

**Committee:** **Scrutiny Committee for Education**

**Date:** 23 July 2001

**Title:** Meeting of the Scrutiny Committee for Education held at 10.30 am at Pelham House, St Andrews Lane, Lewes, East Sussex

**Subject:** Minutes

**Attendance:** Barnes Field Garvican Kramer Livings Whetstone Woodall

Mr T Campbell (RC Diocese)

Chief Officer Denise Stokoe, Director of Education

Scrutiny Lead Officer Roger Howarth

Legal Adviser Paul O'Sullivan

## 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2.1 Apologies were received on behalf of Mr Boatwright (C E Diocese), Councillor Rogers, Councillor Mrs Waite and Greg Roberts (Financial Adviser)

## 3. REPORTS

3.1 Reports on the matters dealt with in the minutes below are contained in the minute book.

### 4. [QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT \(APRIL TO JUNE 2001 AND BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2001/2002\)](#)

4.1 The Committee considered a report by the Chief Executive, to which were attached the Balanced Performance Management Tables relating to Education Department targets in the Best Value Performance Plan for the quarter April to June 2001. The Director of Education responded to a number of queries raised by members on the progress made against specific targets.

4.2 The Lead Officer advised members that it would be helpful if notice could be given of any questions which might necessitate detailed research in order to provide a satisfactory response. The Committee accepted this point.

4.3 The Committee agreed that full monitoring reports, and not exception reports, should be made available for consideration by the Committee for the remainder of the year. Members also requested that the arrows indicating up and down movements within the green, amber and red scores be included in all reports for the remainder of the year.

5. [THE SCRUTINY ROLE UNDER THE CONSTITUTION](#)

5.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Legal and Community Services which had previously been considered by the Scrutiny Chairmen. The Members comments were noted.

5.2 RESOLVED – to note the report.

6. SIX MONTHLY MONITORING REPORTS ON THE ACTION PLANS ARISING FROM BEST VALUE AND SCRUTINY REVIEWS ALREADY COMPLETED

6.1 The Committee considered a report by the Scrutiny Lead Officer and noted the proposed timetable for considering interim and final monitoring reports on the action plan for Scrutiny and Best Value Reviews.

6.2 RESOLVED – to note the report.

7. [SIX MONTHLY MONITORING REPORT – REVIEW OF PERMANENTLY EXCLUDED PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 1998/1999](#)

7.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Education. It was reported that good progress had been made against the recommendations.

7.2 The Committee also suggested that it would be useful if a visit could be arranged for Members to Cuckmere House and New Horizons and it was agreed that arrangements would be made for the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee to be held at either one of these locations to enable Members to tour the facilities before the meeting.

7.3 The Director of Education agreed that a more detailed report on SEN/Inclusion Plan including reference to some of the department's targets in the Best Value Performance Plan would be submitted to the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee in September.

7.4 RESOLVED – to note the report.

8. [PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ACTION PLAN FROM THE REVIEW OF PROVISION FOR HIGHLY ABLE CHILDREN – SEPTEMBER 2000](#)

8.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Education.

8.2 The Committee noted the progress made.

9. [SCRUTINY REVIEW OF HEALTH PROMOTION OF YOUNG PEOPLE](#)

9.1 The Committee considered a final report by the Project Board which had previously been established by the Scrutiny Committee for a Healthy Community. Councillor Freeman was Chair of the Project Board and was in attendance to speak to the report.

9.1 RESOLVED - to (1) receive the final report and approve its findings and recommendations and refer them to the Cabinet for consideration and the County Council for approval; and

(2) request the Director of Education to report to this Scrutiny Committee in six months time on progress of the recommendations of the report.

10. [OVERVIEW OF KEY PERFORMANCE ISSUES FOR THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT](#)

10.1 The Lead Member for Education had been invited to attend the Scrutiny Committee for this, and subsequent, item of business. However, Councillor Simmons was unable to attend and Councillor Bagshawe attended on his behalf. However, Councillor Bagshawe had a prior engagement and she requested that any comments or questions were put to Councillor Simmons directly.

10.2 The Director of Education tabled a report at the meeting which summarised the key priorities and key performance issues facing the Department at the present time and in the foreseeable future.

10.3 RESOLVED – to note the report.

11. [FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CABINET](#)

11.1 The Committee considered a report which was tabled by the Director of Education.

11.2 The Committee noted the report and agreed to discuss the Department's Forward Plan further at their meeting in September.

12. [SCRUTINY REVIEWS FOR 2001/02](#)

12.1 The Committee agreed to defer this item for consideration until the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee in September.

13. [TRAINING ISSUES](#)

13.1 The Committee agreed to defer discussion of this item of business until the next meeting in September.