

## CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

**AGENDA ITEM**

**REPORT TO CABINET**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2010**

**REPORT OF CORPORATE  
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

### **CABINET DECISION**

**Children and Young People – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Mrs McCoy**

#### **SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2011/12**

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is, following consultation, to amend the previously agreed school term and holiday dates for the 2011/12 academic year, as a result of the additional public holiday in 2012 for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

2. Recommendation

It is recommended that the amended school term and holiday dates for 2011/12, shown as **Appendix 2** to this report, be agreed.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)

To inform all schools and interested parties of the amended school term and holiday dates for the academic year 2011/12, which fall in line with a majority of other Local Authorities throughout the North of England (from Doncaster to Northumberland and Kirkless to Cumbria).

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members with voting rights) should consider whether they have a personal interest in the item as defined in the Council's code of conduct (**paragraph 8**) and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with paragraph 9 of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest in the item, he/she must then consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest (**paragraphs 10 and 11 of the code of conduct**).

A Member with a prejudicial interest in any matter must withdraw from the room where the meeting considering the business is being held -

- in a case where the Member is attending a meeting (including a meeting of a select committee) but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under statutory right or otherwise, immediately after making representations, answering questions or giving evidence as the case may be;

- in any other case, whenever it becomes apparent that the business is being considered at the meeting;

and must not exercise executive functions in relation to the matter and not seek improperly to influence the decision about the matter (**paragraph 12 of the Code**).

**Further to the above, it should be noted that any Member attending a meeting of Cabinet, Select Committee etc; whether or not they are a Member of the Cabinet or Select Committee concerned, must declare any personal interest which they have in the business being considered at the meeting (unless the interest arises solely from the Member's membership of, or position of control or management on any other body to which the Member was appointed or nominated by the Council, or on any other body exercising functions of a public nature, when the interest only needs to be declared if and when the Member speaks on the matter), and if their interest is prejudicial, they must also leave the meeting room, subject to and in accordance with the provisions referred to above.**

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**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is, following consultation, to amend the previously agreed school term and holiday dates for the 2011/12 academic year, as a result of the additional public holiday in 2012 for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the amended school term and holiday dates for 2011/12, shown as **Appendix 2** to this report, be agreed.

**DETAIL**

1. The Government have announced that changes would be made in 2012 to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. This involves moving the late May Bank Holiday to Monday 4 June 2012, and adding an extra Bank Holiday on Tuesday 5 June 2012.
2. In light of the extra public holiday in 2012, the length of the school year in 2011/12 has been reduced from the normal minimum of 190 days, to 189 days to ensure that school staff are treated the same as other workers, who will benefit from an extra public holiday.
3. The 2012 exams will be timetabled on the assumption that half term will be in the week commencing 4 June 2012.
4. As the 2011/12 school holiday dates have already been consulted upon and approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 11 June 2010, shown at **Appendix 1**, it has been necessary to undertake further consultation on the proposed amendment to move the half term holiday from week beginning 28 May to week beginning 4 June.
5. As part of the consultation process these amended school term and holiday dates were duly circulated to schools and all other relevant parties, including unions and associations. Few comments were received (formal responses attached as **Appendix 3**).
6. Many Local Authorities have already endorsed the proposed holiday dates for 2011/12, and this will relieve many of the cross boundary issues that many families have suffered in the past.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

7. None.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

8. The recommendation complies with the requirements of the Education (School Day and School Year)(England) Regulations 1999, and the Education (School Day and School Year)(England)(Amendment) Regulations 2010.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

9. The School Term and Holiday Dates 2011/12 are categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

## **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS**

10. This report impacts on the key policy platform area of Children and Young People and Safer Communities.

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

11. The School Term and Holiday Dates has been subject to an Equality Impact Assessment and has been judged to have a negative impact. This has been judged necessary because the pattern of school holidays around the christian festivals of Christmas and Easter and a long summer break between years is a national pattern that cannot be varied significantly locally or regionally. Exams and national tests together with School Teachers Pay and Conditions dictate the broad framework leaving only changes at the margins determined locally. Remedial actions have been identified and included in the EIA action plan.

## **CORPORATE PARENTING**

12. As outlined in paragraph 6, the joint arrangement of the 2011/12 holiday dates will ensure that where children, families and carers live in one Borough but the children attend school in another, there is a consistency across the area.

## **CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS**

13. All schools, Teacher Associations and Trade Unions, neighbouring Local Authorities and Diocesan Authorities.

**Name of Contact Officer: Ian short**  
**Post Title: Manager, School & Governor Support Service**  
**Telephone No. 01642 527687**  
**Email Address: ian.short@stockton.gov.uk**

Education related?

Yes.

Background Papers

None.

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:

Not applicable.

Property

There are no implications for council property.