposal.

The Director referred to a number of representations received regarding the School's admissions policy and stated that the LEA would continue to work with the School around the issues raised, although it was outside the remit of this consultation exercise and was the responsibility of the School as a voluntary aided school.

Members were reminded that Bolton's BSF programme would be delivered through a joint Local Education Partnership (LEP) with Blackburn with Darwen and that Balfour Beatty Education (BBE) had been selected to deliver the joint BSF programme and were now beginning to look at the delivery of the proposed programme in greater detail. With regard to Bolton Muslim Girls School, their early indication was that a new school would not be available until 2013 at the earliest. Therefore the earliest practical increase in pupil numbers at Bolton Muslim Girls School would be from the start of the 2013/14 academic year, rather than the date that was identified within the consultation exercise which suggested September 2012, as this earlier date was identified prior to the appointment of the contractor and before receiving their advice.

If the Executive agreed the report the proposals would be formally published and a 4 week period of representation would commence during which time individuals could make representations to the proposed increase and enlargement of the school. Any representations received would be reported to The Executive to consider whether or not to approve the proposal and to increase and enlarge the school.

Resolved – That the Director of Children's Services be authorised to publish a formal statutory notice to increase and enlarge Bolton Muslim Girls School to admit 120 pupils into Year 7 from 1st September 2013 and for each Year 7 intake thereafter.

**55. BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE –
FINANCIAL CLOSE OF THE JOINT BLACKBURN WITH
DARWEN AND BOLTON BSF PROJECT**

The Directors of Children's Services and Corporate Resources submitted a report seeking the necessary approvals to allow the completion of the financial close for the Joint Blackburn with Darwen and Bolton BSF Project.

Members were reminded that the nationally mandated delivery model for the BSF investment at Local Authority level was a Local Education Partnership (LEP). The LEP was a 10-year strategic partnership between a local authority, a private sector partner and Buildings Schools for the Future Investments (BSFI) which was the funding arm of the BSF programme. The Partnership's role was to ensure that the BSF programme and investment delivered the outcomes outlined in the LA's Strategy for Change.

It was reported that financial close was planned for 18th December, 2009 and would mark the completion of all commercial negotiations and signature of contractual documentation. At financial close the LEP was formally incorporated and under terms of the Strategic Partnering Agreement the LEP was established for a term of 10 years.

The report explained that the scheme of delegation for Bolton Council authorised the Director of Chief Executive's Department to complete the consequential legal formalities with regards to financial close. However, the Director of Chief Executive's Department was to delegate this authority to the Director of Corporate Resources due to his proximity to the project and ability to attend at the financial close proceedings.

Resolved – (i) That the Authority enter into the finalised BSF contractual documentation, and any documents pursuant thereto, to allow the execution, delivery and performance of the contract and the commencement of the build of the Blackburn with Darwen and Bolton BSF programme.

(ii) That it be noted that the programmed financial close date of the 18th December, 2009 is subject to change.

(iii) That it be noted that the Director of Chief Executives Department has nominated the Director of Corporate Resources to complete the necessary legal formalities in line with the rules of the Council's Constitution.

(iv) That in the event that the Director of Corporate Resources is unable to attend at the financial close proceedings it be noted that the Director of the Chief Executives Department has nominated the Assistant Director for Children's Services – BSF and Academies, to attend to complete the necessary legal formalities in line with the rules of the Council's Constitution.

(v) That it be noted that a report will be brought back to the Executive once financial close is reached detailing the final aspects of financial close and any revisions made to the contractual documentation made between the date of this report and the date that financial close takes place, as it relates to Bolton