

AT A MEETING of the EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL held at The Castle,
Winchester on 20 October 2010

PRESENT:

Councillors P. Edgar (Chairman); F Allgood; B. Collin; B.D. Dash; K.D. Evans;;
R.J. Kimber; R. McIntosh. Mrs J. Porter

Co-opted Members : Mr. J. Gawthorpe; Mr. D. White

28. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M. Kemp-Gee.

29. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that, where they believed they had a personal or personal prejudicial interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting, they should, normally at the time of the debate, declare their interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in paragraphs 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the County Council's Code of Conduct, consider whether to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with paragraph 12 of the Code.

With relation to all items on the agenda, Councillor Edgar declared a personal non-prejudicial interest as life member of the National Association of Headteachers.

30. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2010 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

31. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman announced that following the sad death of Councillor Kirk, Councillor Roy Perry had been appointed the new Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and new arrangements in the Children's Services department were working well.

The Chairman described his passion for learning outside the classroom as a result of which he had visited various learning centres. He had been particularly pleased to see the growth and enthusiasm on display at Stubbington and Minstead, which was of clear benefit to young people. He was furthermore reassured to see the centres operating on a sound financial footing.

The Chairman informed the Panel that he had represented the Panel at the opening of the Skills Centre at Hamble Community College. He

announced that the College was particularly keen for people to see the new facilities and therefore he had organised a visit for Members of the Panel on 23 November 2010 and hoped that everyone would join him.

32. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made under this item.

33. FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN RIGHTS, RESPECT AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Panel considered the report of the Director of Children's Services (Item 6 in the Minute Book) on the progress and impact of the Rights, Respect and Responsibilities (RRR) initiative.

The Deputy Director of Education introduced the report, highlighting that interest was spreading to include a number of Hampshire secondary schools and that Ofsted had begun to note the initiative in their reports. This was leading to groups of schools, covering the age range of pre-school to secondary adopting the RRR initiative as an underlying belief ethos. This had led to Hampshire having a number of examples of good practice that was attracting interest and requests for visits from other areas. The Deputy Director reminded the Panel that this was a Hampshire initiative and not part of the National Curriculum and therefore it was a credit to the officers, Headteachers and teachers who had taken it forward.

Members discussed the initiative, including how it was communicated to young people, the possible impact on youth offending and the challenges of getting school governors on board. It was confirmed that joint training for teachers and governors had been held and had been effective. A priority had been to establish an understanding on all sides of what "rights" were.

A DVD used to promote and introduce the RRR initiative was played to the Panel and was well received.

RESOLVED:

That the Panel endorsed the scheme and the pioneering initiative taking place in Hampshire County Council.

That steps be taken to highlight the initiative to all Members of the County Council.

34. PROGRESS OF SCHOOLS IN WESTERN HAMPSHIRE CAUSING CONCERN

Councillor Porter declared a non-prejudicial interest as a Governor of one of the schools mentioned in the report.

Mr J. Gawthorpe declared a non-prejudicial interest as a school improvement partner in the Western region.

The Panel considered the report of the Director of Children's Services (Item 7 in the Minute Book) identifying the schools in Western Hampshire that were causing concern.

It was pointed out that the incorrect Ofsted report for Bawksbury Junior School had been attached, the correct report was tabled and it was resolved to correct this in the Minute Book.

It was resolved to note the schools identified in the report.

35. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That, in relation to the following item the press and public be excluded from the meeting as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during that item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, and further that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information for the reasons set out in the report.

36. PROGRESS OF SCHOOLS IN WESTERN HAMPSHIRE CAUSING CONCERN

The Panel considered the exempt appendix of the Director of Children's Services (Item 9 in the Minute Book) on schools in Western Hampshire causing concern.

Members discussed in detail issues relating to those schools.

Changes to the future of the Panel meeting in light of the reorganisation of the department were discussed and it was proposed to increase the number of meetings to four per year, to allow each geographic area to be analysed twice per year. The Deputy Director of Education agreed to confirm new arrangements when they were finalised.

[SUMMARY OF AN EXEMPT MINUTE]