



AGENDA

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY EDUCATION BUSINESS PANEL

Date: TUESDAY, 16 MARCH 2021 at 7.00 pm

Remote: Via Microsoft Teams

Enquiries to: Jasmine Kassim
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MEMBERS

Councillor Bill Brown	Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee	L
Councillor Peter Bernards	Chair of Housing Select Committee	L
Councillor Juliet Campbell	Chair of Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	L
Councillor Patrick Codd	Chair of Public Accounts Select Committee	L
Councillor Liam Curran	Chair of Sustainable Development Select Committee	Labour Co-op
Councillor Joan Millbank	Labour Group Representative	L
Councillor John Muldoon	Chair of Healthier Communities Select Committee	Labour Co-op
Councillor Luke Sorba	Chair of Children and Young People Select Committee	L
Councillor Kim Powell	Labour Group Representative	L

Non-elected Voting Members

Lilian Brooks Primary School Parent Governor Representative

Members are summoned to attend this meeting

Kim Wright
 Chief Executive
 Lewisham Town Hall
 Catford
 London SE6 4RU
 Date: Monday, 8 March 2021



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

The public are welcome to attend our committee meetings, however occasionally committees may have to consider some business in private. Copies of reports can be made available in additional formats on request.

Monsignor N
Rothon
Oluwafela Ajayi
Clive Caseley

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark Commission for Schools
and Colleges
PGR- Special Schools
PGR (Secondary Schools)



Lewisham



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Lewisham



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Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel

Minutes

Date: 16 March 2021

Key decision: No

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Chief Executive / Head of Business and Committee

Outline and recommendations

Members are asked to consider minutes of that part of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel of 16 February 2021 which were opened to the press and public

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that the minutes of those parts of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel which were open to the press and public held on 16 February 2021 be confirmed and signed.

Kim Wright
Chief Executive,
Lewisham Town Hall,
Catford SE6 4RU

MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY EDUCATION BUSINESS PANEL

Present: Councillor Brown, Councillor Bernards, Councillor Campbell, Councillor Codd, Councillor Millbank, Councillor Powell, Councillor Muldoon, Councillor Sorba, Councillor John Paschoud

Also present: Councillor Bonavia

Apologies: Councillor Curran, Councillor Davis

1. Minutes

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record

2. Declarations of Interest

No interest were declared

3. Decisions made by the Mayor on February 10 2021

The consideration taken to Mayor & Cabinet was that of Lewisham Determined Admissions Arrangements 2022/23 - Nursery, Primary, and Secondary and Sixth Form Admissions arrangements for 2022/23.

Councillor Sorba, Chair of the Children and Young People's Select Committee presented this item. He discussed the consultation that took place before it went to decision- he asked whether it was usual for such a consultation to receive zero responses over the 6 week period. He questioned whether this was because the changes are routine, if the pandemic had distracted the stakeholders or was there something missing from the process that caused lack of commentary.

The Executive Director for Children and Young People responded that the uncontroversial changes and also where there were no significant changes being made may have been reasons for no comment or opposition to the consultation.

The matter of parents wanting to send their children to schools out of the borough was also raised. It was asked whether there had been any steps taken to encourage parents to keep their children in Lewisham borough schools. The Executive Director for CYP responded that there are less admission demands due to the pandemic. Some specific promotion had been done this year, particularly around secondary school admission. The advantages and strengths around Lewisham schools was highlighted and in the long term, this will increase further.

Regarding admission reductions, the Executive Director for CYP stated that the birth rate is going down in the borough and there is an uneven distribution across Lewisham, so the Council is in ongoing conversations without schools about the

planned number of admissions for schools. What is being done as far as possible is negotiating with schools, particularly in areas where there are dips or excess in numbers.

Councillor Sorba asked how the finances of Forest Hill School will be impacted by the changes, and to what extent is the result of the Referendum impacting the drop of demand. The Executive Director responded that it is difficult to speculate on the impact of Brexit on school places. One of the reasons Forest Hill was eager to reduce their pan was because they do not have a lot of excess places within the school with which they would not be operating at capacity if they did. The removal of excess capacity makes room for more efficient learning in the classroom within the school. If there is an increase in numbers within that part of the borough, the school has the capacity to educate more children, and at a later date it can increase its pan. The view that the government took was better to be close to full with a reduce pan and provide better learning than have excess places within the school. A co-opted Member pointed out that it was quite a reluctantly taken decision- decreasing capacity over time is not overall efficient but there is hope that after the pandemic things may look more ambitious.

The report was noted

The meeting finished at 7.25pm

Agenda Item 2



Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel

Declarations of Interest

Date: 16 March 2021

Key decision: No

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Chief Executive

Outline and recommendations

Members are asked to declare any personal interest they have in any item on the agenda.

1. Summary

1.1. Members must declare any personal interest they have in any item on the agenda. There are three types of personal interest referred to in the Council's Member Code of Conduct:

- (1) Disclosable pecuniary interests
- (2) Other registerable interests
- (3) Non-registerable interests.

