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# Notice of meeting of

# **Executive Members & Childrens Services Advisory Panel**

To: Councillor Carol Runciman, Childrens Services

(Executive Member)

Councillor Ceredig Jamieson-Ball, Youth & Social

Inclusion (Executive Member) Councillor Glen Bradley (Chair)

Councillor Keith Aspden
Councillor Ian Cuthbertson

Councillor Viv Kind Councillor Ken King

Councillor Andy D'Agorne

Co-opted Statutory Members:

Dr G M Clayton Miss C Duffy Mr Andy Lawton Dr David Sellick

**Co-opted Non-Statutory Members:** 

Date: Thursday, 8 June 2006

**Time:** 6.00 pm

Venue: Guildhall

# **AGENDA**

### 1. Declarations of Interest

At this point Members are asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in the business on this agenda.





# 2. Minutes

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2006 (copy of minutes to follow).

# 3. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered their wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda or an issue within the Panel's remit can do so. Anyone who wishes to register or requires further information is requested to contact the Democracy Officer on the contact details listed at the foot of this agenda. The deadline for registering is Wednesday 7 June 2006 at 10am.

### 4. Exclusion of Press and Public

To consider excluding the public and press from the meeting during consideration of agenda items 5 and 6 on the grounds that they contain information relating to an individual and which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual. This information is classed as exempt under Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972.

# BUSINESS FOR THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

# ITEMS FOR DECISION

# 5. Children's Services Revenue Outturn

(Pages 1 - 10)

The purpose of this report is to set out the draft outturn figures for the financial year 2005/06 for the Education and Children's Social Services budgets.

# 6. Capital Outturn

(Pages 11 - 20)

This report informs Members of the final out-turn position of the 2005/06 Capital Programme and provides information on changes to existing schemes to allow the more effective management and monitoring of the future Capital Programme. In addition, the report contains information on new externally funded schemes and seeks approval for their addition to the 2006/07 to 2008/09 Education Capital Programme together with any financial slippage to or from future financial years.

- 7. Local Authority Governor Appointments (Pages 21 28)
  This report provides information about the current position with regard to vacancies for LA seats on governing bodies, lists current nominations for those vacancies, as detailed in Annex One, and requests the appointment, or re-appointment, of the listed nominees
- 8. Voice & Influence Recommendations from (Pages 29 34) the Young People's Working Panel

The purpose of the report is too review the remit, membership, frequency and powers of the Children and Young People's Working Panel (CYPWP) and to recommend options for spending the £25k of the Youth Service Scrutiny money.

9. Derwent Infant & Junior School - Joint (Pages 35 - 42)
Governing Body Working Party Consultation of Federation

This report describes the background to a joint proposal from the governing bodies of Derwent Infant and Derwent Junior schools to federate the two schools with effect from 1 September 2006 and invites comments on the draft consultation document produced by the governing bodies of the two schools.

10. Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972

# **Democracy Officer:**

Name - Melanie Carr Telephone No. – 01904 552061 E-mail – melanie.carr@york.gov.uk

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democracy Officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details are set out above.



Agenda Item 5

# **Executive Member for Education and Children's Services and Advisory Panel**

8 June 2006

Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services and the Director of Resources

# **EDUCATION and CHILDREN'S SERVICES DRAFT REVENUE OUTTURN** - 2005/06

# Summary

The purpose of this report is to set out the draft outturn figures for the financial year 2005/06 for the Education and Children's Social Services budgets. The individual variations are detailed in full at Annexes 1 and 2 respectively. In summary though the draft outturn for 2005/06 is as follows:

	Latest Approved Budget £000	Draft Outturn Expenditure £000	Outturn V £000	ariation %
Education Children's Social Services	88,387 9,117	87,712 9,710	- 675 + 593	- 0.8% + 6.5%
Portfolio Total	97,504	97,422	- 82	- 0.1%

2 It should be noted that all of the figures are provisional and may be adjusted. However, significant changes are not expected to be made.

# **Background**

The original Education and Children's Social Services revenue budgets, approved at Council on 22 February 2005, were £87,882k and £9,067k respectively. Since then amendments have been made resulting in the current approved budgets shown above. These amendments are summarised in the following tables:

Amendments to Children's Social Services Budget During 2005/06	£000
Original Estimate 2005/06	9,046
Approved Changes: Fostering Placement costs - Approved at Executive 25/10/06 (NR)	71
Current Approved Budget 2005/06	9,117

Amendments to Education Budget During 2005/06						
Original Estimate 2005/06						
Approved Changes: Budgets carried forward from 2004/05 - Approved at the Executive on 28/06/05 (NR)	291					
Corporate Asset Rental adjustments	65					
Corporate procurement savings	(8)					
Children's Services Set-up Costs - Approved at Executive 25/10/05 (NR)	50					
Out of City Placements - Approved at Executive 25/10/06 (NR) PFI Revenue Budgets	50 18					
Feasibility Studies budget transferred from Property Services	11					
Corporate Deferred Charges Adjustment	22					
Director's Delegated Virements:						
Office Accommodation changes - budget transfer to Community Services (NR)	(10)					
Directors CDC income budget returned to Chief Executives Dept	16					
Current Approved Budget 2005/06	88,387					

The Executive Member has also received monitoring reports and has been kept informed on expenditure and income trends during the year. The latest report was presented on 13 December 2005.

#### Consultation

5 Not applicable

### **Options and Analysis**

#### 2005/06 Outturn

### **Education Budget**

- At the time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> monitoring report in December an overspend of £30k was projected. The final outturn now shows an underspend of £675k. If Members approve budget carry forwards totalling £179k (see paragraph 12 below) then the more accurate comparative figure would be a £496k net underspend. The full details of all the variations that make up the £675k underspend are shown at Annex 1. The major changes from the 2<sup>nd</sup> monitoring report are set out briefly below:
  - Standards Fund grant is received from Government to cover the Academic Year up to 31 August. There is still a further £179k of the council's contribution to spend in the period from 1 April to 31 August 2006. It is proposed to carry this forward into the 2006/07 financial year.
  - An increase in the underspend on Home to School Transport of £71k.
  - A £100k more favourable position than was projected on Out of Authority Placements because the potential additional placements flagged up in December were avoided.

- A £71k increase in the net surplus on Inter Authority Recoupment fees with neighbouring LEAs.
- A £27k higher than expected grant from the LSC to cover the costs of post 16 SEN pupils.
- Careful management within the Adult Education service to bring a projected £30k deficit back into line with the budget.
- An £82k backdated rates refund in respect of Archbishop Holgate's School.
- A £45k staffing saving within the finance team due to a number of vacant posts in the later part of the financial year.
- Later than planned opening of the four PFI schools resulting in lower payments to the private provider and a net saving to the council of £66k.
- Many of the underspends are either one-off or have been achieved by initiating specific management action to cease spending in a number of non-essential areas. This was in response to the difficult overall council budget position being projected at the time of the last monitoring reports. Inevitably the majority of these savings are only sustainable in the short term and cannot be repeated in 2006/07 without impacting seriously on the levels of service provided. Initial estimates of the 2006/07 position are also provided in Annex 1 and show a possible net saving of £47k in 2006/07.

### Children's Social Services

- At the time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> monitoring report in December an overspend of £390k was projected. The service was also proposing some action that was hoped would reduce the overspend to £270k by the end of the year. Although some of this action was successful in reducing a number of the projected overspends, the final outturn now shows an increase to £593k. The full details of all the variations that make up the £593k overspend are shown at Annex 2. The major changes from the 2<sup>nd</sup> monitoring report are set out briefly below:
  - A £20k increase in the overspend on Legal Fees.
  - A £63k increase in fostering costs since the second monitor.
  - An increased number of care leavers requiring accommodation and allowances, increasing the overspend by £72k.
  - One additional externally purchased placement and an increase in the number of secure remand days costing an extra £55k.
  - A £24k increase in the overspend on Inter Agency Adoption fees.
  - A net increase in staffing costs of £94k due to the use of agency staff and sickness levels
- This is a significant overspend but does need to be set in the context of a similar overspend in 2004/05 which was not addressed when the 2005/06 budgets were set. In addition actual expenditure per head of population is still one of the lowest in the country at 142<sup>nd</sup> out of 148 social services authorities (based on 2004/05 outturns).

Although some of the underlying variations have already been accounted for when the 2006/07 budgets were set and a number of variations are of a one-off nature, there are still some significant items that are expected to have an impact in 2006/07. Initial estimates of the 2006/07 impact are also shown in Annex 2 and already show a pressure of at least £365k in 2006/07 above currently provided budgets.

# **Proposals to Carry Forward Unspent Budgets**

- In order to promote good management and allow planned 2005/06 projects to be completed, it is proposed to continue the arrangements of previous years and permit underspendings to be carried forward in certain circumstances. Rather than being a general provision, it is suggested that carry forward proposals should normally be considered where the portfolio area actually underspends due to a genuine slippage.
- The Education budget has underspent in 2005/06 by £675k and the directorate has one essential request for budget carry forward. Because of the significant overspend in the Children's Social Services budget, no carry forwards are requested in this service area.
  - The 2005/06 Standards Fund allocations from the DfES can be carried forward to 2006/07 as long as they are used by 31 August. For allocations that require a matched contribution from the council it will also be necessary for this matched budget to be carried forward to 2005/06. The carry forward budget requested is £179k; this will also enable the department and schools to benefit from a further £179k of DfES grant. In practice, as the allocations have to be spent by 31 August, the majority of expenditure has already been incurred during the summer term. Carry forward request £179k

# **Corporate Objectives**

The budgets covered in this report reflected the council's corporate objectives for 2005/06.

