

EXTRACT

DEPUTY LEADER

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Health and Wellbeing, Adult Social Care, Adult Safeguarding, Public Health and Children's Services including Looked After Children and Schools and Early Years:-

MONDAY, 5TH DECEMBER, 2016

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

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| Councillor Mrs. Thomas | - Executive Member – Deputy Leaders Portfolio |
| Councillor Cunliffe | - Executive Cabinet Member for Education, Schools, Safeguarding and Looked After Children |
| Councillor A. Ibrahim | - Executive Cabinet Member for Adult Safeguarding and Adult Social Care |
| Councillor Greenhalgh | - Major Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Mrs Fairclough | - Major Opposition Spokesperson |

Officers

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Mr. J. Daly | - Director of People |
| Ms R. Tanner | - Assistant Director |
| Ms S. Gatenby | - Assistant Director |
| Ms L. Butcher | - Head of Finance |
| Mrs S. Bailey | - Principal Democratic Services Officer |

43. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE 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 Member NOTED the report.

44. PROPOSED EXPANSION OF BLACKROD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Further to Minute 7 of the meeting of the Executive Member held on 6th June, 2016, the Director of People submitted a report which:

- advised on the outcome of the recent public consultation exercise on proposals to expand the provision at Blackrod Community Primary School; and
- sought approval to publish Statutory Notices to proceed with the proposal.

The Executive Member was reminded of the recent consultation exercise on proposals to expand provision at Blackrod Primary School by permanently raising the Planned Admission Number from 30 to 45 pupil places with effect from 1st September, 2017. The consultation had taken place between 14th September and 4th November, 2016 and all comments received were summarised in the report.

In this regard, the report provided full details of the responses received for consideration by the Executive Member and outlined the actions required to implement the proposals if approved.

Following a recommendation from the Executive Member for Education, Schools, Safeguarding and Looked after Children, the Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

(i) The proposal to increase the Planning Admission Number at Blackrod Community Primary School on the basis detailed in the report now submitted; and

(ii) The publishing of Statutory Notices in order to proceed with the proposed increase.

45. ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS TO COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS

A report of the Director of People was submitted which sought approval to undertake a consultation exercise on proposals relating to the oversubscription criteria for admission into community and voluntary-controlled primary and secondary schools in September, 2018.

The report provided details of the current arrangements at Appendix A to the report and put forward proposals to make changes to the existing policy which would require full consultation in accordance with the School Admissions Code.

In this regard, the report put forward the following proposals for consideration:

- to amend the proximity criteria to determine priority based on the straight line distance between the home address and the designated main school gate with those living closer to the school having highest priority for a place - full details were included in Appendix B to the report;
- to amend the vulnerable children criteria to those children for whom there was a child protection plan or had been within a 12 month period – full details of the changes were included in Appendix B to the report;
- to amend the criteria so that applications for years 10 and 11 be limited to those new to Bolton or those permanently excluded – full details were included in Appendix C to the report.

The report went on to outline the proposed consultation process and associated timescales. The Authority must determine its admission arrangements by 28th February, 2017 for admission into community and voluntary controlled primary and secondary schools in September, 2018.

The report further advised that there were no significant changes proposed to the coordinated schemes that the Local Authority currently had in place with all primary and secondary schools and academies. There was therefore no need for any formal consultation on the scheme and it would be updated for the 2018/19 school year.

Following a recommendation from the Executive Member for Education, Schools, Safeguarding and Looked after Children, the Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED-

(i) the consultation process on the proposed amendments to the oversubscription criteria for admission into community and voluntary-controlled primary and secondary schools in September, 2018 and in-year admissions arrangements for Years 10 and 11 from September, 2017, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted; and

(ii) The consultation process on the proposed co-ordination arrangements for in-year admissions for the 2017/18 school year, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted.

46. BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE – EMERGENCY POWERS

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which outlined the action taken by the Executive Member Deputy Leader using her emergency powers to enter into a settlement agreement regarding the Building Schools for the Future Contract.

The Executive Member NOTED the report.

47. ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION POLICY

The Director of People submitted a report which put forward an Elective Home Education Policy document for consideration and approval by the Executive Member.

The policy would apply to children of statutory school age whose parents/carers had electively chosen to educate their children at home.

The document outlined the rights and responsibilities of the parents, head teachers and the Local Authority. A copy of the draft policy was appended to the report.

Following a recommendation from the Executive Member for Education, Schools, Safeguarding and Looked after Children, the Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED-

The Elective Home Education Policy, as now submitted.

