

Time commenced – 6.15pm
Time finished – 8.10pm

EDUCATION COMMISSION 7 JULY 2003

Present: Councillor Wynn (in the Chair)
Councillors Ahern, Chera, J Hickson, Hird, MacDonald
and Winter

Co-opted Members: Mr David Edwards (Church of England Diocese)
Mr John Honey (Roman Catholic Diocese)
Mr Ian Samways and Mr Tom Johnston (Parent
Governors)
Mr Balwant R Bubber (Derby Racial Equality
Council)

Also in Attendance:
Mr David Wilkinson (NASUWT)

Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Latham.

Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

Declarations of Interest

Name	Type of interest	Reason
Councillor Ahern	Personal	Governor – Beckett School
Mr BR Bubber	Personal	Governor – Peartree Infant School Trustee at the Hindu temple
Councillor Chera	Personal Personal Personal	Governor – Sinfin Secondary Community School Member of UNISON Member of the Sikh temple

Mr D Edwards	Personal	Governor – St James' Church of England Junior and Infant School
Councillor J Hickson	Personal	Governor – Etwall Primary School
Mr J Honey	Personal	Headteacher and Governor – St George's Catholic Primary School
Councillor Latham	Personal and prejudicial Personal	In all matters connected to the Education PFI Grouped Schools bid, by virtue of her husband's professional interest. Governor – Highview and Ecclesbourne Schools
Councillor MacDonald	Personal	Governor – Lees Brook Community Sports College and Member of National Union of Teachers
Mr I Samways	Personal	Governor – Littleover Community School
Councillor Wynn	Personal	Governor – Beckett School Governor – Bemrose School Wife a teacher employed by the LEA
Mr T Johnston	Personal	Governor – Murray Park School Governor – St. Clares School

09/03 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Education Commission held on 2 June 2003 were accepted as a true record, subject to the inclusion of Mr T Johnston's declaration of interest, 'Personal, Governor of Murray Park School and Governor of St Clares School.'

10/03 Appointments to the Corporate Parenting Sub Commission

Resolved to appoint Councillors Hird, MacDonald and Wynn to the Corporate Parenting Sub Commission for the ensuing municipal year.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

11/03 Learning and Skills Council

The Commission received a presentation from David Hughes from the Learning and Skills Council. He reported that the Learning and Skills Council had been introduced two years ago with particular responsibility for post 16 provision. The LSC worked in partnership with the Local Education Authority. The LSC had a budget of £140 M, of which £17 M was for FE Colleges, £26M for school sixth forms, £18M for work based learning, £4M for adult/community learning, and £15M for non programmed money to achieve overall objectives. The following issues were raised during the discussion.

- what financial incentives there were for young people to take up work based learning
- impact of funding for sixth forms
- on the job learning
- annual plan
- city centre development by Derby College and specifically concerns about the impact on sixth forms in Derby
- gap in city centre provision for 16 - 19 age range
- co-ordinated approach for the 14 - 19 group

David Hughes gave a summary paper of the Learning and Skills Council's work to the Commission, which is included with these minutes.

Resolved:

- 1. to note the report**
- 2. to invite the Learning and Skills Council to attend selected future meetings of the Commission**

12/03 Developments in 14-19 Education

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Education, setting out the city centre development proposals by Derby College and the wider contexts of 14-19 provision.

Resolved to note the report.

13/03 Education Service Capital Projects - Phase 4 2003/4

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Education, which set out Education Service Capital Projects, which had been considered by Council Cabinet on 24 June 2003. Information about the projects which had not been prioritised, and about the prioritisation process, was circulated.

Resolved to note the report.

14/03 Licensed Deficits

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Education, which set out details of Licensed Deficits for school budgets for Alvaston Junior Community School, Brackensdale Junior School, Sinfin Primary School and Boulton Primary School. The report had been considered by Council Cabinet at its meeting on 13 May 2003.

Resolved to note the report on the Licensed Deficit approved by Council Cabinet on 13 May 2003.

15/03 Future Work Programme of Education Commission

The Commission considered suggestions from Members for possible topic reviews for 2003/4. These included school improvement, special educational needs provision, sports facilities in schools, home to school transport and sixth form provision.

Resolved

- 1 to select the following two topic reviews for 2003/4. Sports facilities in schools and sixth form provision / post 16 provision.**
- 2 The current topic review report on school place planning would be completed in two phases, subject to the agreement of the Scrutiny Management Commission to a work programme report on 29 July 2003 – the findings on the primary sector phase would then be completed in September 2003 and the secondary phase in December 2003.**

16/03 Topic Review School Place Planning

Lynn Senior Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator, gave an update on the progress on the school place planning topic review. She reported that interviews with suggested witnesses were scheduled for 22/23 July. She

would circulate the timetable once finalised. Simon Longley Assistant Director of Education had also agreed to give a briefing to the Commission Members on 17 July 2003 on issues around the school place planning topic review.

Councillor Wynn reported that, as set out in the information pack circulated to all Commission Members and observers, he would attend the next Head Teachers Liaison Group and Governor's Liaison Group meetings, with the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator, to give a briefing on the topic review. He would also trail the Commission's questionnaire, which would be sent to all Head Teachers and Chairs of Governors. It was agreed that the Commission's Chair and Vice Chair would write the questionnaire, with the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator, using the areas of questioning set out on the Commission's information pack.

17/03 Behaviour Support Plan

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Education, which set out the Behaviour Support Plan, which had been considered by Council Cabinet on 24 June 2003.

Resolved to make the following comments to Council Cabinet:

The Commission welcomes and supports the revised behaviour support plan and congratulates the officers involved in its development. The Commission considers it a very good and innovative document.

18/03 Forward Plan

Resolved that the Commission should consider the following items from the Forward Plan at the most appropriate time.

**PFI – Future of Hardwick Infant and Junior Schools;
Retained balances in schools;
EBD Strategy;
Early Years Strategy;
Education Capital Schemes; and
Children's Centre Plan.**

MINUTES END