# **Implications**

• **Financial:** contained in the main body of the report

• **Human Resources:** not applicable

• **Equalities:** not applicable

• Legal: not applicable

• Crime and Disorder: not applicable

Information Technology (IT): not applicable

# **Risk Management**

14 Contained in the main body of the report.

### Recommendations

- 15 The Executive Member is recommended to:
  - approve the draft revenue outturn for 2005/06 and note that the net underspend will be transferred to the council's reserves.
  - agree the carry forward set out in paragraph 12 totalling £179k, subject to the approval of the Executive.

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:
Patrick Scott
Director of Learning, Culture and Children's
Services
Simon Wiles
Director of Resources
Report
Approved
Patrick Scott
Director of Learning, Culture and Children's
Services
Report
Approved
All 🗸

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annex 1 – Education Budget Detailed Outturn variation analysis 2005/06 Annex 2 – Children's Social Services Budget Outturn variation analysis 2005/06

# **Background Papers**

2005/06 Budget Files
2005/06 Closedown Files
Revenue Estimate 2005/06 reported to Council on 22 February 2005
Budget monitoring reports presented to the Executive Member during 2005/06

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				Annex 1
EDUCATION				
<b>VARIATIONS BETWEEN BUDGET &amp; DRAFT OUTTURN EXPENDIT</b>	URE FOR	THE FINAN	ICIAL YEAI	R 2005/06
'+' indicates an increase in expenditure or a reduction in income	Draft	2nd	1st	Effect In
'-' indicates a reduction in expenditure or an increase in income	Outturn	Monitor	Monitor	2006/07
Acces 9 Inclusion	£000	£000	£000	£000
Access & Inclusion Access Services (variation -2.3%)				
There has been a small underspend in salaries within the PRU.	- 16	- 16	- 10	
Work Related Learning costs have underspent because of a reduction		- 15		
in the number of placements.				
Home to School Transport administration was transferred from DEDS		0	+ 30	- 70
to LCCS from April 2005. The new team were set a challenging target				
of generating £100k of savings against the transport budget in				
2005/06. Aganist this target an overall saving of £171k has been				
achieved. Special Educational Needs Service (variation -4.9%)				
For 2005/06 the continuing cost of all pre-existing out of city	+ 7	+ 7	+ 95	
placements has generated a saving against the budget provided of				
£100k. Unfortunately this has been offset by an increased cost of				
£157k to fund 4 new unavoidable and unexpected placements that				
have had to be made since the original budget was set. Of the new				
placements two are to a school for the deaf for siblings whose family				
have recently moved to York (£42k), one was a short term placement				
in a residential school for the summer term only (£27k) and the fourth is an emergency care placement in a specialist children's home				
(£88k). This means that the net overspend against the original budget				
has been £57k for the year of which £50k was funded by a one-off				
allocation from contingency by the Executive on 25/10/05.				
At the time of the second monitor (December 2005), the potential for		+ 100		
three additional placements before the end of the financial year was				
highlighted. In the event one of these was not required and the other				
two did not commence until April 2006.  The pressure on the Learning Support Assistant (LSA) and School	- 44	- 45	- 15	
Based Area Teachers (SBAT) budgets may now have passed its peak.		- 45	- 15	
The budget for 2005/06 was set assuming the number of LSA hours				
required to support children with statements of special educational				
need had stabilised after a period of significant growth up until last				
year.				
To help off-set some of the overspends being reported against this		- 40		
and other service plans we have reviewed the departmental costs				
charged against some grants. It has been possible to make a one-off saving this year by charging some base budget items to these grants.				
A saving has been achieved on the Special School Outreach budget	- 26	- 20		
that is used to promote collaborative work between special and		- 20		
mainstream schools.				
A teaching post in the Hearing Impairment Service has been vacant	- 7	- 10	- 10	
for part of the financial year.				
There has been an overspend on the Early Intervention budget that is	+ 7	+ 7		
devolved to St Paul's Nursery and Burton Green Primary schools.				
These costs have been delegated to the schools from 2006/07 within the overall ISB budget				
the overall ISB budget.  Recent changes to the way in which charges for Inter Authority	- 71			
Recoupment can be calculated mean that a greater level of overheads				
can now be included in the charge for each pupil. As York is currently				
a net provider of places in mainstream special schools this has				
resulted in a net underspend on the overall recoupment budget.				
A higher than expected grant from the LSC to cover the costs of post	- 27			
16 SEN pupils.				

# Page 8

'+' indicates an increase in expenditure or a reduction in income	Draft	2nd	1st	Effect In
'-' indicates a reduction in expenditure or an increase in income	Outturn	Monitor	Monitor	2006/07
	£000	£000	£000	£000
There is an underspend on the matched LEA contribution to the	- 25			
Vulnerable Children Standards Fund grant, which under DfES				
regulations can be spent up to 31 August 2006. This will need to be				
carried forward into 2006/07.				
Lifelong Learning & Culture				
Adult & Community Education (variation +6.1%)				
The service was originally reporting a number of pressures relating to	0	+ 30	+ 35	
cover for long term sickness and challenging fee income targets that				
were expected to result in an overspend this year. Due to careful				
management of expenditure and the sourcing of additional income in				
the later part of the year the service has been able to bring the budget				
back in to balance.				
Early Years & Childcare (variation +3.0%)	+ 67	+ 75	+ 57	. 10
Expenditure on demand led nursery education grants was more than expected in 2006/07 with the equivalent of 52 additional full year part	+ 07	+ /5	+ 57	+ 10
time places funded.				
Resource Management				
Finance (variation -2.0%)				
Backdated rate refunds on a number of school properties most notably	- 82			
Archbishop Holgate's following its change in status to Voluntary Aided.				
Savings within the finance team resulting mainly from a significant	- 46			
number of vacant posts in the later part of the financial year.	- 40			
Human Resources (variation -2.7%)				
Vacancies among the school crossing patrols have generated an	- 30	- 20	- 20	
underspend of £30k this year.				
The Occupational Health referral budget has overspent this year.	+ 13	+ 5		+ 13
Planning & Resources (variation -10.7%)				
Because of later than originally planned opening of the PFI schools a	- 66			
saving has been generated on the budget provided for PFI revenue				
costs. This is a net saving taking account of reduced charges from the				
provider, reduced income from the users and a number of one-off				
additional items that required funding.				
Strategic Management (variation -3.4%) Only £71k of the £99k budget set aside to deal with PPA time costs for	- 28	- 28	- 31	
LEA employed teachers has been allocated to individual services.	- 20	- 20	- 51	
Because of additional sponsorship income and a higher than expected	- 10			
take up there has been a net surplus generated on the school				
conference and lectures budgets this year.				
Cahaala Dalamatad and Dayahyad Budmata				
Schools Delegated and Devolved Budgets  No significant variations to report				
No significant variations to report				
Standards & Quality				
Education Development Service (variation -8.5%)				
There has been an underspend on the matched LEA contribution to	- 154	0		
Standards Fund allocations which, under DfES regulations, can be				
spent up to 31 August 2006. This underspent budget will need to be				
carried forward into 2006/07 to ensure that the matching DfES grant				
totalling £154k is secured.				
Minor Variations				
Net amount of all other minor variations in expenditure and income.	- 11	- 1	0	0
	·			
NET OUTTURN VARIATION	- 675	+ 29	+ 131	- 47
Learn Booker Communication				
Less Budget Carry Forward Requests: Standards Fund Matched Budgets	, 170			
	+ 179			
OVERALL NET POSITION AFTER CARRY FORWARDS	- 496	+ 29	+ 131	- 47

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# 2005-06 Final Outturn Position

					Annex 2
	CHILDREN'S SOCIAL SERVICES				
VARIATIONS BETWEEN	BUDGET & DRAFT OUTTURN EXPENDITURE	FOR TH	E FINANC	IAL YEAR	2005/06
'.' indicates an increase in ex	penditure or a reduction in income	Draft	2nd	1st	Effect In
	penditure or an increase in income	Outturn	Monitor	Monitor	2006/07
maioatoo a roddottori iii ox	portainare or air increase in incerne	£000	£000	0003	£000
Land Face	harves and assemble we are served as a few	00	40	01	00
<u>Legal Fees</u>	Increased expenditure on court costs, currently under joint investigation with legal services.	+ 62	+ 42	+ 61	+ 60
Section 34 - Contact	Mainly due to the high level of contact commitments arising from care proceedings.	+ 65	+ 81	+ 72	+ 65
<u>Fostering</u>	Failure to meet targets for income from other authorities and high one-off incidental costs.	+ 57	0	+ 71	
The Glen	As a result of pressure on the service to meet the specialist needs of increasingly profoundly disabled children.	+ 33	+ 41	+ 77	+ 30
Leaving Care	Due to increase in no of careleavers requiring accommodation and allowances.	+ 91	+ 19	0	+ 80
Externally Purchased Placements	One new placement since the last monitor and a six fold increase in the number of secure remand days.	+ 70	+ 30	0	+ 70
Inter Agency Adoption Fees	Due to increased activity in trying to place children.	+ 54	+ 30	0	+ 50
Staffing Budgets (Various)	The net overspend across a number of budget areas due mainly to the non achievement of the vacancy factor and the use of agency staff cover in essential services.	+ 119	+ 73	+ 52	
Other Minor Variations		+ 42	+ 74	+ 34	
TOTAL INITIAL PROJECTION	ON	+ 593	+ 390	+ 367	+ 365
Expected Impact of Actions	s Proposed at Monitor 1 and Monitor 2		- 120	- 261	
Expedied impact of Actions	1 10posed at monitor 1 and monitor 2		120	- 201	
NET OUTTURN VARIATION		+ 593	+ 270	+ 106	

