

# MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY EDUCATION BUSINESS PANEL

Tuesday, 14 October 2014 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Alan Hall (Chair), Gareth Siddorn (Vice-Chair), Liam Curran, Brenda Dacres, Carl Handley, Jim Mallory, Jamie Milne (Chair), Pauline Morrison, John Muldoon and John Paschoud

ALSO PRESENT:

Apologies for absence were received from Lisa Palin and Monsignor N Rotheron

## 8. Minutes

The Chair stated that at that meeting Business Panel had requested that the Panel's observation and comments on paragraph 4.4 be brought to the attention of the Executive Director for CYP, and officers be requested to circulate a written response to Business Panel Members setting out the steps taken to ensure diversity is achieved on the governing body.

the minutes of that part of the meeting which was open to the press and public held on 29 July 2014 be confirmed and signed, subject to Item 4, first line of last paragraph to read "Following a question from Councillor Curran regarding transparency of the Admissions process,.....,"

## 9. Declarations of Interests

Councillor Handley declared a personal non pecuniary interest as a Governor of Watergate School.

Councillor John Paschoud declared a personal non pecuniary interest as his wife is a Governor of Watergate School.

The Chair declared a personal non pecuniary interest as a Trustee of Watergate School.

## 10. Decisions Made by Mayor and Cabinet on 1 October 2014

### Making of Instrument of Government – The Governing Body of Watergate School

The Head of Standards and Achievement introduced the report, and informed Panel members that a procedural error had been made, as a Trust School, Trustees of Watergate School should have been consulted before agreement was sought from the Mayor to the variation of the Instrument of Government.

The Head of Standards and Achievement told Panel Members that because there were Trustees on the Board, officers had thought the agreement of the Board also meant agreement from Trustees. She informed Panel members that as the decision was void because of the procedural error, it would be rescinded and

presented to Mayor & Cabinet for reconsideration in January 2015. She apologised for the error.

Councillor Handley said Governors of the School were trying to put the new model in place before the half-term break, and had overlooked some important factors. He added that this would be a useful learning experience for them. The Chair asked the Principal Lawyer for advice on the matter. The Principal Lawyer reiterated what had been said, and told Panel Members the Mayor would be notified, and the instrument taken back to ensure it comply with the consultation process, and the report brought back to Mayor & Cabinet for reconsideration.

The Chair proposed that the Mayor's decision should be called in as the Mayor had made a decision that was void on an error of procedure. This was agreed.

RESOLVED that

- i. the decision of the Mayor be called in, and the Mayor be requested to ask officers to resubmit the instrument once it has complied with proper consultation processes, and a report taken back to Mayor & Cabinet for reconsideration.

The meeting closed at 7:11p.m.

Chair