

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Decision making session Portfolio Holder (Customers, Workforce & Partnerships) and Portfolio Holder (Children, Young People and Families) Decision Making Session

Date of Decision 30 April 2010

Report Title Establishment of a Shadow Governing Body for Quinton Primary School

Summary The Local Authority needs to establish a shadow Governing Body for Quinton Primary School to work alongside the Interim Executive Board.

For further information please contact:

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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No

Background papers Cabinet report 23.04.09

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s) Cllr Izzi Seccombe, Stour and The Vale
- Other Elected Members Spokespersons: Cllr Balaam, Cllr Naylor, Cllr Robbins, Cllr Ross
- Cabinet Member Cllr Izzi Seccombe (Decision Maker)
Cllr Heather Timms (Decision Maker)
- Chief Executive
- Legal Sarah Duxbury
Fay Ford
- Finance David Clarke, Strategic Director of Resources
Chris Kaye, Manager of Resources, CWG

- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals Jane Pollard

FINAL DECISION

YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

**Portfolio Holder (Customers, Workforce & Partnerships)
and Portfolio Holder (Children, Young People and Families)
Decision Making Session**

30 April 2010

**Establishment of a Shadow Governing Body
for Quinton Primary School**

**Report of the Strategic Directors for
Customers, Workforce & Governance and
Children, Young People and Families**

Recommendations

That the Portfolio Holders approve the arrangement described in this report for the establishment of a shadow Governing Body for Quinton Primary School.

1. Background

- 1.1 The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 places various statutory intervention powers on the Local Authority. This includes the power to replace the Governing Body of a school with an Interim Executive Board (IEB). The Secretary of State's approval is required before an IEB can be established.
- 1.2 At its meeting on 23 April 2009 Cabinet considered a report which set-out significant concerns about the leadership, management and governance of Quinton Primary School. Cabinet agreed a recommendation that, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, the Governing Body should be replaced with an IEB. That approval was received and an Interim Executive Board was established at the school from 27 April 2009.

2. Transition from Interim Executive Board to a Normally Constituted Governing Body

- 2.1 Regulations provide for the Local Authority to make arrangements for the establishment of a shadow Governing Body to work alongside the IEB for a minimum of six months prior to the expected date for the disbanding of the IEB. The IEB may delegate specific tasks and responsibilities to the IEB. Shadow governors are appointed by the Local Authority.
- 2.2 From the date the IEB ceases, the shadow Governing Body assumes full responsibility as if it were a normally constituted Governing Body. Within thirteen months of that date, the Local Authority must appoint a normally constituted Governing Body to replace the shadow Governing Body.

- 2.3 The Quinton Primary School IEB, working closely with Local Authority Officers and the Acting Headteacher, agreed a joint LA-School Action Plan to address a series of concerns around governance as well as teaching and learning in the school. In September 2009, an Acting Headteacher and Acting Deputy Headteacher were appointed for the full academic year to ensure stability and to increase parental confidence. Parental confidence has returned and standards in the school are improving. The IEB has recently appointed David Skelcher, currently Acting Deputy Headteacher at the school, as the new Headteacher with effect from September 2010, securing clear long-term leadership for the school.
- 2.4 The success of the IEB means that the Authority can now seek to restore normal school governance arrangements. Current expectations are that it will be possible to disband the IEB from 31 December 2010. To enable this to happen, a shadow Governing Body will need to be established to work alongside the IEB. It would then take over from the IEB from 1 January 2011.
- 2.5 It is, therefore, recommended that arrangements are now made to establish a shadow Governing Body for Quinton Primary School from the end of April 2010 in anticipation of the transition to a normally constituted Governing Body. The Constitution of the shadow Governing Body will be in accordance with The School Governance (Transition from an Interim Executive Board) (England) Regulations 2004 and will be as follows:
- 4 parent Governors
 - 3 staff Governors including the Headteacher
 - 2 LA Governors
 - 2 community Governors
- Total number of Governors: 11
- 2.6 A normally constituted Governing Body then would be established from April 2011.

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16 April 2010