

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

**211. Proposed by Councillor David Harrison and seconded by Councillor Mark Staplehurst:**

“That the Council forms a cross party working group to consider and make recommendations to the Council on a return to a Committee system of governance, to replace the Cabinet system.”

## NOTICE OF MOTION

### **212. Proposed by Councillor Jackie Porter and seconded by Councillor Malcolm Wade:**

#### **This Hampshire County Council notes:**

- the very high quality schools in Hampshire with 84% of pupils attending “good” or “outstanding” schools;
- that the Local Government Association has pointed out that 82 per cent of maintained schools have been rated good or excellent by Ofsted, while three times as many councils perform above the national average in terms of progress made by students than the largest academy chains;
- the excellent relationship between the council and schools, all focused on delivering the best education possible so that each of Hampshire’s young people can attain their full potential;
- the invaluable role of parent governors and local authority governors, acting as “critical friends” to both support head teachers and hold them to account;
- the relatively small number of schools that have thus far chosen to become an academy in Hampshire; and
- the confidence placed in this Council by Department for Education (DFE) to improve Children’s Services, including the education system on the Isle of Wight.

This council meeting notes with great concern the recently published education white paper “Educational Excellence Everywhere”, including proposals which will:

- force all schools to become academies, irrespective of each school’s wishes;
- transfer the land and buildings of such schools from being owned by local residents through their local authority to central ownership by the Secretary of State just as the local authority is making a significant investment in the school estate;

- remove the requirement for schools to elect parent governors;
- leave local authorities with the responsibility for various aspects of the education system, including provision of sufficient school places, whilst apparently “freeing schools from local authority control”; and
- allow head teachers more flexibility in relation to using unqualified teachers.

This council meeting further believes that forcing schools to become academies against their wishes is undesirable, and that the resulting education system will become ever more polarised and unsustainable, harming the life chances of a generation of young people.

**This council meeting therefore resolves to ask the Leader to write on behalf of this whole council to the Secretary of State for Education, asking her to:**

- *think again* about forcing schools to become academies, instead designing a system which allows academy and non-academy schools to co-exist in a sustainable way, to ensure school places and education quality can be delivered for all our young people;
- *think again* about allowing schools to remove parents from their governing bodies when we should be increasing their role and influence in school management;
- *think again* about all of the other measures which collectively put at risk the quality of teaching and education outcomes.

**This council meeting further resolves to ask the Leader to write to our local MPs and local peers requesting their response to the white paper** and, for those who support the white paper, asking them to demonstrate how the proposals will improve educational outcomes in Hampshire.

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