



LEAD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND INCLUSION, SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY

DECISIONS to be made by the Lead Cabinet Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability

MONDAY, 16 MAY 2016 AT 10.00 AM

CC2, COUNTY HALL, LEWES

AGENDA

- 1 Decisions made by the Lead Cabinet Member on 19 April 2016 (*Pages 3 - 4*)
- 2 Disclosures of interests
Disclosure by all Members present of personal interests in matters on the Agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct
- 3 Urgent items
Notification of items which the Lead Member considers to be urgent and propose to take at the end of the appropriate part of the Agenda
- 4 School age range changes - Grovelands Community Primary School and Hurst Green CE Primary School (*Pages 5 - 6*)
Report by Director of Children's Services
- 5 Any urgent items previously notified under agenda item 3

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6 May 2016

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LEAD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND INCLUSION, SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY

DECISIONS made by the Lead Member for Children and Families, Councillor Sylvia Tidy, on behalf of the Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability on 19 April 2016 at CC2, County Hall, Lewes

Councillor Alan Shuttleworth spoke on item 4 (see minute 15)

13 DECISIONS MADE BY THE LEAD CABINET MEMBER ON 21 MARCH 2016

13.1 Councillor Tidy approved as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2016

14 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

14.1 It was noted that Councillor Tidy was taking the decisions on behalf of Councillor Bennett, who was unable to attend the meeting

15 NATIONAL FUNDING FORMULA FOR SCHOOLS - CONSULTATION

15.1 The Lead Member considered a report by the Director of Children's Services regarding the Council's response to the National Funding for Schools consultation.

15.2 It was RESOLVED:

- 1) to note the launch of the consultation on a National Funding Formula for Schools on 7 March, and that a response to the 25 questions was required;
- 2) to approve the response (set out at Appendix 1 of the report), noting that it was submitted on 15 April under the caveat of being subject to approval by Lead Member, and noting the potential issues for the County Council (set out in paragraphs 2.16 to 2.23 of the report)
- 3) to note that while it is not possible at this stage to quantify the impact of the government's proposals (and that this is expected under Phase 2 of the consultation, expected later this year), there is inevitably a risk of reduced funding for the Local Authority and potentially some schools; and
- 4) to note the background information and comparators on Dedicated Schools Grant and funding formula for the County Council (set out in Appendices 2 to 4 of the report)

Reason

15.3 The report identifies the key issues from the National Funding Formula for Schools consultation and proposed County Council response. It has also highlighted potential wider issues that will need to be considered as part of the proposed change to the national funding formula.

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Report to: **Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability**

Date: **16 May 2016**

By: **Director of Children's Services**

Title of report: **School age range changes**

Purpose of report: **To seek Lead Member approval to publish statutory notices in respect of a proposal to lower the age ranges at Grovelands Community Primary School and Hurst Green CE Primary School to enable the governing bodies to incorporate the onsite third party nursery provision.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Lead Member is recommended to:

- 1) **authorise the publication of statutory notices in respect of a proposal to lower the age range at Grovelands Community Primary School from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11 with the proposal to take effect on 1 September 2016;**
 - 2) **authorise the publication of statutory notices in respect of a proposal to lower the age range at Hurst Green CE Primary School from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11 with the proposal to take effect on 1 September 2016; and**
 - 3) **delegate authority to the Director of Children's Services to amend the proposals prior to their publication if required.**
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1 Background

1.1 Both schools currently have third party nursery providers on site who lease space from the school to operate provision for 2 to 4 year olds. The governing bodies of both schools wish to take on the management of their respective nursery provision by lowering their age ranges from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11.

1.2 The aim of each proposal is to integrate, fully, nursery provision into the Early Years Foundation Stage within each school. The governing bodies wish to ensure that their respective nurseries continue to support their local area and to offer high quality early education delivered by experienced and well-trained staff across the Early Years Foundation Stage. The aim is to build on the work already done by the schools and nursery providers to secure good outcomes for all children in the future.

2 Supporting information

Grovelands Community Primary School

2.1 The governing body consulted on the proposal to lower their age range between 22 June and 20 July 2015. The governing body consulted with staff, families of children at the school, the local community and other interested parties.

2.2 By the close of the consultation period two responses had been received. One respondent was in favour, citing that it would provide a consistent education from the age of two. The other respondent did not express a view either way but did indicate that if the proposal meant more children at the school there would be an impact on traffic in the area. For clarification, the proposal is to incorporate the

current nursery provision into the school, not to provide new provision in addition to the existing nursery.

Hurst Green CE Primary School

2.3 The governing body consulted on the proposal to lower their age range between 15 March and 22 April 2016. The governing body consulted with parents and carers of children at the school, staff, the local community and other interested parties.

2.4 Two responses were received during the consultation period. One respondent thought the proposal would generally be positive for the children. The other respondent didn't give a view either way but was keen to understand what the change would mean for children, staff and parents.

2.5 Proposed changes to the organisation of schools have to follow a prescribed process established by the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013. The next phase of the process is to publish statutory notices in relation to the proposals. It is intended that the notices would be published in each local newspaper on 27 May 2016 and posted on the entrances to each school on the same day. The full proposals would also be published on the County Council's website. A four week period of representation would follow, giving interested parties a further opportunity to comment on the proposals. The Local Authority has a duty to determine each proposal within two months of the end of the representation period. We anticipate that a decision would be taken at the Lead Member meeting on 11 July 2016.

3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

3.1 In conclusion, we believe the proposal to lower the age ranges at both schools will help to build on work already done by the schools and nursery providers, ensuring a fully integrated Early Years Foundation Stage to help secure good outcomes for all children.

3.2 For this reason, the Lead Member is recommended to:

- 1) Authorise the publication of statutory notices in respect of a proposal to lower the age range at Grovelands Community Primary School from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11. The proposal to take effect on 1 September 2016;
- 2) Authorise the publication of statutory notices in respect of a proposal to lower the age range at Hurst Green CE Primary School from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11. The proposal to take effect on 1 September 2016; and
- 3) Delegate authority to the Director of Children's Services to amend the proposals prior to their publication if required.

STUART GALLIMORE Director of Children's Services

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LOCAL MEMBERS

Councillors Bill Bentley, Laurence Keeley and John Barnes