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Agenda Item 6

# Meeting of the Executive Members for Children's Services 8 June 2006 and Advisory Panel

Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services and the Director of Resources

### **EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME OUTTURN 2005/06**

# **Summary**

- 1 The purpose of this report is to:
  - inform Members of the final out-turn position of the 2005/06 Capital Programme
  - advise Members of changes to existing schemes to allow the more effective management and monitoring of the future Capital Programme
  - inform Members of any new externally funded schemes and seek approval for their addition to the 2006/07 to 2008/09 Education Capital Programme
  - inform Members of any financial slippage to or from future financial years.
- The report sets out the capital outturn for 2005/06 against the approved budget. The individual scheme variances are detailed in Annex 1, but in summary the outturn of the 2005/06 Education Capital Programme is £7.982m, against the current approved budget of £9.082m, an underspend of £1.100m (12.1%).

# Background to the 2005/06 Capital Programme

The original capital programme for the financial year 2005/06 was approved at Council on 22 February 2005. Since then a number of amendments to the programme have been approved as part of the 2004/05 out-turn report and the two in year monitoring reports. This results in a current approved Education capital programme for 2005/06 which shows gross capital expenditure of £9.082m with £8.300m of other funding, giving a net capital programme cost to the authority of £0.782m. Table 1 below details the approved changes to the 2005/06 capital programme since the original programme was approved in February 2005.

Table 1- Current Approved Education Capital Programme	Gross	Other	Net
	Spend	Funding	Spend
	£m	£m	£m
Original Capital Programme 2005/06	11.422	(10.545)	0.877
Slippage and adjustments re 2004/05 Outturn report	0.086	(0.115)	(0.029)
Adjustments at Urgency Committee 12/07/05	(0.003)	0.003	0.000
Adjustments from first Monitoring Report	(0.210)	0.210	0.000
Adjustments from second Monitoring Report	(2.213)	2.147	(0.066)
Current Approved Capital Programme 2005/06	9.082	(8.300)	0.782

#### Consultation

4 Not applicable

# **Options and Analysis**

# 2005/06 Capital Programme Outturn

- The outturn of the 2005/06 Education Capital Programme is £7.982m, financed from £7.408m of external funding, resulting in a net cost to the Council of £0.574m.
- Budget slippage in to 2006/07 is £1.345m. This is comprised of £1.514m of slippage on schemes from 2005/06 to 2006/07, which is reduced by "reverse" slippage on schemes from 2006/07 to 2005/06 of £0.169m.
- The schemes where there are significant variances between the current approved capital budget for 2005/06 and the final outturn are discussed in paragraphs 8 to 18 below.

# Fulford Secondary School Targeted Capital

The second phase of the Fulford project is complete and has been well received. Some final issues around heating and the amount of the final retention remain to be settled in 2006/07, necessitating the slippage of £40k, however the project overall is expected to deliver a saving of approximately £37k.

# Applefields Special School Targeted Capital

The project is substantially complete and running well, but there is still some outstanding expenditure required on internal equipment, external ground works and the retention on the main contract totalling £188k.

# **Huntington Secondary School Improvements**

10 Extended negotiations on the scope and cost of the project mean that work on site did not commence until April 2006. The bulk of the expenditure will therefore now take place in 2006/07 requiring slippage of £546k.

# NDS Modernisation

- 11 The overall modernisation programme requires combined slippage of £442k. The individual projects within this programme which have resulted in this slippage are discussed in paragraphs 12 to 18 below.
- The Classroom Extension project at Dunnington Primary has been successfully completed. However, the later stages of the project to expand the hall by raising the roofline proved significantly more expensive than anticipated. The area to be refurbished was structurally integral to the roof and a full investigation could not be undertaken before work commenced. It was therefore difficult to accurately predict the amount of work required. It also proved more expensive than expected to accurately match the hall flooring which needed to be replaced. Whilst the project was in progress it was also felt that desirable improvements to the toilet facilities could be carried out alongside the main work, so this was incorporated into an expanded project brief, with additional Modernisation funding allocated to the project. As a result of all these issues the total project cost has increased by £50k (8%).

- The Canon Lee School Extension project requires slippage of £79k into 2006/07. The complex nature of the project meant that the development work took longer than anticipated and construction work began a month later than originally predicted. However construction is now progressing well and completion is planned for autumn 2006.
- The availability of additional funding through the Targeted School Meals Grant (£90k in 2005/06 and approximately £150k in each of 2006/07 and 2007/08) has created the opportunity for coordination with existing Kitchen Improvements projects funded from the Modernisation Fund. Therefore £92k of capital funding has been held back to allow schools to submit bids, and this funding needs to be slipped into 2006/07.
- The Rufforth Community Hall project is now progressing well, however spend in the early stages of the project has been slower than anticipated resulting in slippage of £58k into 2006/07.
- Scarcroft Access Works project is also now progressing well and work on site is expected to be completed by mid-July. However delays at the beginning of the project due to complications around a sloping floor, and the time taken to agree the works with English Heritage and our Building Conservation department have resulted in the requirement to slip £97k into 2006/07.

# Schools Access Initiative

There are 27 individual schemes currently on-going within the Schools Access Initiative. All schemes are currently in progress, but a small number have been subject to delays. One was due to the need to rework the project because the initial quotes were unaffordable. A number of others were delayed due to lack of capacity caused by sickness absence in the surveyor's section of Property Services.

#### Skills Centre

The project is currently on schedule but some of the early expenditure on enabling works was incurred slightly later than anticipated. Therefore £44k of expenditure needs to be slipped into 2006/07.

# 2006/07 Capital Programme Budget

The 2006/07 budget has increased as a result of the above slippage by £1.345m. This gives a start budget for the 2006/07 financial year of £14.477m, £13.423m of which is externally funded and £1.054m from CYC resources.

### **Corporate Objectives**

The budgets covered in this report reflected the council's corporate objectives for 2005/06.

# **Financial Implications**

Table 2 below summarises the capital programme from 2005 to 2009 following the changes highlighted in this report.

Table 2: Gross Education Capital Programme	2006/07 £m	2007/08 £m	2008/09 £m
Current Approved Capital Programme	13.132	12.935	8.000
Slippage	1.345		
Capital Programme after 2005/06 Outturn	14,477	12.935	8.000
Funded by			
External Sources	13.423	12.675	2.500
City of York Council	1.054	0.260	5.500

Annex A illustrates the complete 2005-09 capital programme showing the current approved budgets and outturn position for 2005/06 and summarises the scheme slippage and adjustments discussed in above.

# Implications:

• Human Resources: not applicable

• Equalities: not applicable

Legal: not applicable

Crime and Disorder: not applicable

Information Technology (IT): not applicable

# **Risk Management**

23 Contained in the main body of the report.

#### Recommendations

- 24 The Executive Member is recommended to:
  - note the capital programme outturn for 2005/06 as highlighted in this report and summarised in Annex A.
  - approve the slippage to and from financial years to allow the effective monitoring of the schemes.
  - agree the revised capital programme as shown at Annex A, subject to the approval of the Executive.

#### **Contact Details**

Authors: Chief Officers Responsible for the Report:

Mike Barugh Patrick Scott

Principal Accountant - Learning, Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

Culture and Children's Services

Report Approved ✓ Date 26 May 2006

Tel. 554573

Maggie Tansley

Simon Wiles

Director of Resources

Head of Planning and Resources
- Learning, Culture and Children's
- Learning Culture and Children's

