

THE EXECUTIVE

MEETING, 26TH OCTOBER, 2009

Councillor Morris	Leader of the Council – Strategy and External Relations
Councillor Adia	Children's Services
Councillor J. Byrne	Development, Regeneration and Skills
Councillor Peel	Housing, Neighbourhoods and Regulation
Councillor Bashir - Ismail	Cleaner, Greener, Safer
Councillor Ibrahim	Environmental Services
Councillor Kay	Human Resources, Organisational Development and Diversity
Councillor Murray	Looked After Children
Councillor Sherrington	Adult Services
Councillor Mrs Thomas	Corporate Resources and Health

Non-Voting Members

Councillor Spencer
Councillor White
Councillor J. Walsh
Councillor Ashcroft
Councillor Shaw
Councillor Morgan
Councillor Mrs Fairclough
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
Ms M. Asquith	Director of Children's Services
Mrs M. Stoney	Assistant Director Legal
Mr. A. Jennings	Democratic Services Manager

Councillor Morris in the Chair

43. MINUTES

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Executive held on 19th October, 2009 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

46. GOVERNANCE OF THE BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN AND BOLTON LEP AND THE STRATEGIC PARTNERING BOARD

The Directors of Corporate Resources and Children's Services submitted a report that considered the future governance arrangements in respect of the procurement of the Blackburn with Darwen and Bolton BSF programmes.

Members were reminded that both Councils had committed to using standard PSF model documentation and the Strategic Partnering Agreement (SPA) required the establishment of a LEP Board and a Strategic Partnering Board.

It was explained that strategic decisions would be retained by the respective Executives in each Authority, with appropriate powers delegated to the SPB to enable the programme to be delivered in a timely manner.

Consequently, it was suggested that the current Joint Member Reference Group be maintained on an internal basis with its

current membership to work alongside the SPB and act as a reference point for the voting members on cross authority issues.

Furthermore, both Authorities would retain their respective internal political and project management arrangements and, with respect to Bolton, this would continue via the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Children's Services and the Schools Capital Programme PDG. In addition a Project Team, chaired by the Deputy Chief Executive, and made up of EMT members would oversee the operational delivery of the programme.

The report set out the roles of the Executive/Executive Member Children's Services and the PDG with respect to the programme.

With respect to the Council's Project Board the report recommended the following membership:-

- Chief Executive
- Director of Corporate Resources (Chair)
- Director of Children's Services
- Director of Chief Executives Department
- Director of Development and Regeneration
- Director of Environmental Services
- Chief Executive Bolton PCT
- Assistant Director Adult Services (Adults and Community Services)
- Assistant Director Children's Services (BSF and Academies)
- Assistant Director Children's Services (Policy, Planning and Resources)

The report also detailed membership of the LEP Board which would be made up of representatives from Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, Bolton Council, Building Schools for the Future Investments Plc and the selected bidder.

Under the terms of the SPA the Authorities would only have one voting Member on the LEP Board and it was suggested

that this be rotated between the Authorities on an annual basis. It was suggested that the Authorities Project Sponsors, The Deputy Chief Executive in each Authority, be appointed to fill this role, with the non-voting Member attending as an observer and/or nominee in the absence of the voting Member.

The report also explained that the position of the Independent Chair attracted an allowance of £8,000 per annum and it was proposed that this post be advertised as it was an important role in ensuring that the partnering aspects of the SPA were delivered and the Chair would represent the LEP and thus the interests of the two Councils in a number of other forums

The Executive was informed that the Strategic Partnering Board was made up of –

- (a) Local Authority representatives
- (b) LEP representative
- (c) A maximum of ten representatives of the stakeholders within the local secondary education community
- (d) A non-executive independent chairman

Only the Local Authority representatives and the LEP representative would have a vote and it was suggested that the respective Director for Children's Services should fulfil this role. The other ten representatives of the Board would be split 50-50 with Blackburn and it was suggested that each Authority should agree to appoint the following

- 2 x Executive Member for Children's Services;
- 2 x Diocese Representatives; and
- 2 x Head teacher Representatives

This would then leave each authority to determine the appointment of two further representatives each. In Bolton's case it was suggested that one of these should be someone with a regeneration background to reflect the wider aspirations of the Bolton programme and someone to represent the interests of the Governors. It was suggested that members from the wards relating to relevant schools immediate

catchment areas would be involved in the deliberations at the appropriate level when specific school projects were being signed off by the SPB.

The Independent Chair of the SPB was not remunerated and the two Authorities needed to agree a nomination to fulfil this role.

Resolved – That the Executives agree the following:-

- (i) that the governance arrangements established through the Strategic Partnering Agreement be noted;**
- (ii) that the position of independent chair of the LEP Board be advertised;**
- (iii) that the Deputy Chief Executive, Community & Personal, Blackburn with Darwen be appointed as the Authorities' representative on the LEP Board with the Deputy Chief Executive, Bolton, being appointed to the Board as an observer and or/nominee and that the voting position be rotated between the two authorities on an annual basis;**
- (iv) that the appointment of the representatives to the Strategic Partnering Board be agreed;**
- (v) that the Joint Member Reference Group be maintained for the purposes proposed; and**
- (vi) that the SPB be authorised to approve projects for delivery by the LEP, subject to such projects being contained within the financial parameters set within the Outline Business Case and the financial regulations of each council.**

47. INVESTMENT IN THE LEP

The Directors of Corporate Resources and Children's Services submitted a joint report that presented details of the investment required in the Blackburn with Darwen and Bolton Local Education Partnership.

Blackburn with Darwen and Bolton Borough Councils had followed the Partnership for Schools (PfS) standard contract documentation for the procurement of the Building Schools for the Future and accordingly would take an equity stake in the Local Education Partnership (LEP) set up to deliver the BSF investment.

Both Councils were required to invest in the LEP as follows:

- 10% investment in the LEP as a LEP shareholder;
- through the LEP's 10% equity share in PFI SPV (the company set up to deliver the PFI), a 1% share in PFI SPV; and
- through the LEP's 10% subordinated debt share in the PFI SPV, a 1% share in PFI SPV.

Resolved – That the investment of £42,835 by Bolton in the Blackburn with Darwen and Bolton Local Education Partnership and the Council's share of the LEP's investment in the PFI sample school be approved.