

MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY EDUCATION BUSINESS PANEL

Tuesday, 29 July 2014 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Alan Hall (Chair), Gareth Siddorn (Vice-Chair), Liam Curran, Brenda Dacres, Carl Handley, Jamie Milne (Chair), Pauline Morrison, John Muldoon and Sharon Archibald (Parent Governor Representative).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jim Mallory, Councillor John Paschoud, Lisa Palin, Monsignor N Rotheron and Mark Saunders.

1. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on July 8 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

2. Declarations of Interests

Councillor Pauline Morrison declared a personal interest as she had recently stepped down as a Governor of the Leathersellers Federation after 29 years service. The Chair asked that appreciation of her dedicated service be recorded in the minutes.

Councillor Dacres declared a personal interest as the mother of a pupil in a Leathersellers Federation school.

3. Decisions Made by Mayor and Cabinet on 16 July 2014

The Business Panel received a response from the Mayor regarding their referral on Sir Francis Drake Primary School. On behalf of the Panel, the Chair thanked the Mayor for his very positive response.

RESOLVED that the decisions taken by the Mayor on July 16 2014 be noted.

4. Decision Made by the Mayor on 22 July 2014

Instrument of Government Leathersellers Federation of Schools.

The Chair explained that he had asked for the decision on this item to be reviewed as, unusually, it had been determined at a meeting of the Mayor acting alone.

The Head of Standards and Achievement explained the submission by the Leathersellers Federation to align the status of their schools had been received out of cycle and could not wait until the next scheduled meeting of Mayor & Cabinet on September 3 as the Instruments had to be in place by September 1.

The Chair welcomed an assurance that the land involved would revert to the

Council should educational activity cease. He asked about admission arrangements and was advised the school acted as its own admission authority and adhered to national statutory requirements.

The Chair queried the composition of the Governing Body and was informed the Leathersellers Company appointed Foundation Governors who would then be in a position to appoint Co-opted Governors. Councillor Dacres said she feared the make up of the Governing Body might not be balanced. The Chair stated he hoped every effort would be made to ensure the Governing Body represented the borough's diversity.

Following a question about Councillor Curran regarding the transparency of the Admissions process, Councillor Morrison noted Admission Appeals were the direct responsibility of the school and she asked if the Council was informed about outcomes. The Head of Standards and Achievement said she would check and respond to the Panel subsequent to the meeting.

RESOLVED that the decision of the Mayor of July 22 be noted.

5. Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act, as amended by the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (Amendments) (England) Regulations 2006:-

6. Decisions Made by Mayor and Cabinet on 16 July 2014.
7. Decisions Made By Executive Directors Acting Under Delegated Authority.

6. Decisions Made By Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts) on 16 July 2014

RESOLVED that the decisions made by Mayor & Cabinet Contracts on July 16 2014 be noted.

7. Decisions Made by Executive Director Under Delegated Authority

RESOLVED that the decisions made by Executive directors acting under delegated authority be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.17pm.