

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER – YOUNG PEOPLE** held on 5 March 2019 at County Hall, Matlock.

PRESENT

Cabinet Member - Councillor A Dale

13/19 PETITION **RESOLVED (1) to receive and note the under-mentioned petition:-**

Location/Subject	Signatures	Local Member
Mickley Infant School – Support Requested for Turning the Infant School into a Primary School	257 plus 6 letters	Councillor B Lewis

and (2) that the Strategic Director – Children’s Services be asked to consider and respond to the matters raised.

14/19 MINUTES **RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Young People held on 5 February 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.**

15/19 NEW INSTRUMENTS OF GOVERNMENT Under the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012; proposals had been received from school Governing Bodies for an amendment to their Instrument of Government.

RESOLVED that approval be given for new Instruments of Government to be made for the six schools detailed in the Director of Legal Services’ report.

16/19 CONFIRMATION OF NOMINATIONS OF SCHOOL GOVERNORS **RESOLVED to approve the nomination of the following persons to serve as Local Authority Governors:-**

G Hughes	-	Swanwick Primary School
J Dawson	-	Granby Junior School

17/19 HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT – HAZARDOUS ROUTE ASSESSMENT The Cabinet Member was asked to consider a request for a home to school journey to be declared 'hazardous' for the purpose of

establishing eligibility to free transport from Little Eaton to The Ecclesbourne School.

A parent from Little Eaton applied for free school transport to the Ecclesbourne School for their child and was refused because the distance was under the statutory walking distance of 3 miles. The parent has then cited that they believed the route to school was hazardous.

The route from Little Eaton to The Ecclesbourne School was paved on either one or both sides of the carriageway. It was necessary in some areas to cross from one side of the carriageway to the other to continue along a pavement but, other than this, it was not necessary to walk on the carriageway. The route detailed at appendix B and C to the report was inspected on 22 January 2019 by the Hazardous Route Panel and recommended that it was not hazardous. The Cabinet Member was on this Panel and recommended that attention be given to clearing the leaves on the pavements.

RESOLVED to approve the Hazardous Routes Panel's recommendation, that the route between Little Eaton and The Ecclesbourne School through Eaton Bank Makeney Road is not hazardous for the purposes of home to school transport.

18/19 CHILDREN'S SERVICES SPENDING 2018/19

The Cabinet Member was informed of the results of the latest Children's Services budget monitoring for 2018/19 with the major variances highlighted.

The current forecast year-end position for Children's Services expenditure by the Council was a £4.926 million overspend against allocated budget. As the department has no uncommitted earmarked reserves, this projected overspend would be a charge at year end against the Council's general reserve.

The department was committed to implementing the budget reductions agreed by Council and would continue to control spend by other measures such as vacancy control. However, increases in demand for statutory services have exceeded the capacity of the current Children's Services budget for some years and the additional funding approved by Council for 2018/19 has ensured that the projected overspend was lower than the £6.389 million overspend reported for 2017/18. A breakdown by service area was attached as Appendix 1 to the joint report.

The major variances included Uncommitted budget (underspend £1.322m); SMT and Resources (underspend £0.029m); Safeguarding and Early Help (overspend £4.961m); Schools and Learning (overspend £1.470m); Countywide Commissioning (overspend £0.314m) and Performance and Quality (underspend £0.400m). The main reasons for the variances were detailed in the report.

Children's Services was allocated budget reductions of £2.906 million for 2018/19. It was estimated that £2.219 million would be achieved in 2018/19 with £2.336 million of these confirmed and reflected in the outturn projections, and a further £0.210 million that were expected to be achieved during the year.

The current additional allocations to the Children's Services revenue budget for 2018/19 was as follows – Children's Services Demographics (£7.000m plus one-off funding of £4.000m); Children's Social Care Remodelling (£1.300m plus one-off funding of £4.000m); Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (£1.000m); Care Leavers (£0.402m – one-off); Child Protection Staff (£0.150m – one-off); Organisation models for small schools (£0.380m one-off for two years); and the utilisation was detailed in the report.

The main risks which could impact on the portfolio's outturn position were detailed in the report.

Of the net overspend for Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), a £0.076m overspend was projected on de-delegated budgets of Local Authority schools. It was intended that the Schools Forum be asked that the outturn on these budgets be combined with the accumulated reserves from previous years' de-delegated budgets, which currently stood at £1.213 million. These reserves would be used to fund the projected overspend on de-delegated budgets or could allow a reduction in contribution rates in future years.

An underspend of £0.142 million was projected on Early Years block budgets. The DSG Early Years block budget and forecast has been set based on the Department for Education's (DfE) expected attendance hours based on the January 2017 census data and an estimate of the take-up of the additional 15 hours available to working parents. The DfE would recalculate the amount of DSG due to the Authority in July 2019 based on the January 2018 and January 2019 census data and would make an adjustment to the grant due in 2019/20.

The High Needs Block budgets were projected to overspend by £3.175 million. The DfE announced additional High Needs Block funding in late-December 2018 for 2018/19 and for 2019/20, with Derbyshire's allocation being £1.599m for each year. The amount receivable in 2018/19 would be applied against the projected High Needs Block overspend for 2018/19 leaving an overspend of £1.575 million which would be met from the residual DSG reserves balance.

The most significant areas of overspend was on top-up payments for post-16 placements at colleges and independent providers, and on expenditure of pre-16 pupils at independent and non-maintained special schools or other LA providers. A number of tribunal decisions and an increase in the number of learners or the number of hours' provision for learners,

compared with the expectation when the plan was set, were factors leading to this overspend.

RESOLVED to note (1) the outcome of the latest budget monitoring and Dedicated Schools Grant projections for 2018/19, and

(2) progress on delivery of budget reductions.

19/19 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC RESOLVED that the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining items on the agenda to avoid the disclosure of the kind of exempt information detailed in the following summary of proceedings:-

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC, INCLUDING THE PRESS, WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

1. To consider the exempt Report of the Strategic Director for Children's Services on Report on Performance Management for Teachers Employed by the Local Authority and Not Attached to Schools (contains information which is likely to reveal the identity of any individual)