



Leicester
City Council

APPENDIX B

MINUTE EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: WEDNESDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 2007 at 5.30pm

Councillor Waddington – Chair
Councillor Fitch – Focus Team Spokesperson
Councillor Johnson – Conservative Spokesperson

Councillor Mrs Chambers

Councillor Sood

Co-opted Members (Voting)

Mr Edward Hayes

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Roman Catholic Diocese

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**90. STRATEGIC REVIEW OF ADMISSIONS AND SCHOOL PLACE PLANNING
ISSUES: ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR ENTRY IN 2008/09 AND
2009/10**

A report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People was considered that provided details of a recent strategic review of admissions and school place planning and consultation upon admission arrangements for entry in 2008/09 and 2009/10.

The Children and Young Peoples department had engaged external consultants, Tribal Education, to undertake a review of current admission arrangements in consultation with parents, schools governors and children and young people. The findings included 21 recommendations, some of which would have immediate action taken, whilst several would need further development in the longer term.

Changes with respect to 2008/09 would be largely related to variations in the admission number in a limited number of schools and the introduction of a new infant – junior transfer priority criteria. Consultation would close at the end of February and the outcome would be presented to Cabinet in April. A commitment had been made to use a range of consultation methods for further consultation with respect to entry from 2009/10 onwards. This consultation would take place in the forthcoming Summer and Autumn terms. It was noted that a Choice Adviser would be appointed as soon as possible to assist parents with school choices.

A key issue in future admissions planning would be creative thinking across the City and consideration of housing and regeneration developments and the

possibilities offered by the Building Schools for the Future programme.

Members emphasised the importance of ensuring that consultation included faith groups and was accessible to all communities. Concern was expressed with regard to the quality of the report produced by the consultants. In response it was stated that the consultants report had brought together for the first time the key issues and had enabled stakeholders themselves to identify the issues and start to move forward.

Members emphasised that it was good to see progress in this area, as it had been a major problem for the City that needed addressing.

RESOLVED:

1. That the findings of the strategic review of admissions and school place planning undertaken by Tribal be noted;
2. That the Corporate Director's proposed course of action with regard to the strategic recommendations be supported;
3. That changes to Admissions arrangements for entry in September 2008 would be largely restricted to variations in Admission Numbers only to allow for more extensive data analysis/dialogue/ consultation with stakeholders on revised priority (catchment) areas to take effect from September 2009 be noted; and
4. That a further progress report on the above be requested prior to the end of the Autumn Term.