

AT A MEETING of the CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE of the COUNTY COUNCIL held at Ashburton Hall, Winchester on Wednesday, 23 January 2013.

PRESENT

Chairman:
p Councillor Ray Bolton

Vice Chairman:
p Councillor John West

Councillors:

p Charlotte Bailey	p Keith Evans
a Graham Burgess	p Jonathan Glen
p Rita Burgess	a David Keast
p Roz Chadd	p Roger Kimber
p Brian Collin	p Anna McNair Scott
p Brian Dash	p Pam Mutton
p Sam Darragh	p Jackie Porter
p David Drew	p Jenny Radley
a Adrian Evans	a Bruce Tennent

Co-opted Members:

p Rosemary Olivier – RC schools representative	
a Tony Blackshaw – CoE schools representative	
(vacant)	– Parent Governor (primary)
(vacant)	– Parent Governor (secondary)
(vacant)	– Parent Governor (special)

At the invitation of the Chairman:

p Councillor Roy Perry, Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services;
p Councillor Peter Edgar, Assistant Executive Member for Education and
p Councillor Marilyn Tucker, Assistant Executive Member for Safeguarding.

130. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Adrian Evans, David Keast, Graham Burgess and Bruce Tennent and also from Tony Blackshaw.

131. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard

to the circumstances described in Part 3 Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Non-Pecuniary interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 2 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

The following Members declared a non-pecuniary interest:

Cllr Jackie Porter Chairman of Trustee Charity, which was in receipt of money from Youth Services budget.

Cllr Brian Dash Involved with a youth services trust that has applied for grant funding

Cllr Jonathan Glen Has a child in the special education system

Cllrs McNair Scott, Mutton and Daragh as Members of SACRE

132. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 3 December 2012 were confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

There were no matters arising.

133. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman thanked Members for agreeing to an earlier than usual start to the meeting, in order to facilitate a lengthy agenda.

134. DEPUTATIONS

No deputations were received.

135. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN HAMPSHIRE

The Committee considered two reports from the Director of Children's Services, item 6 in the Minute Book, regarding educational attainment in Hampshire.

The reports were introduced and the trend in results in each Key Stage area was outlined, with the particularly high attainment of Key Stage Two highlighted.

The Select Committee discussed a number of key areas of attainment, including the progress of children receiving free school meals, the importance of literacy rates to other areas of the curriculum, the support available for children from Service families and the priorities for the Children's Services department. A number of national trends were noted, in particular the divergence of attainment in maths and English at Key Stage four, and the difficulties experienced in ensuring that children from disadvantaged backgrounds achieve their potential.

It was resolved:

That the Select Committee note the annual educational attainment report and congratulate Hampshire schools and pupils on their results, in particular the high performance seen at Key Stage Two.

That the Select Committee support the priorities for the Department and the School Improvement Service and particularly encourages work to reduce the attainment gap for children on free school meals at Key Stage Four.

136. STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) UPDATE

The Committee considered the SACRE Annual Report 2011/12 and a report of the Director of Children's Services regarding the findings of the SACRE Monitoring Sub-group on GCSE Religious Education.

The background and statutory status of the SACRE committee was explained to Members and the positive relationship between high achievement in RE and in other areas of the curriculum was highlighted. The value of the monitoring visits, undertaken by officers and designed to support schools was noted. Members discussed the composition of the committee and it was confirmed that this included a non-voting humanist representative.

The Select Committee appreciated the role of the County Council in supporting SACRE and the teaching of RE in Hampshire schools. It was noted that the Hampshire SACRE was taking on a wider leadership role in organising joint meetings with SACRE committees from other Local Authorities.

It was resolved:

That the Select Committee notes the work of SACRE and the Children's Services department in defining and supporting religious education in Hampshire schools, in particular the value of monitoring visits enabling officers to work directly with teaching staff.

That the leadership provided by Hampshire County Council in the area of religious education is acknowledged and welcomed.

137. REVENUE BUDGET FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FOR 2013/14

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Corporate Resources – Corporate Services and the Director of Children's Services on the proposed 2013/14 revenue budget, item 8 in the Minute Book.

The proposed revenue budget for 2013/14 was presented to the Select Committee and key issues relating to specific budget areas were explained. It was confirmed that the budgetary pressures had been offset by a number of efficiency savings.

The Director of Children's Services informed the Committee that he was confident that the proposed budget reflected strong financial performance in the context of high pressure on resources and acknowledged that there would be further challenges in the future.

It was resolved:

That the Children and Young People Select Committee note the proposed revenue budget for 2013/14 and recommend its approval by the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services.

138. CHILDREN'S SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 TO 2015/16

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Corporate Resources – Corporate Services and the Director of Children's Services on the proposed 2013/14 revenue budget, item 9 in the Minute Book.

It was confirmed that the programme was subject to the final capital settlement and the proposals were outlined to the Committee. Members clarified a number of points and welcomed the support that the department was able to give to school expansion.

It was resolved:

That the Children and Young People Select Committee note the proposed Capital Programme and recommend its approval by the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services.

139. SCHOOL PLACES : FRAMEWORK AND ANALYSIS 2012-16

It was agreed that this item be deferred to a future meeting of the Select Committee.

140. WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive, setting out the work programme, item 11 in the Minute Book.

It was noted that as this was the final Select Committee meeting of the current administration, the work programme should be considered and developed at the first meeting following the County Council elections.

Chairman, 12 June 2013