

Schools' Workforce Joint Consultative Panel

A meeting of the Schools' Workforce Joint Consultative Panel was held on Tuesday, 23 March 2010.

Present: Sue Foreman (Chairman - NASUWT), Cllr Aidan Cockerill (vice Cllr Andrew Sherris), Cllr Alex Cunningham, Cllr Roy Rix, Hans Ruysseenaars (ATL), Bob Lupton (NASUWT), David Campbell (NUT), Stephen Payne (Voice)

Officers: T Beckwith, J. Morrison, E Jewitt (CESC), P. Hiser (R) and M.Henderson (LD)

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllr Mrs Lynne Apedaile, Cllr Ken Lupton, Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Andrew Sherris, Alan Christon (GMBATU),

SWJC 14/09 Minutes

Members considered the minutes of the Schools' Workforce Joint Consultative Panel held on 26 January 2010 and agreed them as a correct record subject to a correction as detailed in minute SWJC 11/09 below.

AGREED that the minutes of 26th January 2010 were a correct record subject to the correction identified.

SWJC 15/09 Staffing Issues

The Panel discussed the Staffing Protocol. The fundamental principle of the Protocol was that Teachers displaced from one school would be considered for vacancies at another school. Schools would not be compelled to appoint displaced teachers but, if they did not, they would have to demonstrate why. This process would be facilitated by the Council's Human Resources Service. It was noted that the Protocol had been considered at a meeting of Secondary Head Teachers and had received general support. Head Teachers asked that Academies be requested to participate in the Protocol. The issue would be placed on School Governing Bodies' Board Agendas.

Reference was made to a meeting SBC officers were holding with school staff on 30 March relating to Academies. It was considered that this meeting was important as the Council had a responsibility to keep relevant staff informed of developments in this area. Staff representatives explained that they were meeting with EC Harris (Sponsors' Consultants), also on that day, and expressed the hope that they would receive an update ahead of that meeting if any new issues were raised at the staff meeting. With regard to the Staffing protocol staff representatives hoped that something could be agreed with EC Harris by meeting on 30th.

AGREED that the discussion/information be noted.

SWJC 16/09 Primary Capital Funding (Including RC Primary Provision in Billingham)

Members were provided with a report that had been submitted to the Council's Cabinet on 11 March 2010. The report outlined progress on the first year's programme and proposed changes to the programme for year 2 and beyond.

It was explained that primary school numbers had been reduced by 1700 between 1999 and 2009, however because of an increased birth rate and net migration into the Borough predictions indicated that there would be pressure on Primary School Places in the coming years and particularly in Ingleby Barwick, Billingham and Central Stockton. The strategy would therefore be to preserve places and take opportunities to increase them.

The Panel noted that officers from Education, Regeneration and Planning regularly discussed factors that might create potential surges in demand, in particular areas.

AGREED that the report be noted.

SWJC 10/09 Building Schools for the Future

The Panel received an update on Building Schools for the Future.

The Panel noted that the procurement process was progressing and 3 strong bidders had emerged:-

Consortium E4L - Environment for Learning
BAM
Shepherd Construction

It was noted that one of the above bidders would be dropped following first phase competitive dialogue – probably June 2010. Following Competitive dialogue phase 2 a preferred provider would be identified at the turn of the year.

The focus for the Council was to identify a provider who would underpin and build on the Campus Stockton Vision.

It was noted that Statutory consultation would be carried out on the proposed relocation of Westlands School to the site of Grangefield School. Works were planned to start 2014.

The Panel queried what the position was with regard to the appointment of Academy Principals. It was explained that by 22nd April both appointments should have been made. It was appreciated that the appointments process had taken sometime, however, it was considered essential that the right people were appointed.

Consultation on naming the Academies was ongoing.

AGREED that update be noted.

SWJC 11/09 Post 16 Arrangements

The Panel noted that the minutes of the last meeting had referred to an organisation called Tees Valley Solutions and suggested that that organisation would be managing the Post 16 arrangements in April. This had been recorded incorrectly. The position was clarified and it was explained that issues surrounding Post 16 arrangements had been dealt with at a Sub Regional Group.

AGREED that the information be noted.

SWJC 11/09 Government Policy

The Panel discussed the General Election that was likely to take place 6 May 2010. It was agreed that it would be beneficial for the Panel to undertake specific consideration of any changes in policy and any impact on future Education in Stockton. It was suggested that a special meeting of the Panel might assist with this. A suitable date and time for the meeting would be identified.

SWJC 12/09 Work Programme

The Panel noted their future work programme:-

13 th July 2010	Building Schools for the Future Staffing Issues Government Policy Work Programme
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