Services

port Approved ✓ Date 26 May 2006

# **Specialist Implications Officers:**

None

Wards Affected: All ✓

# For further information please contact the author of the report

# **Background Papers**

2005/06 Estimate and Capital Programme Monitoring Files

# **Annex 1** - Approved Capital Programme and final outturn

### Glossary

DfES Department for Education and Skills

LSC Learning and Skills Council

NDS New Deal for School

NMOD New Deal for School Modernisation Scheme

NNI Neighbourhood Nursery Initiative

NOF New Opportunities Fund PFI Private Finance Initiative

PRU Pupil Referral Unit TCF Targeted Capital Fund

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Annex A

# EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2005/06 -2008/09 At 2005/06 Outturn

EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME	Expenditure pre 2005/06	Amended 2005/06 Capital Programme	Forecast Outturn	Variance	Outturn Adjustments	Outurn Slippage	Amended 2005/06 Capital Programme	2006/07 Capital Programme	2005/06 Out- turn Slippage	2006/07 Capital Programme	2007/08 Capital Programme	2008/09 Capital Programme	Total Revised Gross Capital Programme
	(8'0003)	(8'0003)	(2000's)	(\$'0003)	(£000's)	(£000's)	(\$'0003)	(£000's)	(\$'0003)	(£000's)	(2000's)	(8'0003)	(£000's)
ADULT AND COMMUNITY LEARNING ACCESS FUND	262	89	53	-36	-36		- 50	0		_ ^			315
- LSC Grant	262 262	89 89	89	-36 0	-36 -36		53 53	0		0	0	0	315
- cost to the city	0	0	-36	-36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NDS CONDITION FUNDING	2,188	26	32	6	12	-6	32	0	6	6	0	0	2,226
- DfES Condition Grant	1,804	0	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	1,804
- NDS Modernisation	_0	11	23	12	12		23	0		0	0	0	23
- DfES Devolved Capital Grant	77	6	0	-6		-6	0	0	6	6	0	0	83
- Schools Access Initiative	14 10	9	9	0			9	0		0	0	0	23
- Section 106 - School Contribution	10	0	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	10 24
- SEED Capital Grant	56	0	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	56
- cost to the city	203	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0		203
NDS - DEVOLVED CAPITAL	5,982	1,419	1,485	66	66	, and the second	1,485	2,195		2.195	2,781	0	12,443
- DfES Devolved Capital Grant	5,982	1,419	1,485	66	66		1,485	2,195		2,195	, -	0	12,443
- cost to the city	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DRINGHOUSES CLASSROOM EXTENSION	336	16	10	-6	-6		10	0		0	0	0	346
- DfES Condition Grant	237	0	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	237
- DfES Devolved Capital Grant	60	0	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	60
- NDS Modernisation	39	0	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	39
- Schools Access Initiative	0	16	10	-6	-6		10	0		0	0	0	10
- cost to the city FULFORD SECONDARY TARGETED CAPITAL	2,548	70	66	0	0	0	0 66	0	0	0	0	0	2,614
- DfES Targeted Capital Fund	2,548	70	00	-4	-4		00	0		0	0	0	2,548
- NDS Modernisation	2,540	70	66	-4	-4		66	0		0	0	0	2,540
- Section 106	0	0	0	0	· ·		0	0		0	0	Ö	0
- cost to the city	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FULFORD SECONDARY TARGETED CAPITAL	504	396	319	-77	-37	-40	319	0	40	40	0	0	863
- DfES Targeted Capital Fund	483	7	0	-7		-7	0	0	7	7	0	0	490
- NDS Modernisation	0	330	260	-70	-37	-33	260	0	33	33	0	0	293
- DfES Devolved Capital Grant	21	59	59	0			59	0		0	0	0	80
- Section 106	0	0	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	0
- cost to the city APPLEFIELDS TARGETED CAPITAL FUND	2,960	780	592	-188	0	-188	592	0	188	0 188	•	0	3,740
- DfES Targeted Capital Fund	2,400	760	592	-100		-100	592	0	100	100	0	0	2,400
- NDS Modernisation	2,400	0	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	2,400
- cost to the city	560	780	592	-188	0	-188	592	0	188	188	0	0	1,340
HUNTINGTON SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS (TCF)	148	1,000	454	-546		-546		3,532	546	4,078		0	4,940
- NDS Modernisation	18	0	0	0			0	482		482	0	0	500
- DfES Targeted Capital Fund	104	1,000	454	-546		-546	454	1,496	546	2,042	0	0	2,600
- SEED Capital Grant	26	0	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	26
- School Contribution	0	0	0	0			0	774		774	_	0	774
- cost to the city	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	780	0	780		0	1,040
INTEGRATED CHILDRENS CENTRES	0	0	0	0			0	579		579			1,424
- DfES grant	0	0	0	0		0	0	579	0	579 0		0	1,424
- cost to the city	U	U	U	U	0	0	U	U	U	0	U	U	U

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715

715

2,880

2,400

50

# EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2005/06 -2008/09

Amended   Process   Proc	EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2005/06 -2008/09 At 2005/06 Outturn										Annex A			
NDS MODERNATION  1 1912	EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME	pre 2005/06	2005/06 Capital Programme	Outturn		Adjustments	Slippage	2005/06 Capital Programme	Capital Programme	turn Slippage	Capital Programme	Capital Programme	Capital Programme	Gross Capital Programme
NDS Modemisation	NDS - MODERNISATION			• •			. ,						• •	
DES Condition Grant						-		,						
- Chiton Review		1,029	2,444	2,010		-122	-127	2,193	3,100	121	0,290	2,233		9,410
		0	0	0	Ŭ			0			0	0	0	0
- Pervenue Contribution		70	0	0	•	00	00	0	0	00	0	0	0	454
Section Contribution   0   55   7   48   2   50   7   0   50   50   0   0   57		/0	89	35		-28	-26	35	20	26	46	0	0	151
DES grant		0	0	0	U	_		0	5		5	0	0	5
Section 108		0		7		2		7	C			0	0	
- DIES Devolved Capital Grant		0	100	0	-100		-100	0	0			0	0	
- SEED Capital Grant	- Section 106	0	7	7	0			7				400	0	-
Surs Start Capital Grant 0 0 9.52 52 52 52 0 0 0 0 0 552 52 0 0 0 0 0 552 52 0 0 0 0	- DfES Devolved Capital Grant	206	650	637	-13	14	-27	637	464	27	491	9	0	1,343
- External Crant	- SEED Capital Grant	0	0	77	77	77		77	O		0	0	0	77
- Basic Need	- Sure Start Capital Grant	0	0	52	52	52		52	0		0	0	0	52
- LSC Grant	- External Grant	0	94	0	-94		-94	0	96	94	190	0	0	190
- cost to the city	- Basic Need	0	0	0	0	138	-18	120	0	18	18	0	0	138
NEIGHBOURHOOD URSERIES INITIATIVE   1.577   8.61   9.22   6.2   5.5   7   9.23   8.16   -7   8.99   0   0   0   3.309   - INIS Grant Improving Working Lifes   343   0   14   5   5   14   0   0   0   0   0   3.57   - INIS Grant Improving Working Lifes   343   0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0	- LSC Grant	7	20	0	-20	-20		0	O		0	0	0	7
NEIGHBOURHOOD NURSERIES INITIATIVE - DIES Grant - OTES Grant Improving Working Lifes - ANDS Modernisation - NDS Modernisation - DIES Condition Grant - OTES CONDITION GRANT - Section 106 - OTES CONDITION GRANT - OTES CONDITION GRA	- cost to the city	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- DIES Grant Improving Working Lifes		1.577	861	923	62	55	7	923	816	-7	809	0	0	3.309
- NNS Grant Improving Working Lifles			0	0	0			0				0	0	
- NDS Modermisation			9	14	5	5		14	O		0	0	0	
- SEED Capital Grant			0	30	30	30		30	272		272	0	0	
- DIFES Condition Grant			0	0				0				0	0	
DIES ICC Grant			o O	o O	0			0			0	0	0	
- Sure Start Capital Grant		0	0	0	0			0	265		265	0	0	
- Revenue Contribution		0	850	850	0			850	200			0	0	
- Revenue Contribution 0 0 0 0 7 7 7 7 2 0 13 0 0 13 - Schools Access Initiative 0 0 0 7 7 7 7 7 2 0 7 7 2 0 7 13 0 0 0 20 7 8 - Section 106 12 13 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		0	030		22	22			21		o o	0	0	
- Schools Access Initiative		0	0	22	22	22		22				0	0	
- DIES Devolved Capital Grant		0	0	7	7		7	. 7	_	7	_	0	0	_
- Section 106 - Nusery Operator Contribution - cost to the city - Cost		000	0	,	7		1	/		-/		0	0	-
- Nusery Operator Contribution 200 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0			0	0	0			0	52		32	0	0	_
Cost to the city   Cost to the			0	0	0			0	3		3	0	0	
ROBERT WILKINSON BASIC NEED PHASE 1 405 19 22 3 3 3 22 0 0 0 0 0 0 427 - Basic Need 190 19 22 3 3 3 22 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 212 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0			0	0	0	0	0		00		0	0	0	
- Basic Need				0	_		U	0		U		0	0	
- DIES Condition Grant			19		3	3						0	0	
- NDS Modernisation 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0			19	22	3	3		22	0		0	0	0	
- DfES Devolved Capital Grant		143	0	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	143
- cost to the city 32 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		10	0	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	10
ROBERT WILKINSON BASIC NEED PHASE 2 105 307 293 -14 -14 293 0 14 14 0 0 0 412 -14 293 0 14 14 14 0 0 0 199 -15 -15 -15 -15 -15 -15 -15 -15 -15 -15	·			0	0			0	U		0	0	0	_
- Basic Need 90 247 95 -152 -138 -14 95 0 14 14 0 0 199 - Schools Access Initiative 15 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0				000	0	U	0	000		•	0	0	0	
- Schools Access Initiative 15 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0						400			0		14	0	0	
- NDS Modernisation 0 40 198 158 158 198 0 0 0 0 0 0 198 - DfES Devolved Capital Grant 0 20 0 -20 -20 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0			247	95		-138	-14	95	O	14	14	0	0	
- DfES Devolved Capital Grant 0 20 0 -20 -20 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		15	0	0	•			0	C		0	0	0	
- cost to the city         0		0	.0	198				198	C		0	0	0	198
SCHOOLS ACCESS INITIATIVE     793     272     200     -72     -72     200     251     72     323     271     0     1,587       - Schools Access Initiative     737     254     174     -80     -8     -72     174     251     72     323     271     0     1,505       - DfES Devolved Capital Grant     30     0     0     0     0     26     0     0     0     0     0     56		0	-	0				0	0		0	0	0	0
- Schools Access Initiative 737 254 174 -80 -8 -72 174 251 72 323 271 0 1,505 - DfES Devolved Capital Grant 30 0 0 0 26 26 0 0 0 0 0 56		0	•	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- DfES Devolved Capital Grant 30 0 0 0 26 26 0 0 0 0 56													0	
				174	-80	_	-72		251	72	323	271	0	
- LSC Grant   26   18   26   8   -18   0   0   0   0   0   26				0	0	-		26	0		0	0	0	
	- LSC Grant	26	18	26	8	-18	_	0	0	_	0	0	0	26

