

## **CHILDREN**

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Children's Services, Looked after Children, Schools and Early Years:-

**MONDAY, 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY, 2019**

Following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

Councillor Cunliffe	- Executive Cabinet Member – Children
Councillor C. Wild	- Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Hayes (as deputy for Councillor Bagnall)	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Hornby	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Flitcroft	- Minor Opposition Spokesman

### **Officers**

Ms H. Lowey	- Director of Public Health
Ms R. Tanner	- Deputy Director of People
Mr T. Birch	- Assistant Director – Education and Learning
Mr A. Crook	- Assistant Director – Commissioning and Integration
Mr P. Rankin	- Assistant Director, Performance, Planning and Resources
Ms S. Longden	- Assistant Director – Public Health
Ms L. Butcher	- Head of Finance
Mrs S. Bailey	- Principal Democratic Services Officer

### **38. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS**

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which provided an update on decisions taken at previous meetings of the Executive Cabinet Member.

**The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report.**

### **39. PROPOSED EXPANSION OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

Further to Minute 18 of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet Member for Children, the Interim Director of People submitted a report which:

- provided an update on the outcome of feasibility studies that had been undertaken to review the proposed expansion of a number of primary schools and
- sought approval to commit Basic Need Capital Funding to progress the schemes identified within the report and to appoint a contractor to undertake the works from a suitable framework.

**The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED the authorisation of officers to –**

- (i) Progress the proposed expansion of Gaskell Primary School to full two form entry provision, to submit for planning approval, to procure the scheme via the Council's development agreement with Robertson or to appoint an alternative contractor from a suitable framework and to meet the capital cost of the scheme (£1,505,177) from Basic Need and BMP capital allocations;**

- (ii) Progress the proposed expansion of St Catherine's Academy to full two form entry provision which would be undertaken by the School in two phases with Phase 1 (£85,000) being undertaken as soon as practically possible and Phase 2 (£690,000) to be undertaken at a time to be agreed with the local authority, the cost of both phases to be met by way of a funding agreement with the School and supported by Basic Need capital;**
- (iii) Progress the proposed expansion of SS Osmund and Andrew School to full two form entry provision which will be undertaken by the School and their Diocesan partner at a cost of £1,098,621 which will be met by way of a funding agreement with the School and supported by Basic Need capital; and**
- (iv) Submit applications to the Secretary of State to consider the use of existing playground and playing field space to develop extensions to Gilnow, Markland Hill and Moorgate Primary Schools should these need to be explored further for possible future expansions.**

#### **40. DETERMINATION OF ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS TO COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS IN SEPTEMBER 2020**

The Interim Director of People submitted a report which sought approval for the proposed admission arrangements for primary and secondary schools and academies in September, 2020.

The report advised that the current schemes in respect of admission into the normal years of entry into community and voluntary controlled primary and secondary schools had been amended only to reflect the dates prescribed in the current Regulations and to comply with the Schools Adjudicator's ruling in respect of revised admission arrangements for Turton High School following a formal objection that was upheld.

The proposed updated arrangements for the September 2020/2021 academic year would be circulated to all schools, academies and neighbouring local authorities.

A copy of each proposed scheme was set out in the appendices attached to the report now submitted.

**The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –**

- (i) The proposed admission criteria for Community and Voluntary Controlled primary and secondary school admission for the 2020/2021 school year; and**
- (ii) The proposed coordinated admissions schemes for school admission, including in-years admissions for 2019/2020 school year.**

**41. ESTABLISHMENT OF PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT LEAD IN LEAVING CARE TEAM**

The Interim Director of People submitted a report which outlined the need for the establishment of a post of Participation and Engagement Lead to be based in the Leaving Care Team to work with Care Leavers.

The report outlined the current structure of the Leaving Care Team and the need for an additional permanent post to ensure the effective delivery of a leaving care service resulting in improved outcomes for Care Leavers.

A relevant job description and person specification were appended to the report.

**The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –**

- (i) The establishment of and recruitment to a new post of Participation and Engagement Lead on the basis now detailed; and**
- (ii) The disestablishment of the post of BME Family Support Worker.**

**CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

**The background papers and reports in relation to the following items were considered confidential as defined in**

**paragraphs 1 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that it be deemed that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in their exemption outweighs the public interest in their disclosure.**

#### **42. REVIEW OF HARVEY NURSERY – POST CONSULTATION REPORT**

Further to Minute 23 of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet Member held on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2018, the Interim Director of People submitted a report which set out the results of consultation on proposals to ensure that Harvey Nursery was financially viable and that the current level of subsidy provided by Bolton Council was reduced.

The report provided details of the consultation process which had taken place with Trades Unions, staff, parents and other key stakeholders between 9<sup>th</sup> October and 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 and summarised the key issues raised during the period.

A full copy of the issues and the response from management were set out at Appendix 1 to the report. The formal Trades Unions response was set out at Appendix 2 of the report.

A relevant Equality Impact had been undertaken in respect of the proposals and was attached to the report at Appendix 4.

**The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –**

**The final proposals, as now submitted, which will ensure that Harvey Nursery is financially viable and that the current level of subsidy provided by Bolton Council is reduced.**

#### **43. EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR START WELL LINK SITES**

The Interim Director of People submitted a report which provided an update regarding the Start Well Links Sites for which expressions of interest had been sought to take over the

management of the sites by schools and sought approval for the next steps.

**The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –**

- (i) A lease for Kearsley Children’s Centre with Woodbridge College, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted, and that the Borough Solicitor be authorised to complete the necessary documentation;**
- (ii) Expressions of interests being sought from the community, Voluntary and Social Enterprise Sector for the former Heaton and Lostock Children’s Centre; and NOTED**
- (iii) The arrangement reached with Red Lane Primary School associated with the occupation of the former Bright Meadows Children’s Centre for the period of six months.**

**44. DfE SCHOOL NURSERIES CAPITAL FUND – APPLICATION FOR MOORGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The Interim Director of People submitted a report which provided details of an application to the DfE School Nurseries Capital Funding on behalf of Moorgate Primary School for an extension to the existing nursery.

The report advised that the extension to the building would create an additional 34 full time/ three hour places or alternatively 68 part time/15 hours places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.

Details of the application process, costings for the project together with the timescales involved and associated tenders obtained were provided in the report.

The School had agreed to contribute £50,000 towards the build from the School budget if the application for funding was successful.

**The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –**

**The submission of an application by Bolton Council, on behalf of Moorgate Primary School, for DfE School Nurseries Capital Funding at a total cost of £240,864.98, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted.**

**45. COMMISSIONING OF A YOUNG CARERS SERVICE**

The Interim Director of People submitted a report which sought approval for the completion of a tender exercise for the provision of a Young Carers Service.

**The Executive Cabinet Member AUTHORISED –**

- (i) The completion of a tender exercise for the provision of a Young Carers Service for a 12 month period with an option to extend for a further on plus one year;**
- (ii) The use of delegated powers by the Director of People/Deputy Director or Assistant Director to let contracts to the successful provider on completion of the tender process, as outlined in the report now submitted; and**
- (iii) The Borough Solicitor to carry out any necessary legal formalities.**