



Leicester
City Council

MINUTES EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the
EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2002 at 5.30pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Johnson - Chair
Councillor Hunter - Labour Spokesperson
Councillor Vincent – Liberal Democrat Spokesperson

Councillor Coles	Councillor Nasim
Councillor Farmer	Councillor Nurse
Councillor Gajjar	Councillor Sood
Councillor Henry	Councillor Soulsby
Councillor Thompson	

Co-opted Members (Voting)

Ms Veronica Bolsover - Parent Governor (Secondary School)

Co-opted Members (Non-Voting)

Ms Jane Rolfe	- Primary Sector
Mr Peter Flack	- Secondary Sector
Mr John Mark	- Secondary Sector
Professor Fogelman	- De Montfort University/University of Leicester
Mr Adam Suddaby	- Incorporated Colleges

In Attendance

Councillor Bhatti – Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation (for item 8)

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1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

The meeting noted the general interests of members as governors as follows:

	School / College	Category	of
Cllr Blackmore	Ellesmere College	LEA	Governorship
	Adult Education College	LEA	
Cllr Hunter	Medway Community Primary	LEA	Governorship
	Adult Education College	LEA	
Cllr Chohan	Abbey Primary	LEA	Governorship
Cllr Gajjar	Marriott Primary	LEA	
Cllr Nurse	Rushey Mead Secondary	LEA	Governorship
	Rushey Mead Secondary	LEA	
Cllr Sood	Spinney Hill Primary	LEA	Governorship
	Leicester College	LEA	
Cllr Henry	Glebelands Primary	LEA	Governorship
Cllr Thompson	Sandfield Close Primary	LEA	
Mrs V Bolsover	Northfield House Primary	LEA	Governorship
	Alderman Richard Hallam Primary	LEA	
	Beaumont Leys.	Parent	
Mr P Flack	Eyres Monsell Primary	Co-opted	

11. JOINT STRATEGY FOR THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN IN PUBLIC CARE

The Corporate Directors of Social Care and Health and Education and Lifelong Learning submitted a report which gave details of the current performance of Looked After Children and the proposed Joint Strategy for the Education of Children in Public Care which aimed to raise standards of achievement.

It was stated that currently the City was ranked 147th out of 150 authorities with regard to children in care achieving five GCSE grades A-C, with no children achieving such grades in 2000/01. This year the Council had received guidance that 60% of eligible pupils must achieve one GCSE or GNVQ equivalent. In addition it was stated that the Government had decided that a pupil would not be classed as achieving five GCSE grades A-C, unless Maths and English were included.

To achieve the required improvements the two departments were working closely together to surmount barriers to performance with an eight point strategy defined. A report would be prepared in the autumn detailing key success factors, targets and plans. So far, achievement of Looked After Children had shown greater improvements in performance in the City than nationally and in the City overall.

Members expressed concern over the poor results which applied to an especially vulnerable group but supported the close working of the two departments to achieve improvement and the need to achieve stability and emphasise the Council's role as corporate parent. A greater level of reporting to the Committee was supported but Members requested that details of ethnicity and gender be included.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that Cabinet be asked to endorse the corporate parenting work already undertaken within the City Council and support the relaunch of the corporate parenting strategy during autumn 2002;
- (2) that the current performance and proposed action be noted; and
- (3) that the Joint Strategy for the Education of Children in Public Care be endorsed.