



Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED:

ALL WARDS

**EDUCATION & LIFELONG LEARNING SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE
CABINET**

14th September 2004

27th September 2004

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES – 2005/06 and beyond

Report of the Corporate Director of Education and Lifelong Learning

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To present recommended term dates for 2005/06 and a strategy for determining dates for 2006/07 & 2007/08.

2. Report

- 2.1 Leicester City school term and holiday dates have only been set for 2004/05. It is now imperative that the City Council set dates for 2005/06. The Local Government Association (LGA) has been pressing all local authorities to introduce what they call a standardised, 6-term school year. Scrutiny Committee, Corporate Directors' Board and the School Terms and Holiday Dates Working Party have already received papers exploring this proposition and this has been the subject of considerable discussion and debate.
- 2.2 It is clear that there is not a consensus upon this matter. Following the wishes of Scrutiny Committee, and further discussion with the Chair of the Teachers Consultative Committee/Negotiating Committee, this matter has once again been the subject of further consideration by the School Terms and Holiday Dates Working Party. This report details the views of this Working Party and the subsequent recommendations of the Corporate Director of Education and Lifelong Learning for 2005/06 and beyond.
- 2.3 Appendix A to this report recommends date patterns for 2005/06 based upon the current City pattern. The Corporate Director recommends these for immediate adoption and the Working Party agrees with this recommendation. These dates reflect those already agreed by Leicestershire County Council for 2005/06. Leicestershire County Council too has not yet set dates for 2006/07 onwards.
- 2.4 In recognition of the views previously expressed by Corporate Directors' Board and Scrutiny Committee however, the Corporate Director of Education and Lifelong Learning wishes to undertake further research and consultation on this matter prior to making firm recommendations with respect to 2006/07 and 2007/08. The nature of this consultation and research, and consideration of subsequent outcomes will, of course, require further reflection and consideration by the School Terms and Holiday Dates Working Party in advance of further recommendations being presented to Elected Members. The

Working Group suggest a timetable for completion of further research and consultation with the adoption of 06/07 and 07/08 dates detailed in Appendix A to follow should this further research and consultation prove inconclusive. The Working Group suggests that this occur at the end of December 2004.

3 Recommendations

3.1 All recipients are asked to:

- a) Support the term dates for 2005/06 as detailed in **Appendix A**.
- b) Note the date patterns proposed by the School Terms and Holiday Dates Working Party for 2006/07 and 2007/08.
- c) Agree to receive further recommendations from the Corporate Director of Education and Lifelong Learning with respect to 2006/07 and 2007/08 upon completion of further research, consultation and reflection by the Working Group and Corporate Director upon this matter as detailed above.

3.2 Cabinet is recommended to:

- a) Agree the dates for 2005/06 as detailed in **Appendix A**.
- b) Note the views of the School Terms and Holidays Working Party, Scrutiny Committee and stakeholder groups, and:
- c) Endorse the course of action proposed by the Corporate Director at 3.1 (c) above.

4 Financial and Legal Implications

4.1 Financial implications: Term date changes themselves would simply redistribute working days. Assuming there are no associated changes in terms of employment revised date patterns should not result in increased expenditure.

4.2 Legal Implications. Under Section 32 of the Education Act 2002 the responsibility for the determination of the dates of school terms and holidays rests with the Council (Guy Goodman, Assistant Head of Legal Services - ext 7054).

5 Report Author

Dr Trevor Pringle
Education Officer Education & Lifelong Learning Department
X 7790
print001@leicester.gov.uk

DECISION STATUS

Key Decision	No
--------------	----

Reason	N/A
Appeared in Forward Plan	No
Executive or Council Decision	Executive (Cabinet)