48. SECONDARY SCHOOL EXPANSION PROGRAMME 2017-2025

(Councillor Greenhalgh declared an interest in the following item of business as he is a Governor at Turton High School)

A report of the Director of People was submitted which advised the Executive Member of the expected rise in demand for secondary school places in Bolton and outlined a proposed strategy to address this.

By way of background information, the report described the significant increase in the demand for primary school places since 2009 and how the rising cohorts were now transferring to the secondary sector. A table included in the report provided a summary of the expected increase in demand by year and by area.

In this regard, the report went on to outline the criteria for determining which schools should be expanded and included:

- popular schools;
- successful schools;
- geographical location;
- practicalities of expansion;
- condition need and other works;

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- opportunity to rationalise planned admission numbers; and
- cost effectiveness.

In order to plan for this increase, the report outlined a strategy to continue to work closely with schools to increase capacity from September, 2017. Proposals included:

- the proposed expansion of Turton High School;
- the proposed increase in capacity at Thornleigh Salesian College;
- the proposal by University Technical College Bolton to offer Year 7 places from September, 2017;
- the continued liaison with the Manchester Diocese and the school to explore the opportunity to expand St James High School from September, 2017.

Responses from other schools were also outlined in the report.

It was noted that given the level of limited funding available, it would not be possible at this time to fully commit to a programme of expansion beyond September, 2017 and any proposals for September, 2018 and beyond had been included in the report for reference and further exploration at this stage.

Following a recommendation from the Executive Member for Education, Schools, Safeguarding and Looked after Children, the Executive Cabinet Member NOTED –

(i) The expected rise in the demand for secondary school places; AUTHORISED –

(ii) Officers to continue to work with schools to develop a strategy to increase capacity as described in the report and specifically:

- **to APPROVE the proposal to expand Turton High School as Phase 1 of a programme to increase secondary school capacity from September 2017, and AUTHORISE officers to continue to develop the proposed feasibility**

design that has been prepared by Kier for Turton High School with a view that this scheme is procured through them, utilising the current SCAPE contractor framework agreement to affect best value for money; and

(iii) NOTED the proposed increase in capacity at Thornleigh Salesian College; and NOTED –

(iv) The proposal by UTC Bolton to begin offering secondary school education to Year 7 pupils from September 2017; and APPROVED -

(v) The continued close working with St James High School and the Manchester CE Diocese to explore opportunities to expand the school with the support of Basic Need funding, as part of a combined scheme that addresses current building condition issues.

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.

49. 11-19 LEADERSHIP CAPACITY REPORT – POST CONSULTATION REPORT

Further to Minute 28 of the meeting of the Executive Member held on 12th September, 2016, the Director of People submitted a report which set out the results of consultation on proposals to undertake a business review of the 11-19 Leadership.

The report provided details of the key issues raised through the formal consultation process and a summary together with responses were provided at Appendix 1 to the report.

A copy of Unison's response was attached to the report at Appendix 2.

An Equality Impact Assessment had been undertaken in respect of the proposals, a copy of which was attached to the report at Appendix 5.

The report would also be considered by the Executive Member for Regeneration and Resources at his meeting to be held on 5th December, 2016.

Following a recommendation from the Executive Member for Education, Schools, Safeguarding and Looked after Children, the Executive Member APPROVED, subject to the approval of the Executive Member for Regeneration and Resources –

- (i) The final proposals, as detailed in the report now submitted; and**
- (ii) Subject to the approval of the Head of Paid Service, in consultation with the Leader, the implementation of the new structure, including voluntary redundancy arrangements and consequential redundancy selection, be delegated to the Chief Executive and Director of People.**

50. TENDER FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN'S SERVICES 2016/18

Further to Minute 41 of the meeting of the Executive Member held on 7th November, 2016, the Director of People submitted a report which sought approval to award the contract for an Independent Visiting Service for Looked after Children following a recent tender exercise.

The report outlined the nature of the exercise and summarised the submissions together with subsequent recommendations of the Evaluation Panel.

Following a recommendation from the Executive Member for Education, Schools, Safeguarding and Looked after Children, the Executive Member APPROVED –

The award of the Agreement for the Independent Visitor Service on a spot purchase basis, as detailed in the report now submitted, and in line with the recommendations of the Tender Panel.

51. PROPOSED REVIEW OF THE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT SERVICE

The Director of People submitted a report which sought approval to undertake a review of the Behaviour Support Service in light of significant reductions to income from 1st April, 2017.

The report outlined the current role and functions of the Service and detailed the rationale behind the proposed review.

The report would also be considered by the Executive Member for Regeneration and Resources at his meeting on 5th December, 2016.

Following a recommendation from the Executive Member for Education, Schools, Safeguarding and Looked after Children, the Executive Member APPROVED –

The report, for consultation purposes, with trades unions, staff and stakeholders.