

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER – YOUNG PEOPLE** held on 3 April 2018 at County Hall, Matlock.

PRESENT

Cabinet Member - Councillor A Dale

Also in attendance - Councillors A Fox and J Twigg.

34/18 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Young People held on 6 March 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

35/18 **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 school detailed in the Director of Legal Services' report.

36/18 **CONFIRMATION OF NOMINATIONS OF SCHOOL GOVERNORS** **RESOLVED** to approve the nomination of the following persons to serve as Local Authority Governors:-

D Fidler – Langley Mill CofE Infant School
J Woodthorpe – Riddings Infant and Nursery School
S Dormand – Whaley Thorns Primary School
P Bunning – Blackwell Primary School
K Porteous – Creswell CE Infant and Nursery School
A Fields – New Bolsover Primary School
M Dooley – Pinxton Nursery School
E Stevenson – The Green Infant School
R Cooke – Spire Junior School
P Gilby – Henry Bradley Infant and Nursery School
D McConnachie – Kniveton CE (C) Primary School
C Dathan – Lady Manners School
S Austin – Longford Primary School
D Hill – Cotmanhay Junior School
L Baker – St George's VA Primary School (New Mills)
G Parkin – Gamesley Community Primary School
C Green – Newhall Community Junior School

37/18 **RESERVE CAPITAL FUNDING TO SUPPORT CATERING SERVICE PROGRAMME 2018-19** Derbyshire Catering Services provided approximately 60,000 meals per day to 380 primary, special and secondary schools and Academies' across Derbyshire. The service currently employed 1,500 staff and turnover (Revenue) for 2016/17 was £24.2 million.

Buy-back of the Authority's meal service was strong at present but it was operating in an increasingly competitive environment, especially in the secondary sector. To continue to offer a competitive service to schools, there was a need for further additional work to be carried out to upgrade related catering equipment within the service which would improve the working conditions within kitchens and dining areas, and continued to support the increased uptake of school meals.

Catering aimed to cover all its costs including overheads and investment in service upgrades over a period of years and therefore required that catering surpluses can be earmarked and ring-fenced to fund upgrades and equipment replacement in future years. This could be achieved by the use of an earmarked reserve.

RESOLVED that approval be given to the creation of an earmarked reserve up to £100,000 for non-routine replacement and upgrading of school catering services as detailed in the report.

38/18 CHILDREN'S SERVICES SPENDING 2017/18 The Cabinet Member was informed of the results of the latest Children's Services budget monitoring for 2017/18 with the major variances highlighted.

The current forecast year-end position for Children's Services expenditure funded by the Council was an overspend of £5.845 million, an improvement of £0.993 million from the previous reported projection.

The residual Children's Services prior year underspend was able to contribute £2.053 million towards this overspend leaving £3.792 million to be met from 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 had exceeded the capacity of the current Children's Services budget for some years. A breakdown by service area was attached as Appendix 1 to the joint report.

The major variances included Early Help and Safeguarding (overspend £7.260m), Child Protection (overspend £0.227m), Advisory Service (overspend £0.584m), Home to School Transport – SEN and Post-16 (overspend £0.181m) Finance/HR/Information & ICT/Business Services (underspend of £1.164m), Budget Reductions still to be achieved (overspend £0.366m), Allocations from Grants (overspend £0.089m), Capital adjustment (underspend £0.671) and Catering Services (£0.227m). The main reasons for the overspends were detailed in the report.

The current projected expenditure on Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children placements was £0.287 million, net of grant funding from the Home Office. This was within the current budget allocation. The number of

Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) supported by the Council as at end February 2018 was 31.

Of the net underspend for Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), a £0.304m overspend was projected on de-delegated budgets of mainstream schools, due mainly to overspending on Trade Union representation, insurance and contingency support to secondary schools. It was intended that the Schools Forum be asked that any net overspend on these budgets be offset against the accumulated reserves from previous years' de-delegated budgets, which currently stand at £0.859 million.

Early Years block budgets were projected to underspend by £1.016m of which £0.771m was the projected underspend on actual payments for hours attended to schools, academies and PVI settings for 2, 3 and 4 year-olds for hours attended at those settings. The DfE had a mechanism for adjusting funding based on actual take-up which was likely to result in this underspend being clawed back in 2018/19.

The High Needs block was projected to overspend by £0.592 million. It was presumed that the projected overspend would have to be covered from the residual DSG balance which currently stands at £3.162m.

The most significant area of overspend was on top-up payments for special school placements provided by other local authorities and independent and non-maintained schools. Projected expenditure was £8.654 million. The post-16 top-ups were also projected to overspend by £0.487 million. This overspend was mainly on the top-ups paid to further education colleges and related to additional places at Derby College for 2016-17 and 2017-18.

RESOLVED to note the outcome of the last budget monitoring and Dedicated School Grant projections for 2017/18, and progress on delivery of budget reductions.

39/18 **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC** **RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining item 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 WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

- (1) To confirm the exempt Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member – Young People held on 6 March 2018.

40/18 **EXEMPT MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the exempt Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Young People held on 6 March 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.