48

66 66

-51

-51

-44

-44

-51

-51

2

48

48

66 66 0

1,478

1,278

-44

667

667

222

172 50

99

110

110

- LSC Grant - cost to the city

- SEED Capital Grant

- cost to the city
THE SKILLS CENTRE

- DfES Targeted Capital Fund

- DfES Devolved Capital Grant

SEED CHALLENGE CAPITAL GRANT

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44 44

1,522

1,322

1,070

840

Annex A

# EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2005/06 -2008/09 At 2005/06 Outturn

				_									
EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME	Expenditure pre 2005/06 (£000's)	Amended 2005/06 Capital Programme (£000's)	Forecast Outturn (£000's)	Variance (£000's)	Outturn Adjustments (£000's)	Outurn Slippage (£000's)	Amended 2005/06 Capital Programme (£000's)	2006/07 Capital Programme (£000's)	2005/06 Out- turn Slippage (£000's)	2006/07 Capital Programme (£000's)	2007/08 Capital Programme (£000's)	2008/09 Capital Programme (£000's)	Total Revised Gross Capital Programme (£000's)
- NDS Modernisation	0	0	0	0	_		0	200		200	230	0	430
- cost to the city SPECIALIST SCHOOLS STATUS - DfES Grant - cost to the city	0 100 100 0	0 0 0	0 100 100 0	0 100 100 0	0 100 100 0	0	100 100 0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	200 200 0
SURE START - Sure Start Capital Grant - Revenue Contribution - cost to the city	71 71 0	154 154 0	166 154 12	12 0 12	12 12	0	166 154 12	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	237 225 12
WESTFIELD FIRE - Revenue Contribution - NDS Modernisation - cost to the city	51 48 3	5 0 5	5 0 5	0 0	5 -5 0	0	5 5 0	0 0 0	0	0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	56 53 3
WESTSIDE REVIEW - MANOR - Government Grant - Revenue Contribution	0	0 0 0	0	0			0 0 0	500 500 0		500 500 0	5,000 5,000 0	2,500 0	10,000 8,000 0
- cost to the city WESTSIDE REVIEW - MANOR - Government Grant - Revenue Contribution	0 0	0 0	0 0	0	Ü	0	0 0	0 0	0	0 0	0 0	2,000 3,500 0	2,000 3,500 0 0
- cost to the city PRUDENTIAL BORROWING - External Funding - cost to the city	0 0 0	0 0 0 0	0 18 0 18	0 18 0 18	0 18 0 18	0	0 18 0 18	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0 0 0	3,500 0 0 0	3,500 18 0 18
FUNDING FROM EXTERNAL SOURCES	19,984	8,300	7,408	-892	229	-1,157	7,372	12,266	1,157	13,423	12,675	2,500	55,954
NET COST TO CITY	847	782	574	-208	16	-188	610	866	188	1,054	260	5,500	8,271
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	20,831	9,082	7,982	-1,100	245	-1,345	7,982	13,132	1,345	14,477	12,935	8,000	64,225
Funding Summary  - DfES Condition Grant  - DfES Grant  - DfES Devolved Capital Grant  - DfES ICC Grant  - SEED Capital Grant  - NDS Modernisation  - Schools Access Initiative  - Clifton Review  - DfES Targeted Capital Fund  - LSC Grant  - Basic Need  - Sure Start Capital Grant  - Nusery Operator Contribution  - NHS Grant Improving Working Lifes  - Section 106  - School Contribution  - Revenue Contribution  - Venture Fund  - Buildings Fund  - External Grant  - Government Grant  - cost to the city  Total Funding Available	20,831  2,237 646 6,492 0 768 2,012 836 0 5,707 295 280 71 200 343 25 24 48 0 0 0 847	0 100 2,154 0 99 2,900 368 0 1,117 266 1,004 0 9 7 55 0 0	7,982 0 100 2,181 0 125 2,897 235 0 520 115 117 1,056 0 14 7 7 7 12 0 0 22 0 0 574	-1,100 0 0 27 0 26 -3 -133 0 -597 -12 -149 52 0 -48 12 0 0 -72 0 -208	0 100 86 0 26 32 -42 0 0 -74 3 52 0 5 0 2 17 0 0 2 2 17	-1,345  0 -100 -33 0 0 -160 -91 0 -597 0 -32 0 0 0 0 -50 0 0 -50 0 0 -188	0 100 2,207 0 125 2,772 235 0 520 53 237 1,056 0 14 7 7 7 17 0 0 0 22	0 627 2,711 265 26 4,117 291 0 2,774 0 0 0 36 774 18 0 0 127 500 866	0 100 33 0 0 160 91 0 597 0 32 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 727 2,744 265 26 4,277 382 0 3,371 0 32 0 0 0 0 0 221 1,054	0 845 2,790 0 0 2,529 271 0 840 0 0 0 0 400 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	2,237 2,318 14,233 265 919 11,590 1,724 0 10,438 348 549 1,127 200 357 468 855 83 0 0 243 8,000 8,271

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Agenda Item 7

# **Meeting of Executive Members for Children's Services and Advisory Panel**

8 June 2006

Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

# Local Authority (LA) School Governors

# Summary

1. This report provides information about the current position with regard to vacancies for LA seats on governing bodies, lists current nominations for those vacancies, as detailed in Annex One, and requests the appointment, or reappointment, of the listed nominees

# **Background**

- When considering LA vacancies, the Executive Member should be mindful that all governing bodies are required to reconstitute by 31 August 2006 under the terms of the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2003. Many governing bodies have decided when they would wish to adopt a new constitution; others have not only taken this decision, but also determined the size of the new governing body. The proportion of governors representing each category (eg parent, staff, LA and community) is set by law. Some governing bodies will, under their new constitution, have fewer LA places and it is important that this is considered when making new LA appointments.
- 3. The current position of each governing body regarding re-constitution is contained with the school details in Annex 1.
- 4. Under the transitional arrangements of the new regulations, the term of office of any governor elected or appointed after 1 September 2003 will end on the date of reconstitution.
- 5. National benchmarking data on governor vacancies indicates a national LA average of 11% for LA governor vacancies. York has 2% LA vacancies at the time of writing this report. Some vacancies will be generated by those existing governors not wishing to stand for a further term of office. The following table summarises the current position of LA vacancies and appointments in City of York schools.

Total number of LA seats in City of York schools	172
Number of LA seats currently filled (including vacancies held pending reconstitution)	164
Number of new LA appointments addressed by this paper	2
Number of LA reappointments addressed by this paper	5
Number of LA vacancies remaining after this paper (excluding those held pending reconstitution and those where a nominee has been identified)	4 (2%)

Political affiliation of LA governors								
Party	Number of governors	Percentage of all LEA governors						
Labour	21	13.5%						
Lib Dem	23	15%						
Conservative	3	2%						
Green	2	2%						
Others	104	67.5%						

#### Identification of vacancies

- 6. The overall process of governor vacancies is informed by an accurate, detailed database, which includes records of all schools, the structure of their governing bodies, individuals who serve as governors and terms of office.
- 7. From the database can be determined such information as current vacancies and terms of office which are due to expire. In this way the Governance Service can clearly identify in advance the actions which are required and act accordingly.

# **Reviewing Vacancies**

- 8. The vacancy position is under constant review. When potential new governors are identified the candidate is contacted to discuss their interest and suitability. The Chair of Governors and headteacher are also contacted to discuss the potential candidate in terms of a good match for the needs of the governing body and current governors. This is particularly of value at the present time whilst governing bodies are considering re-constitution under the terms of the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2003. When an appropriate vacancy has been identified, the potential candidate is nominated for appointment by the Executive Member with the Advisory Panel.
- 9. Where a term of office is due to expire, the individuals are contacted to ask whether they would like their name to be put forward again for reappointment. Chairs and headteachers are contacted to ascertain any relevant supporting

information. Where a reappointment is appropriate, this is included on the nomination paper for consideration by the Executive member with the Advisory Panel.

#### **Political Balance**

10. In York the LA governor seats are filled on merit, rather than by strict consideration of political balance. Just under a third of LA governors are, in practice, linked to one of the political parties. Amongst this number there is a balance which very broadly reflects the political balance within the authority. As and when a situation arises in which any party has significantly more seats than their political representation would indicate to be appropriate, steps may be taken to redress the balance over a period of time, whilst always considering the need to identify the best possible governor for a school, rather than taking account of individuals' political affiliation.

# **Options**

11. To enable the effective reconstitution of all governing bodies as required by the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulation 2003, the single option is to appoint or re-appoint LA governors to fill vacant seats.

### Consultation

12. Consultation on the nominations for appointment has been undertaken in accordance with the agreed procedure for the appointment of LA governors.

# **Implications**

13. There are no known implications for the following:

Financial -Human Resources Equalities Crime & Disorder Information Technology Property

### Legal

14. To ensure that governing bodies can be reconstituted by 31 August 2006 under the terms of the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulation 2003.

# **Risk Management**

15. There are no known risks associated with this paper.

# Recommendations

16. The Executive Member is recommended to appoint, or re-appoint, LA Governors to fill vacant seats as proposed in Annex One.

#### **Contact Details**

Author:
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Governance Service Manager, Culture and Children's Services
01904 554258

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:
Patrick Scott
Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services
Olympia Services
Patrick Scott
Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services
Olympia Services
Olymp

# **Specialist Implications Officers:**

Legal: On behalf of Susan Hemingway Head of Civic, Democratic & Legal Services 01904 551004

Wards Affected: List wards or tick box to indicate all ✓

For further information please contact the author of the report

# **Background Papers**

None

### **Annexes**

Annex 1 details the current position of LA governor vacancies and lists those governors who are being nominated for appointment or re-appointment.

# LA GOVERNOR NOMINATIONS AND VACANCIES: SUMMER TERM 2006

#### PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Name of School	Badger Hill	Badger Hill Primary – reconstituted 01/09/2004						
Number of LA Governors	3	Total number of governors 14						
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	То	Restanding	Vacancy since			
Mrs I Waddington	None	01/07/2002	30/06/2006	Yes				
Dr A Brabbs	None	24/03/2003	23/03/2007	N/a				
Miss J Dennison	None	16/03/2005	15/03/2009	N/a				
Nomination for reappointment								

Mrs Waddington would like to stand for a further term of office.

Name of School	Carr Infant	Carr Infant – reconstituted 01/01/2004						
Number of LA Governors	2		Total number of governors					
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	То	Restanding	Vacancy since			
Miss J Marsden	None	01/09/2005	31/08/2009	N/a				
Vacancy					13/02/2006			

None – the governing body has expressed a wish for an Councillor to join the governing body.

Name of School	Dunnington CE Primary – reconstituted 01/09/2005							
Number of LA Governors	2		Total number of governors 15					
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	То	Restanding	Vacancy since			
Cllr J A Greenwood	Lib Dem	01/09/2005	31/08/2009	N/a				
Vacancy					22/02/2006			
Nomination (s) for 1 vacanc	У							

Name of School	Naburn CE Primary – reconstitution 31/08/2006							
Number of LA Governors	2	Tot	12					
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	То	Restanding	Vacancy since			
Dr A Day	None	01/01/2006	31/08/2006	Yes				
Vacancy					Held pending reconstitution			

#### Nomination (s) for 1 vacancy

Mrs Ann-Marie Teal: "In my career I have been a pension fund administration manager and ran my own business for five years. I have spent two years teaching my own primary school children whilst taking a sabbatical sailing in the Mediterranean. Currently, I am a mature student in high education and will be attending the university in York studying for a degree in History and English Literature from October this year. I believe that my business and personal experiences would be useful to a board of governors. *Affiliation: Labour.* Appointment with immediate effect.

#### **Nomination for reappointment**

Under the reconstitution of governing bodies transitional regulations Dr Day's term of office will end on the date of reconstitution. He would like to remain with the governing body and stand for a further four-year term. Appointment wef 1 September 2006.

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Name of School Park Grove Primary – reconstituted 19/04/2004						
Number of LA Governors	3		Total nu	mber of governors	14	
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	То	Restanding	Vacancy since	
Cllr J Looker	Lab	18/06/2003	31/08/2006	N/a		
Mrs J Maris	None	01/01/2006	31/12/2009	N/a		
Vacancy					08/01/2006	
Nomination (s) for 1 vacance None	у	•		•		

Name of School	Robert Wilkinson Primary – reconstituted 01/01/2004						
Number of LA Governors	2	Total number of governors 18					
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	То	Restanding	Vacancy since		
Mr J B Hampshire	None	01/09/2005	31/08/2009	N/a			
Vacancy					21/03/2006		
Nomination (s) for 1 vacancy A nominee has been identified.							

Name of School	St Mary's CE Primary – reconstituted 01/01/2006							
Number of LA Governors		Total number of governors						
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	From To Restanding					
Vacancy					30/06/2006			

#### Nomination (s) for 1 vacancy

Mr P Cannings: When this governing body reconstituted in January 2006, it reduced the number of LA places from two to one. Since then Mr Cannings has been as an additional LA governor serving out his term of office. His current term comes to an end on 31 May and there is no other place for him on the governing body. The current holder of the LA place is emigrating to Malta and has resigned with effect from 30 June. The Executive Member is requested to consider Mr Cannings' appointment to this vacancy with effect from 30 June 2006. Mr Cannings is currently chair of governors. Affiliation: Labour Appointment wef 30 June 2006.

Name of School	Scarcroft Primary – reconstituted 01/09/2005						
Number of LA Governors	4	Total number of governors 18					
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	Vacancy since				
Mrs H Smallman-Smith	None	01/09/2005	31/08/2009	N/a			
Dr I S MacPherson	None	01/09/2005	31/08/2009	N/a			
Mr J B Campbell	None	01/07/2002	30/06/2006	Yes			
Mrs C Towse	None	01/09/2005	31/08/2009	N/a			
Nomination for reappointment							

Mr Campbell would like to stand for a further term of office.

Name of School	Skelton Primary School – reconstituted 01/01/2004						
Number of LA Governors	3	Total number of governors 14					
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	То	Restanding	Vacancy since		
Mrs A Brierley	None	16/01/2003	31/08/2006	N/a			
Mr T Stead	None	20/01/2004	19/01/2008	N/a			
Vacancy					01/10/2005		

#### Nomination for 1 vacancy

Mrs Abby Waters: "I have worked in public sector organisations for the past 10 years and at a management level for the past 5 years as a nursing manager. I have particular skills and experience in human resource issues including recruitment and retention of staff and disciplinary procedure, management of change and resource management/budgeting. In my current role I am a governance lead and have experience in standard setting and evaluation skills. I have a good understanding of health and safety law and practical application of this. I enjoy staff and service development, acting both independently and as part of a team. I am computer

# Page 27

literate. I believe these skills would be of use to a school governing body. I have recently moved into the York area and hope to become an active member of the community. I have a strong interest in education for all ages and believe that schools play an important role within the community they serve. I am politically aware and have a good understanding of the current changes happening within education nationally. As a school governor I would hope to invest time in getting to know the school's strengths and weaknesses. I have the commitment to build relationships with the school's staff and pupils as appropriate to offer support and practical skills where required. I have a sense of humour and am open to a challenge. *Affiliation: none*. Appointment with immediate effect.

# **Secondary Schools**

Name of School	Burnholme Community College – reconstituted 01/10/2005				
Number of LA Governors	4	Total number of governors			20
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	То	Restanding	Vacancy since
Mrs D Smith	None	09/04/2006	08/04/2010	N/a	
Cllr V Kind	Labour	01/09/2003	31/08/2006	N/a	
Dr Van Der Burg	None	01/09/2003	31/08/2006	N/a	
Vacancy					14/12/2005
Nomination for 1 vacancy None				•	

Name of School	Canon Lee	Canon Lee – reconstituted 01/05/2005				
Number of LA Governors	4	Total number of governors 18				
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	Vacancy since			
Mr K Hay	Lab	01/04/2005	31/03/2009	N/a		
Dr S K Jackson	None	09/01/2005	08/01/2009	N/a		
Mrs R Cantrell	None	01/04/2005	31/03/2009	N/a		
Vacancy					28/02/2006	
Nomination (s) for 1 vacancy						

A nominee has been identified and is currently going through the appointment process

Name of School	Lowfield Sc	Lowfield School – reconstituted 01/09/2004						
Number of LA Governors	4	Total number of governors 18						
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	From To Restanding					
Mrs K Knighton	Con	01/09/2005	31/08/2009	N/a				
Mrs A E Walker	Lab	01/09/2005	31/08/2009	N/a				
Mr J A Cooke	None	01/07/2002	30/06/2006	Yes				
Mr P Rusby	None	01/01/2005	31/12/2008	N/a				
Nomination for reappointment  Mr Cook would like to stand for a further four-year term of office.								

Name of School	Oaklands S	Oaklands School – reconstituted 01.09.2004				
Number of LA Governors	4		Total number of governors 2			
Current appointees	Affiliation	From	From To Restanding			
Ms J Lee	None	01/09/2004	31/08/2008	N/a		
Cllr A Waller	Lib Dem	01/09/2005	31/08/2009	N/a		
Mrs L Rowe	None	01/09/2003	31/09/2006	N/a		
Vacancy					14/12/2005	

Nomination for 1 vacancy
A candidate has been identified for this post. She is currently going through the appointments process.



