



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

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

THURSDAY, 29 MARCH 2018 AT 2.00 PM

CC1 - COUNTY HALL, LEWES

AGENDA

- 1 Decisions made by the Lead Cabinet Member on 19 February 2018 (*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 Planned Admission Numbers (PANs) for Ninfield CE Primary School and Meridian Community Primary School with effect from September 2019 (*Pages 5 - 6*).
Report by Director of Children's Services
- 5 Any urgent items previously notified under agenda item 3

PHILIP BAKER
Assistant Chief Executive
County Hall, St Anne's Crescent
LEWES BN7 1UE

21 March 2018

Contact Hannah Matthews, 01273 335138,

Email: hannah.matthews@eastsussex.gov.uk

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

MINUTES of a meeting of the Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability held at Committee Room - County Hall, Lewes on 19 February 2018.

Councillors Angharad Davies, Kathryn Field, Alan Shuttleworth and Sylvia Tidy spoke on item 4 (see minute 37).

33 DECISIONS MADE BY THE LEAD CABINET MEMBER ON 22 JANUARY 2018.

33.1 The Lead Member approved as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2018.

34 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

34.1 There were no disclosures of interest.

35 URGENT ITEMS

35.1 There were no urgent items.

36 REPORTS

36.1 Reports referred to in the minutes below are contained in the minute book.

37 ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2019/20

37.1 The Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which sought approval of the admission arrangements for the 2019/20 school year.

37.2 RESOLVED to:

1) agree the proposed admission arrangements for the 2019/20 school year, including the following changes to the existing arrangements:

- I. to change the community area for Hankham and Stone Cross primary schools so that the current discrete areas are merged to form one shared community area;
- II. to include the community area formerly served by Rodmell CE Primary School in the community area for Iford & Kingston CE Primary School following the agreed closure of Rodmell CE Primary School; and
- III. to include the villages of Ditchling and Streat in Chailey Secondary School's community area to create a shared area with Priory School.

2) agree the admission priorities as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

3) agree the proposed admissions numbers as set out in Appendix 4, in particular the following changes:

- I. Increase the PAN at Polegate School;

- II. Increase the PAN at Ditchling St Margaret's CE Primary School;
- III. Decrease the PAN at Forest Row CE Primary;
- IV. Decrease the PAN at Uplands Community College; and
- V. Defer decision on PAN at Ninfield CE Primary pending consultation.

4) Increase the PAN at Robertsbridge Community College from 130 to 145.

5) Agree the proposed co-ordinated admissions schemes as set out in Appendix 7.

Reasons

37.3 The county council is required by law to carry out consultation on admission arrangements every seven years, or sooner if there are any changes to those arrangements for the schools where the local authority is the admission authority.

(The meeting ended at 2.50 pm)

Report to:	Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability
Date of meeting:	29 March 2018
By:	Director of Children's Services
Title:	Planned Admission Numbers (PANs) for Ninfield CE Primary School and Meridian Community Primary School with effect from September 2019
Purpose:	To determine a PAN for Ninfield CE Primary School for admissions in 2019 following public consultation and to correct the PAN for Meridian Community Primary School.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) To agree the PAN for Ninfield CE Primary School at 20;**
 - 2) To agree the PAN for Meridian Community Primary School at 60 rather than 90.**
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1 Background

1.1 Admission arrangements for East Sussex County Council schools were agreed by the Lead Member at the meeting of 19 February 2018. However, at that meeting it was agreed to defer the decision in respect of the PAN of Ninfield CE Primary School due to the exceptional circumstances set out in section 2 below.

1.2 It also came to light following the meeting on 19 February 2018 that there had been an error in the list of PANs, in that the PAN for Meridian Community Primary School had been listed as 90 rather than the correct figure of 60 which appeared in the consultation document.

2 Supporting information

2.1 Ninfield CE Primary School has for many years had a PAN of 20 based on accommodation of varying quality. Two of its classrooms are in accommodation which only has temporary planning consent and is in poor condition. The temporary classrooms are situated on land owned by Ninfield Parish Council.

2.2 A project to replace the temporary classrooms with permanent accommodation had been planned for completion in December 2017, but for a range of reasons, outside the control of the Council, significant obstacles remained. The Council had no option but to halt the project in the face of rising costs. This decision meant that the accommodation could no longer support a PAN of 20. As a result, it was agreed with the Lead Member that the decision on the PAN for Ninfield CE Primary School should be deferred to this meeting in order to allow for a consultation period regarding the proposed change in PAN.

2.3 A public consultation on the proposed reduction in PAN to 15 therefore commenced on 7 February. At the time of writing the report, 362 responses have been received to the consultation. Of these, ten are in favour of the proposal to reduce the PAN, with 352 against.

2.4 The Lead Member is further advised that the Office of the Schools Adjudicator has already received an objection to the reduction in PAN, despite the fact that this has not yet been determined.

2.5 The Council has listened carefully to concerns raised during the consultation period and has reconsidered the decision previously taken to stop the project. The Council has concluded that as the project was originally agreed under an earlier capital programme that had wider ambitions and supported projects beyond the Council's statutory duties, the project should be completed. This also recognises that significant resources had already been spent completing internal work prior to the extension commencing. The Council remains clear that going forward the only use for the schools capital programme will be to meet our statutory duty of delivering additional pupil places.

2.6 Agreement has been reached with the Parish Council about a number of the outstanding issues; this has enabled the Council to reinstate the project. The school will therefore have sufficient accommodation to support a PAN of 20.

3. Meridian Community Primary School

3.1 The PAN for 2019/20 admissions at Meridian Community Primary School was erroneously agreed at 90 at the previous Lead member Meeting on 19 February 2018 due to a typographical error in the report. The PAN should have been listed as 60 as this was the figure that was consulted upon and the accommodation at the school does not support a PAN of 90. A change is allowed under paragraph 3.6 of the School Admissions Code 2014 which allows for correction of misprints in the determined admission arrangements.

4. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

4.1 The Lead Member is recommended to agree the PAN for 2019/20 admissions at Ninfield CE Primary School at 20 as in previous years, as the reason for the proposed reduction in the PAN no longer applies.

4.2 The Lead Member is also asked to re-determine the PAN for 2019/20 admissions at Meridian Community Primary School at 60, to correct a misprint in the previously determined arrangements.

STUART GALLIMORE
Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer: Jo Miles
Tel. No. 01273 481911
Email: jo.miles@eastsussex.gov.uk

LOCAL MEMBERS

Councillor Bill Bentley
Councillor Andy Smith

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS