

ADMISSIONS FORUM

Meeting: 11 October 2005
At: 6.00pm

PRESENT

Councillor Paul Carter
Councillor Colin Foster
Councillor Jenny Humphreys
Councillor Paul Porgess
Margaret Regan - Shrewsbury Diocese
Renee Dickens - Community Representative
Ian Roberts - Church of England Representative
Bernadette Singleton - St Philip's Catholic Primary School
Marjorie Brown - St Mary's C of E Primary School
Liz Parkinson – GOVVAS
Jan Morris – Children & Young People's Directorate
Chris Keeble - Children & Young People's Directorate
Mark Rogers - Children & Young People's Directorate
Steve Worthington - Council Secretariat

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED - That Councillor Paul Porgess be elected Chair of the Admissions Forum until the next Annual Council Meeting.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED - That Councillor Jenny Humphreys be appointed Vice-Chair of the Admissions Forum until the next Annual Council Meeting.

3. MINUTES

The minutes (copies of which had been circulated) of the meeting held on 1 March 2005 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

5. ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS AT MAINTAINED SCHOOLS: 2007/2008 AND A PROPOSAL TO REPLACE AVONDALE HIGH SCHOOL WITH AN ACADEMY IN 2007 - CONSULTATION

A report of the Corporate Director - Children & Young People was submitted (copies of which had been circulated) detailing (i) matters on which the Admissions Authorities for maintained schools in Stockport wished to consult in respect of school admission arrangements for the academic year 2007/08 and (ii) a proposal to replace Avondale High School with an 11-18 Academy in September 2007.

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(i) Admission Arrangements

Consideration was given ~~with regard~~ to the proposals and with regard to the review of the priority area system. ~~I~~, it was agreed that it should be clarified that the need for the review had been identified and that it would be undertaken following formal Executive approval.

RESOLVED - That the proposals for consultation in respect of the following areas be supported:

- admissions policy;
- priority area boundary changes;
- community secondary school admission limits;
- community and voluntary controlled primary school admission limits;
- voluntary aided primary and secondary schools; and
- primary and secondary schools co-ordinated admission schemes

(ii) Proposal to replace Avondale High School with an Academy

The background and details to the proposal were submitted and the members of the Forum made a number of comments with particular regard to:-

- the effect the Academy would have on pupil intake in surrounding schools within the area;
- the need to develop consultation with post 16 providers;
- the need for the Academy to have its own sixth form and the potential for partnership arrangements with existing Post 16 providers;
- the need for consideration in respect of priority boundaries and the recognition that priority areas may change.

It was commented in general that there was a need to support the local community and that the area needed the local provision of high quality education. The proposal and subsequent consultation was a method of finding out the needs of the area.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted and the results of the consultation be submitted to the meeting of the Forum to be held in March 2005.

4. ADMISSIONS TO PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

A joint report of the Corporate Director - Children & Young People and the Chief Executive was submitted (copies of which had been circulated) which detailed the allocation of places to maintained primary and secondary schools in September 2005 and the pattern of admissions to secondary schools after the normal admissions round during 2004/05. ~~The report also detailed~~ ~~of~~ the work of the Education Appeals Panel over the last twelve month period.

Discussion ensued with regard to the scheduling of primary school appeals, permanent exclusion reductions/PCC transfers and comparative figures/statistics over the last twelve month period.

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RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.30 pm

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