Agenda Item 8

# **Meeting of Executive Members for Children's Services and Advisory Panel**

8 June 2006

Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

# **VOICE AND INFLUENCE**

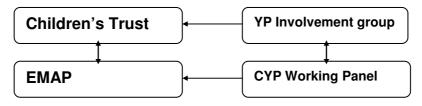
# Summary

1. To review the remit, membership, frequency and powers of the Children and Young People's Working Panel (CYPWP) and to recommend options for spending the £25k of the Youth Service Scrutiny money.

# **Background**

- 2. The CYPWP continued the work of the Young People's Scrutiny Panel, prioritising the recommendations of the scrutiny panel and looking to move these forward. Recently the CYPWP has overseen the selection of a Children and Young People's Champion for the City. The appointment of the first Children and Young People's Champion for the City as well as the adoption of the new constitution, which has changed the membership of the group, provides a good opportunity to review the work of the group and consider its future direction.
- 3. The group has historically focused its work around young people's issues, and as part of this has had a strong concern around Voice and Influence work with young people. This proposal continues this emphasis and focuses the group's work around Voice and Influence work with children and young people to ensure a positive focus on children and young people at elected member level.
- 4. It is proposed that the CYPWP should focus on:
  - Ensuring there are appropriate systems for Children and Young People's
    participation and involvement in place across the council (using the Hear
    By Right Standards as a guide). This would include: maintaining an
    overview of involvement work across the council and maintaining an
    overview of the use of monies that are subject to children and young
    people's recommendations.
  - Seeking children and young people's views on particular issues (e.g. those on the forward plan for EMAP) and making representations about how these may be reflected in policy.

- Driving forward issues raised by children and young people through this process and ensuring accountability results from involvement and consultation work
- Receiving and making recommendations about the programme of activity proposed by the Children and Young People's Champion, to provide support to the Champion and ensure that action taken is relevant to the policy agenda set out in the Children and Young People's Plan.
- 5. As the group has a remit to focus on specific issues raised by children and young people it may be useful to co-opt or invite specialists to attend the group to address these issues as appropriate.
- 6. Currently there is regular Officer representation from the Youth Service, the LEA consultant for citizenship and the Children's Trust. There is no representation from officers working with children aged 0 5, and limited representation from officers delivering work across the spectrum in the 5 11 age bracket. It is proposed that regular officer support for the Young People's Advisory Working Party should be through the Youth Service, and that other officers should attend to present reports as appropriate.
- 7. There already exists within the Children's Trust a mechanism for bringing together partner organisations to work together to meet the identified needs of children and young people across the City. The Involvement group promotes the involvement and participation of children and young people in all the activities of the Yor-OK Children's Trust. Its role includes:
  - Promoting good proactive in voice and influence work with Children and young people
  - Maintaining an overview of the involvement work with children and young people across the City. And plan future work.
  - Raise issues that emerge with the relevant organisations and seek to address them
  - Provide advice, support and training to people around voice and Influence work.
- 8. The relationship between these two groups needs to be clearly spelled out in order to avoid overlap and confusion. The Children's Trust Board is a partnership group, and, as a sub-group of the Children's Trust, the YorOK Involvement Group is a partnership group with the express aim of co-ordinating the work of all the partners involved in consultation with children and young people. The Children and Young People's Working Group (CYPWP) is a working group of the City Council, and, therefore, tasked with making recommendations to the Executive Member for decisions to be taken at a meeting of the relevant EMAP. This distinction is an important one that is represented by the following diagram:



- 9. The implications of this are that:
  - the CYPWP will both inform and be informed by the YorOK Involvement Group so that policy and practice are consistent between all partners including the city council,
  - the City Council will be represented on the YorOK Involvement Group in the same way as other partners, according to the agreed constitutional arrangements,
  - the Children and Young People's Working Group (CYPWP) will operate by making recommendations to the Children's Services EMAP and other EMAPs as appropriate.
- 10. It is proposed that the Executive Member recommends to the CYPWP the remit proposed in this report at paragraph 4.
- 11. In order to allow time for high quality officer support it is proposed that the meetings are moved to a quarterly basis, and that the working forward plan should be co-ordinated by the Departmental Management Team (DMT) for Learning, Culture and Children's Services.
- 12. The CYPWP does not legally have any power to take decisions and therefore has no budget or authority to incur expenditure. While the CYPWP will take a particular interest in budget spent around the area of Voice and Influence work, particularly money that is spent based on children and young people's recommendations (the £25k fund, Youth Opportunity Fund and Youth Capital Fund) the CYPWP should not confine its work to recommendations about particular sums of money or particular budget headings. The CYPWP has a broader remit and should be concerned with considering principles about how money should be spent and make recommendations to the appropriate EMAP based on children and young people's needs, but decisions about spend will rest with EMAP's to determine based on the availability of monies and the priority that the principle has.

# Options for spending the Young People's scrutiny budget

13. At the last meeting of the Children and Young people's Advisory Panel in April the panel considered options for spending the £25k allocated in the Youth Service budget under the heading of 'Young People's Scrutiny'. In 2005-6 the young people's scrutiny panel made a series of recommendations about developing services and provision for young people in the City. Because of budget constraints, it was not possible to implement the proposals made by the working group. The options considered by the working group are outlined below. They provide the background for recommendations by the CYPWP to the Executive Member for expenditure in 06/07.

	Description	Cost	Scrutiny recommendation	Alternative funding sources
Α	Part time Voice and Influence support worker	£6400	To support the work of the Children and CYPWG	None identified
В	Furniture for The Basement	£2000	Developing sites for young people in the City Centre	Youth Capital Fund
С	Furniture for the new One Stop Shop	£3000	Developing a One Stop Shop for the City	Youth Capital Fund
D	Match funding for the promotion of activities available for children and young people	£5,000	Raise awareness about provision for young people across the City.	None identified
E	Urbie sessions (cost £6k for one session for 52 weeks)	£6000	Provide support to flexible youth provision	Youth Opportunity Fund
F	Theatre Royal Youth Theatre	£5000	Promotion of informal events for young people to share their views/activities to proactively engage young people and deter from anti-social behaviour	None identified
G	Part-time youth volunteer worker	£10000	Encourage initiatives to empower young people	None identified
Н	Go karting project	£5000	Activities to proactively engage young people and deter from antisocial behaviour	Youth Opportunity Fund

#### Consultation

14. Throughout its existence the Scrutiny Panel has involved and consulted with young people, through school lessons, questionnaires, events and informal meetings. The scrutiny recommendations were based on the views of young people, the role of the champion and the selection process were based on young people's ideas and involvement. Given the remit of the group, this strong link with the views and ideas of children and young people is key.

#### **Analysis**

15. The Panel identified options A, D and F as priorities. None of these options can be funded through other channels. The provision of a part-time worker to support Voice and Influence work would increase the capacity to engage with young people across the City. The CYPAP also noted that there should be budget available to support the election process for the Children and Young People's Champion. The work of the Theatre Royal Youth Theatre was seen to link to the promotion of young people's involvement and participation, particularly through the work of the Catalyst project that encourages socially excluded young people to access provision. The promotion of activities that are

available to children and young people is important and links to corporate objectives as well as government initiatives (particularly the Youth Offer).

# **Corporate Objectives**

- 16. The work of the CYPWP supports the council aims and objectives around:
  - Encouraging all Children and Young People to become Active Citizens
  - Consulting with young people about the future of the City and about provision by the council on behalf of young people.

# **Financial Implications**

17. This reports makes recommendations to the Executive Member for Youth and Social Inclusion for expenditure against a budget maintained by the Youth Service which was established to implement the recommendations of the Young Person's Scrutiny Panel. In order to clarify the arrangements for future expenditure against this budget, it is recommended that the budget be identified as supporting 'Voice and Influence' work on behalf of Young People. If the recommendations in the report are accepted, £8,600 will remain in the current financial year to support continuing development work. The breakdown of expenditure is as follows:

Activity	Cost
Part Time Voice and Influence Support	£6,400
Worker	
Publicity campaign for Summer Schools Out	£5,000
programme	
Theatre Royal Youth Theatre	£5,000
Development work	£8,600
Total	£25,000

# **Human Resources (HR)**

18. There are no HR implications.

# **Equalities**

19. There are no Equalities Implications.

#### Legal

20. There are no legal Implications.

#### **Crime and Disorder**

21. There are no Crime and Disorder implications.

### Information Technology (IT)

22. There are no IT Implications.

# **Risk Management**

23. There are no specific risks associated with the arrangements proposed in this report

### Recommendations

- 24. The Executive Member is recommended:
  - To approve the remit proposed for the CYPWP at paragraph 4.

Reason: In order to provide a clear sense of direction for the Children and Young People's Working Group

• To approve expenditure on the 'Voice and Inclusion' budget as proposed in paragraph 16.

Reason: In order to encourage the involvement of Children and Young People as active citizens.

#### **Contact Details**

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628829	Report Approved	26 May 2006			
Specialist Implications Officer: Financal Richard Hartle Head of Finance 01904 554225					
Wards Affected:			All 🗸		

For further information please contact the author of the report



Agenda Item 9

# **Meeting of the Executive Members for Children's Services and Advisory Panel**

8 June 2006

Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

# Federation of Derwent Infant School and Derwent Junior School Summary

- 1. This report:
  - describes the background to a joint proposal from the governing bodies of Derwent Infant and Derwent Junior schools to federate the two schools with effect from 1 September 2006
  - explains the statutory framework for the establishment of federated schools, including the requirement for the governing bodies to consult with the LA
  - invites comments on the draft consultation document produced by the governing bodies of the two schools attached at Annex 1.