1.2. Further information on these is provided in the body of this report.

2. Recommendation

2.1. Members are asked to declare any personal interest they have in any item on the agenda.

3. Disclosable pecuniary interests

3.1 These are defined by regulation as:

- (a) Employment, trade, profession or vocation of a relevant person* for profit or gain
- (b) Sponsorship –payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than by the Council) within the 12 months prior to giving notice for inclusion in the register in respect of expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member or towards your election expenses (including payment or financial benefit from a Trade Union).
- (c) Undischarged contracts between a relevant person* (or a firm in which they are a partner or a body corporate in which they are a director, or in the securities of which they have a beneficial interest) and the Council for goods, services or works.
- (d) Beneficial interests in land in the borough.
- (e) Licence to occupy land in the borough for one month or more.
- (f) Corporate tenancies – any tenancy, where to the member’s knowledge, the Council is landlord and the tenant is a firm in which the relevant person* is a partner, a body corporate in which they are a director, or in the securities of which they have a beneficial interest.
- (g) Beneficial interest in securities of a body where:
 - (a) that body to the member’s knowledge has a place of business or land in the borough; and
 - (b) either:
 - (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person* has a beneficial interest exceeds 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that class.

*A relevant person is the member, their spouse or civil partner, or a person with whom they live as spouse or civil partner.

4. Other registerable interests

4.1 The Lewisham Member Code of Conduct requires members also to register the following interests:

- (a) Membership or position of control or management in a body to which you were appointed or nominated by the Council
- (b) Any body exercising functions of a public nature or directed to charitable purposes, or whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy, including any political party
- (c) Any person from whom you have received a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25.

5. Non registerable interests

- 5.1. Occasions may arise when a matter under consideration would or would be likely to affect the wellbeing of a member, their family, friend or close associate more than it would affect the wellbeing of those in the local area generally, but which is not required to be registered in the Register of Members' Interests (for example a matter concerning the closure of a school at which a Member's child attends).

6. Declaration and impact of interest on members' participation

- 6.1. Where a member has any registerable interest in a matter and they are present at a meeting at which that matter is to be discussed, they must declare the nature of the interest at the earliest opportunity and in any event before the matter is considered. The declaration will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. If the matter is a disclosable pecuniary interest the member must take not part in consideration of the matter and withdraw from the room before it is considered. They must not seek improperly to influence the decision in any way. **Failure to declare such an interest which has not already been entered in the Register of Members' Interests, or participation where such an interest exists, is liable to prosecution and on conviction carries a fine of up to £5000**
- 6.2. Where a member has a registerable interest which falls short of a disclosable pecuniary interest they must still declare the nature of the interest to the meeting at the earliest opportunity and in any event before the matter is considered, but they may stay in the room, participate in consideration of the matter and vote on it unless paragraph 6.3 below applies.
- 6.3. Where a member has a registerable interest which falls short of a disclosable pecuniary interest, the member must consider whether a reasonable member of the public in possession of the facts would think that their interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair the member's judgement of the public interest. If so, the member must withdraw and take no part in consideration of the matter nor seek to influence the outcome improperly.
- 6.4. If a non-registerable interest arises which affects the wellbeing of a member, their, family, friend or close associate more than it would affect those in the local area generally, then the provisions relating to the declarations of interest and withdrawal apply as if it were a registerable interest.
- 6.5. Decisions relating to declarations of interests are for the member's personal judgement, though in cases of doubt they may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer.

7. Sensitive information

- 7.1. There are special provisions relating to sensitive interests. These are interests the disclosure of which would be likely to expose the member to risk of violence or intimidation where the Monitoring Officer has agreed that such interest need not be registered. Members with such an interest are referred to the Code and advised to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer in advance.

8. Exempt categories

- 8.1. There are exemptions to these provisions allowing members to participate in decisions notwithstanding interests that would otherwise prevent them doing so. These include:-
- (a) Housing – holding a tenancy or lease with the Council unless the matter relates to your particular tenancy or lease; (subject to arrears exception)
 - (b) School meals, school transport and travelling expenses; if you are a parent or

guardian of a child in full time education, or a school governor unless the matter relates particularly to the school your child attends or of which you are a governor

- (c) Statutory sick pay; if you are in receipt
- (d) Allowances, payment or indemnity for members
- (e) Ceremonial honours for members
- (f) Setting Council Tax or precept (subject to arrears exception).

Agenda Item 3



Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel

Decisions made by Mayor and Cabinet

Date: 16 March 2021

Key decision: Yes

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Chief Executive / Head of Business and Committee

Outline and recommendations

Members are asked to consider decisions taken at a meeting of the Mayor and Cabinet held on 10 March 2021 in open session

1. Recommendation

To consider decision taken by the Mayor and Cabinet on 10 March 2021, which will come in to force on 17 March 2021, unless called in by the Overview & Scrutiny Education Business Panel on 16 March 2021.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Mayor and Cabinet considered the following decision on 10 March 2021:
 - i. Governing Body Proposal regarding the future of St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School
- 2.2 The notice of the decision in respect of this report is attached below.
- 2.3 Under the provisions of Standing Orders Part IV E 14, Members may call in an executive decision within 7 days. If this report is not called in, the decision will come into force on 17 March 2021.



NOTICE OF DECISIONS MADE BY THE MAYOR & CABINET

The Mayor and Cabinet made the following decision on March 10 2021. The recommendation shown was agreed by a 10-0 vote of voting members in attendance.

The decision will become effective on March 17 2021 unless called in by the Overview & Scrutiny Education Business Panel on March 16 2021

**1. Governing Body Proposal regarding the future of St Mary
Magdalen's Catholic Primary School**

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Performance, Councillor Chris Barnham, the Mayor and Cabinet agreed that officers work with the Governing Body and Archdiocese to ensure that the statutory process is followed.

**Kim Wright
Chief Executive,
Lewisham Town Hall,
Catford SE6 4RU
March 11 2021**