## **Executive Scrutiny Committee**

## 27 May 2010

## Minutes



	Members Present:		
	Councillors Edward Lavery (Chairman), Brian Crowe, Mo Khursheed, Anita MacDonald and Brian Stead.		
	Representative Member for Education Issues: Tony Little.		
	Apologies: Councillor John Riley.		
	Officer Present: Khalid Ahmed (Democratic Services Manager).		
3.	Declarations of Interest		
	Councillor Anita MacDonald declared a Personal Interest in Cabinet Agenda Item 8 - Requirements for Additional Primary School Places as she was a Governor of Heathrow Primary School. She remained in the room and took part in discussions on the item.		
	Tony Little declared a Personal Interest in Cabinet Agenda Item Requirements for Additional Primary School Places as he was a Govern Pinkwell Primary School. He remained in the room and took part in discussion the item.		
4.	Minutes of the meetings held on 15 April and 13 May 2010		
	Agreed as accurate records.		
5.	Exclusion of the press and public		
	It was agreed that all items of business were considered in public.		
6.	Consideration of any Call-Ins of decisions made at the Cabinet meeting on 27 May 2010		
	Members gave consideration to the Cabinet reports of 27 May 2010 and after careful consideration Members decided not to call-in any decision made by the Cabinet at their meeting.		
	However Members sought clarification on the following items:		
	Agenda Item 8 – Requirements for Additional Primary School		

Places.

The large increases in the capacity of schools suggests that there will be considerable stress on the management structures of these schools. What measures are in place to support these Schools in this process?

[Subsequent to the meeting, officers provided the following response:

"It is recognised that implementing an expansion and managing a larger school will present challenges. The aim will be to ensure that the design of new and/or remodelled accommodation will provide improved learning and environments and other facilities (e.g. increased kitchen capacity) to support expansion. Building work will be managed to keep disruption to the school to a minimum. Schools that expand will receive an in-year budget adjustment ("expanding schools" funding). Support would also be available through the School Improvement Service or other appropriate ECS service."]

What is the priority order for this programme of expansion of school primary school places?

[Subsequent to the meeting, officers provided the following response:

"It is expected that work on site will be programmed so that additional accommodation for the Early Years will be completed first. However, the position will vary from site to site, depending upon the accommodation that schools have already and upon site constraints The timing of building work would be discussed with each school."

Agenda Item 9 - Review of the Local List of Buildings of Architectural or Historical Importance

Members asked that the Wards of the buildings on the list be re-checked as the first four buildings contained in the Hayes list on page 99 of the agenda are in Botwell and not Townfield.

[Subsequent to the meeting, officers provided the following response:

"Members comments have been noted and the list has been updated accordingly."]

Agenda Item 12 - Contract for the supply of a double base class unit at each of the following schools: Brookside, Rabbsfarm and William Byrd Primary Schools

Members asked whether this contract was related to the report on the requirement for additional primary school places and if so, how could this contract go ahead before the consultation period for key stakeholders had ended?  [Subsequent to the meeting, officers provided the following response:  The class rooms at Rabbsfarm are needed to accommodate the school's existing admission number (i.e. no expansion is involved). Historically, the school has not been full in all year groups and has not needed accommodation for 2 forms of entry throughout the school. As numbers are growing, the school now needs 2fe accommodation for all year groups.  In relation to Brookside and William Byrd, the proposed statutory consultation relates to permanent expansions of these schools. In September 2010, both schools are admitting over their existing admission number (i.e. a temporary expansion) and a statutory process is not required. The need for additional places in September is due to exceptional demand which, if not met, would mean that children who are due to start school in September could not be offered places.]  Resolved -  1. That the decisions made by Cabinet at their meeting on 27 May 2010 be endorsed and noted and no call-in be made of any decision.	Action By:
That officers be asked to provide responses to the issues outlined above.	Khalid Ahmed
Meeting commenced at 7.30pm and closed at 8.00pm Next meeting: 24 June 2010 at 7.30pm or at the rising of Cabinet	

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Khalid Ahmed on 01895 250833. Circulation of these minutes are to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.