

ADMISSIONS FORUM SUB-GROUP

Meeting: 1 July, 2008
At: 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Jenny Humphreys (Chair) in the chair
Councillor Shan Alexander (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Colin Foster
Councillor Mark Weldon
Bernadette Singleton - Primary Heads Voluntary Aided Schools
Evelyn Leslie - Secondary Heads
Ian Roberts - Diocesan Board Church of England

Officers

Steve Worthington - Principal Democratic Services Officer

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2008 were approved as a correct record.

2. ADMISSIONS FORUM REPORT

Consideration was given to the format the first annual report of the Stockport Admissions Forum with particular regard to the date needed for its production.

The Group considered an initial schedule of information previously included within the Annual Admissions Forum report originally considered by the full Admissions Forum at its meeting held on 8 April 2008 (Minute 1 refers). Each suggested data was considered and the Group submitted the comments contained within the schedule (Appendix 1 to the report) as detailed below:-

| Item | Data | Sub Group Comment |
|-------------|---|---|
| 1 | FSM data | Necessary Information to be included |
| 2 | Other deprivation indices – IDACI - benefits | Should include an index of multiple deprivation for the catchment area of the school together with the school itself |
| 3 | Ethnicity data | Should include ethnicity for the catchment area of the school together with the school itself |
| 4 | 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd preferences met | Necessary Information to be included |
| 5 | Value added data | Necessary Information to be included |
| 6 | Examination and SAT data | Information needed on both the primary and secondary sectors |
| 7 | Cost of Uniform at individual schools compared to LA and national averages. | Detailed costs of uniforms to be omitted this time around but to be included within the report for 2009 (However – see No 8 below). |
| 8 | Contents of prospectus | Anything within a school prospectus which indicates an extra cost should be indicated (secondary schools only for 2008 – but all schools for 2009 report (14 secondary prospectuses needed). |
| 9 | Patterns of admission for challenging pupils | Inclusion Team requested to define and elaborate upon what is meant by the term ‘challenging’ but place this |

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| | | criteria on hold for the present. |
| 10 | Condition of building stock | Necessary Information to be included |
| 11 | Number of fixed term and permanent exclusions | Necessary Information to be included |
| 12 | Number of appeals and successful appeals | Information to be provided on both primary and secondary schools and further information on ethnicity and deprivation if collected. |
| 13 | Number of looked after children at schools and time taken to find them a place. | Requested consideration of the faith area in order to check and maintain consistency of practice (see primary admissions booklet). |
| 14 | Numbers of disabled pupils at schools and SEN pupils (statemented) | Collect the raw facts including statistics and request comment from the SEN Team/Team responsible. Map showing which schools have special needs units, resourced schools and special schools needed. |
| 15 | Destination of children through fair access protocol and time to find them a place | Necessary Information to be included 'Explanation of protocol needed |
| 16 | Destination of traveller children and time to find them a place. | Necessary Information to be included |
| 17 | Infant class size data | Information requested on whether or not any appeals had led to classes with 30+ key stage 1 only |
| 18 | Mapping those who gain entry to school by location. Access good schools | Necessary Information to be included. Scatter maps showing admissions to be provided. |
| 19 | Ethnic and social mix of communities and destinations of children in these communities | Existing data to be considered and a comparison exercise to be undertaken with a view to a pilot in appropriate areas (up to four eg: Heald Green, Heaton Mersey). |
| 20 | Online admission applications | Percentage of applications made online and comments requested on how on-line admissions work in respect of voluntary aided schools and any special difficulties which may arise |
| 21 | EAL data | Necessary Information to be included |

RESOLVED – (1) That the above comments be submitted to the Corporate Director, Children and Young People for appropriate action in order to include this requested information within their final report.

(2) That the request to Corporate Director, Children and Young People to identify and appoint a suitable expert advisor in the role of critical friend from a neighbouring authority to attend future meetings of the Sub-Group in order to assist in analysis of statistical data once the information is forthcoming; be reaffirmed.

(3) That the Chair, Councillor Jenny Humphreys, be requested to investigate a funding and production resource in terms of the compilation and writing of the future report on behalf the Admissions Forum.

3. DATE OF NEXT MEEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the admissions Forum Sub-Group should be held on Tuesday 2 September 2008 at 6.00pm in Committee Room 1.

Meeting ended 7.35pm.

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