MINUTES EXTRACT



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

Held: WEDNESDAY, 22 JANUARY 2003 at 5.30pm

PRESENT:

<u>Councillor Johnson - Chair</u> <u>Councillor Hunter - Labour Spokesperson</u>

Councillor Blackmore (for Cllr Vincent)
Councillor Chohan
Councillor Coles
Councillor Farmer
Councillor Gajjar
Councillor Soud
Councillor Soulsby

Councillor Thompson

Co-opted Members (Voting)

Ms Sandra Sweeney - Parent Governor (Secondary School)

Co-opted Members (Non-Voting)

Ms Jane Rolfe - Primary Sector
Mr Peter Flack - Secondary Sector

Mr Geoff Rawnsley - City of Leicester Governors Association
Ms Louise Bath - City of Leicester Governors Association

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36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests they had 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 Governorship	of
Ms L Bath	Babington Community Technology College	LEA	
Cllr Blackmore	Leicester Adult Education College	LEA	
	Ellesmere College	LEA	
Cllr Coles	Lancaster	LEA	
	Jonathan North	LEA	
	Leicester Adult Education College	LEA	
Cllr Chohan	Abbey Primary	LEA	
Cllr Gajjar	Marriott Primary	LEA	
	Rushey Mead Secondary	LEA	
	Gateway Sixth Form	LEA	
Cllr Hunter	Medway Community Primary	LEA	
	Leicester Adult Education College	LEA	
Cllr Johnson	Leicester Adult Education College	LEA	
	Gateway Sixth Form College	LEA	
Cllr Nurse	Soar Valley Community College	LEA	
Cllr Sood	Spinney Hill Primary	LEA	
	Leicester College	LEA	
Cllr Scuplak	St Mary's CoE Primary (New)	LEA	
Cllr Thompson	Sandfield Close Primary	LEA	
	Northfield House Primary	LEA	
Mr P Flack	Eyres Monsell Primary	Co-opted	
	Linden Primary School	Parent	
Mr G Rawnsley	Crown Hills Community College	LEA	
	Mayflower Primary	LEA	
Mr RS Sandhu	Sir Jonathan North Community College	LEA	
	Overdale Primary School	LEA	
Ms S. Sweeney	Sacred Heart RC Primary	Foundation	
-	St Paul's RC	Parent	
Mr P Taylor	Humberstone Junior School	LEA	
	St Mary's CoE, Hamilton	Foundation	
	Gateway Sixth Form College	Co-opted	

The Town Clerk advised Members who were school governors that they had non-prejudicial interests in, and their general declarations applied to the following items:

41. ANNUAL LIBRARY PLAN

The meeting considered a report of the Corporate Director of Education and Lifelong Learning which gave details of the draft Annual Library Plan which assessed the services' performance against standards published by government in 2001. The government required all library authorities to achieve the standards by 2004. It was stated that significant progress had been made during the year and that the service now met 14 of the 29 standards.

It was stated that the Central and Reference Libraries had been identified as needing refurbishment. A new carpet had been fitted to the Lending Library and new signing installed. The Reference Library lift could now only be used as a goods lift on the grounds of health and safety. A replacement passenger lift would be very expensive and funding had not yet been identified. Current access to upper floors was therefore impossible for members of the public who could not use the stairs and there had been many complaints.

With reference to the proposed Hamilton Library it was stated that discussions with the developer were continuing and it was planned to bring a report to members soon. In relation to library opening hours funding was not available to extend opening hours but the service would be reviewing opening hours in 2003/04 and would be happy to consider amending hours to meet the needs of the community.

Councillor Johnson seconded by Councillor Hunter moved the following suggested resolution:

The Scrutiny Committee resolves to undertake a joint visit to the Central Library sites with members of the Finance, Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee (three members from each to be agreed by the relevant Scrutiny Chair and spokespersons) to investigate and advise on the future of these sites and report back to the Scrutiny Committee.

The resolution was agreed by the Committee.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the Plan be noted;
- (2) that it be requested that monitoring reports be prepared for the Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis; and.
- (3) that the Scrutiny Committee resolves to undertake a joint

visit to the Central Library sites with members of the Finance, Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee (three members from each to be agreed by the relevant Scrutiny Chair and spokespersons) to investigate and advise on the future of these sites and report back to the Scrutiny Committee.