

LEAD MEMBER FOR LEARNING AND SCHOOL EFFECTIVENESS

MINUTES of a meeting of the Lead Member for Learning and School Effectiveness held at County Hall, Lewes on 21 December 2015.

The following Members spoke on the items indicated:

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| Councillor Field | - Item 4 (see minute 20) |
| Councillor Pursglove | - Item 4 (see minute 20) |
| Councillor O'Keeffe | - Item 4 (see minute 20) |
| Councillor Shuttleworth | - Items 4 and 5 (see minutes 20 and 21) |

18 DECISIONS MADE BY THE LEAD CABINET MEMBER ON 12 NOVEMBER 2015

18.1 The Lead Member approved as a correct record the minutes of the meeting on 13 July 2015.

19 REPORTS

19.1 A copy of the reports referred to below are contained in the minute book.

20 EDUCATION COMMISSIONING PLAN 2015 - 2019

20.1 The Lead Member for Learning and School Effectiveness considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which sought approval to publish the Education Commissioning Plan 2015-2019 and asked for permission to delegate authority to the Director of Children's Services to amend the Plan prior to its publication if required.

20.2 RESOLVED to: (1) approve the publication of the Education Commissioning Plan 2015-2019;
(2) delegate authority to the Director of Children's Services to amend the plan prior to its publication if required; and
(3) delegate authority to the Director of Children's Services to update the School Organisation Policy in Appendix A of the Education Commissioning Plan 2015-2019 and the borough and district tables annually if appropriate.

Reasons

20.3 An ongoing commitment to the provision of education places in 2018/19 and beyond is essential if East Sussex County Council is to meet its ongoing statutory responsibilities. This is linked to the ongoing demand for primary school places and the predicted future pressure for secondary school provision.

21 EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL'S (ESCC) CO-SPONSORSHIP ROLE IN THE EASTBOURNE ACADEMY TRUST

21.1 The Lead Member for Learning and School Effectiveness considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which sought approval for East Sussex County Council (ESCC) to withdraw as co-sponsor for the Eastbourne Academy Trust.

21.2 RESOLVED to approve ESCC's withdrawal as co-sponsor for the Eastbourne Academy Trust and to agree to take the necessary steps to effect that withdrawal at the earliest opportunity on the appointment of a new sponsor.

Reasons

21.3 The policy context has changed significantly since ESCC took the decision to act as a co-sponsor. At the time The Eastbourne Academy (TEA) was established, acting as co-sponsor provided a mechanism to maintain close links with TEA. Now that the policy context has been clarified, acting as co-sponsor presents a number of challenges. For example, acting as co-sponsor for some academies and not for others creates an unequitable relationship between ESCC and its academy schools. This compromises ESCC's responsibility to champion educational excellence across all schools.

(The meeting ended at 10.24 am)