

APPENDIX 1

Extract of Executive Board and Executive Board Sub Committee Minutes Relevant to the Children, Young People and Family's Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 6 SEPTEMBER 2012

EXB50 – SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise and the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources on School Funding Reform.

The Board was advised that in March 2012, the Department for Education (DfE), set out in a document "School Funding Reform: Next Steps Toward a Fairer System", how they intended to reform the school funding system over the next few years. The stated aim was to provide fairer, simpler more consistent and transparent school funding and for the intended education funding to reach the schools and pupils that needed it most. Following consultation on options, guidance was issued to Local Authorities at the end of June 2012.

It was noted that the proposed changes would relate to the financial year 2013/14, as the DfE would move towards a national funding formula in the next spending review period. From 1 April 2013, funding would be divided into three separate blocks within the Dedicated Schools Grant budget. These blocks, details of which were provided in the report, were:-

- Schools Block
- High Needs Block and
- Early Years Block.

Consultation with schools would be undertaken and completed in September 2012, with details of final changes to be submitted to the meeting of the School Forum in October 2012.

It was further noted that changes would be required to School Forums, with Local Authorities ensuring that their composition was compliant with the requirements in terms of proportionality, to reflect the number of pupils in each category of schools, including Academies. The report also contained details of the planned School Forum Regulations from October 2012.

RESOLVED: That the changes to school funding and the resulting implications be noted.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 4 OCTOBER 2012

EXB72 – CITY LEARNING CENTRE AT SAINTS PETER & PAUL HIGH SCHOOL - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise, on the City Learning Centre at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic College, Widnes.

The Board was reminded that the network of City Learning Centres (CLC's), established in September 2000, provided innovative and enriched curricular opportunities in Excellence in Cities schools (EiC). Two CLC's were established in Halton, at The Grange Comprehensive School and at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic College. The Grange CLC would be incorporated into the new building, and as a local authority school, would cause no problems.

It was noted that the Saints Peter and Paul College, as a Diocese building, would need to be formally handed to the Diocese to ensure that all costs associated with the maintenance of the building were the responsibility of the Diocese and not the local authority. The report advised Members on land ownership issues associated with the College site.

Reason for Decision

To provide clarity over the ownership and responsibility of the CLC building at Saints Peter and Paul College and to resolve the complications that had arisen over the land boundaries.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Not applicable.

Implementation Date

September 2012.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) note the land issues and agree to grant a lease of land within the Council's ownership that has been developed as part of the school site; and
- 2) agrees to hand over use and responsibility for the former City Learning Centre to Saints Peter and Paul Catholic College, to be used as part of the school, and to be maintained by the Diocese.