# **Background**

- 2. In February 2006 the governing bodies of Derwent Infant and Derwent Junior schools met with a representatives of the LA to discuss the future provision of primary age education in the area. This was prompted by the early retirement on health grounds of the headteacher of the Junior School and declining pupil population in the catchment area.
- It was agreed at this meeting that the headteacher of the Infant School should be invited to be headteacher of the Junior School and be responsible for the leadership of both schools for one term whilst the governing bodies considered federation.
- 4. In early May both governing bodies met and agreed that they wanted to propose federation for the following reasons:
  - one governing body and one headteacher would provide stability and a clear direction for education on the school site
  - separate budgets would be maintained under this arrangement

• continuation of the present staffing establishment would ensure minimal disruption to education for the children currently in the schools.

Members will recall that agreement was reached on federation in two other similar contexts. Rawcliffe Infants and Clifton Without Junior schools were federated from April 2005 and English Martyrs' and Our Lady's will be from September 2006.

### Consultation

5. The following timeline is guided by the School Governors (Federation) (England) Regulation 2004.

26 April	meetings of the two governing bodies to discuss and agree a Proposal for Federation
8 May	meeting of the Steering Group to draft the consultation document
15 May	meetings of full Governing Bodies to agree draft consultation document
22 May	6 week consultation period to begin. Consultation document issued to parents and other stakeholders
7 June	two meetings for parents to be held in the schools.  These will provide an opportunity for questions.
3 July	Close of consultation period
6 July	Governing Bodies of Derwent Infant and Derwent Junior consider responses to consultation and decide whether or not to proceed with federation
7 July	Parents and other stakeholders informed of decision of Governing Bodies
Autumn Term	Depending on outcome take the next necessary steps

# **Options**

6. It should be noted that authority to take the decision about whether or not to federate rests with the two governing bodies and not the LA. However, there is a statutory requirement for the governing bodies of the two schools to consult with the LA.

# **Corporate Objectives**

7. The Local Authority policy on federation is attached at Annex 2.

# **Implications**

8. This section identifies the implications of supporting the proposal by the governing body.

#### Financial

The two schools will continue to be funded separately, but the governing body has the authority to combine the two budgets subject to any specific requirements for demonstrating accountability on individual funding streams. There are no other costs associated with federation other than those for printing the consultation document. This will be paid for jointly by the schools and the LA.

# Human Resources (HR)

Contractually, staff retain their existing contract, continuing to be employed by the individual school rather than the federation. However, they may choose to change the terms and contract if they so wish and the governing body may decide that in future, staff will be recruited to the federation rather than to individual schools. This would allow greater flexibility in the deployment of staff across both schools.

### Equalities

None.

# Legal

Section 24 of the Education Act 2002 provides that schools may federate under one governing body if they so wish. The statutory framework for federation is set out in The Federation of Schools (Community Schools, Community Special Schools, Voluntary Controlled Schools and Maintained Nursery Schools) (England) regulations 2003 and accompanying guidance.

The regulations make clear that, legally, federated schools remain separate entities, but with a single governing body and with the option of appointing a single headteacher. The governing bodies of the two schools are required jointly to consult with the staff, parents and LA, following which they can decide to federate on a single majority vote of the governing body.

The consultation period must be no less than 28 days, following which each governing body must separately consider the responses and decide whether to proceed with the federation.

#### Crime and Disorder

None.

# Information Technology (IT)

None.

# Risk Management

9. Risk associated with federation is minimal as the decision can be rescinded if governors find it is not appropriate in serving the needs of the schools.

### Recommendations

- 10. The Executive Member is recommended to:
  - Support the proposal by the governing bodies of Derwent Infant School and Derwent Junior School to federate.

### **Contact Details**

Author

<b>Author:</b> Jenny Vickers Assistant Director – School	Chief Officer Responsible for the report: Patrick Scott Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services				
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Wards Affected: Hull Road				All	
For further information please contact	the author of the	report			
Background Papers:					
Authority Policy					
Annexes					
Annex 1: The Proposed Federat	ion of Derwen	t Infant a	and Ni	ursery Sc	hool with

**Annex 2:** Use of Powers Under the Education Act 2002 on the Federation of Maintained Schools

Derwent Junior School Consultation Document - Copies available from the Report

#### Annex 2

# Use of Powers Under the Education Act 2002 on the Federation of Maintained Schools

# 1. Background

The proposal by the governing bodies of Rawcliffe Infant school and Clifton Without Junior school to federate under one governing body and one headteacher with effect from April 2005 has aroused considerable interest within the city. It has prompted questions about LA (Local Authority) policy and, more particularly, about whether federation is now an alternative to amalgamation for schools with falling rolls.

This consultation paper provides a description of the legal distinction between federation and merger and offers guidance on when the LA will support the federation of two or more schools and when it will pursue proposals for a school reorganisation.

# 2. School Amalgamations

From time to time, and for a variety of reasons, the LA reorganises schools. The main reason for doing this is to ensure the most efficient provision of education across the city. There is a high price to pay for failure to keep abreast of changes in the demand for school places. Too few places and it becomes difficult to satisfy parental choice, too many and an increasing proportion of the funding for schools is spent keeping buildings open rather than educating children.

Any particular decision by the LA about the future of a school or groups of schools is likely to be triggered by one or more of the following:

- concern about the quality of education being provided by the school, sometimes, but not always, in response to inspection by OFSTED
- concern about the future viability of the school as a consequence of demographic trends within the catchment area
- the opportunity to make more efficient provision of education without risking the quality of what is currently available
- the opportunity presented by the retirement or resignation of the headteacher to open a debate with governors, parents and staff about the future of the school

In York, the decision to consult about a possible school reorganisation is delegated by Council to the Executive Member for Education advised by the Executive Member Advisory Panel (EMAP). A school reorganisation involving the closure of existing schools or the opening of new ones requires the publication of a statutory notice and a 3-month public consultation period. The decision to undertake a statutory consultation can only be taken by the Executive.

Before triggering action of this kind, LA officers will analyse demographic trends in the area, make a judgement about the impact of reorganisation on the education of the pupils attending the school or schools involved as well as neighbouring schools, and establish the implications of change for capital and revenue budgets. Only then will the decision be taken to trigger a non-statutory consultation as the first step in gauging local opinion.

Particular proposals to reorganise schools will vary according to local circumstances. However, the LEA will normally seek to close all of the schools ear-marked for amalgamation and replace them with new schools. It will normally recommend to the governing body that the appointment of the headteacher be subject to national advertisement, but that other appointments are ring fenced to the existing staff. HR procedures will be agreed with the relevant unions and the interim governing body in advance of any appointments. The LA will also comply with the provisions of the Education Act (2002) on the establishment of new secondary schools.

In summary, the LA will continue to manage the supply of school places by bringing forward proposals from time to time to create new schools which support the most efficient use of resources and allow improvements to the existing estate.

#### 3. Federation

Section 24 of the Education Act 2002 provides that maintained schools may federate under one governing body if they so wish. The statutory framework for federation is set out in *The Federation of Schools (Community Schools, Community Special Schools, Voluntary Controlled Schools and Maintained Nursery Schools)* (England) Regulations 2003 and accompanying guidance.

The regulations make clear that, legally, federated schools remain separate entities, but with a single governing body and with the option of appointing a single headteacher. The power to federate resides with the governing bodies of the schools involved, and not with the LA. Under the regulations, up to five schools may join together. The Governing Bodies of the schools are required jointly to consult with the staff, parents and the LEA, following which they can take the decision to federate on a simple majority vote. The rules governing the consultation are not complex, but require the Governing Body to publish proposals about the size and composition of the governing body, arrangements for staffing the schools, timescales and 'such other matters as the governing body consider appropriate'. The consultation period must be 'no less than 28 days', following which each governing body must separately consider the responses and decide whether to proceed with the federation.

The governing body of a federation is accountable for the two schools separately, but can vire funding and resources between them. The intention is that federation should provide the maximum opportunity for joint working and the flexible use of resources to raise standards. All policies and schemes of work, for example, can be jointly produced and, to all intents and purposes,

the two schools are free to work as one. The decision to federate does not, of itself, alter the contracts of the staff employed by the schools involved. However, staff can opt to be employed by the federation if they so wish, and new staff can be appointed to the federation itself rather than to the individual schools.

Federation is not an alternative to amalgamation. Its main purpose is to encourage opportunities for joint working to improve the quality of provision and raise standards, not to tackle the supply of school places or remove surplus capacity.

The LA will be inclined to support proposals for federation when:

- it is possible to demonstrate the potential for raising standards by establishing unified arrangements for governance, a single management structure and joint working
- it will ease problems of recruiting high quality staff at all levels, but particularly where senior posts (headteacher and deputy headteacher) are proving hard to fill
- curriculum continuity and pupil progression are enhanced by close partnership working
- there is clear support from the great majority of parents and governors

# 4. Amalgamation or Federation?

Despite the clear differences between amalgamation and federation, there will be occasions when it is not clear which provides the most appropriate way forward for a particular combination of schools. A decision by the LA to amalgamate two or more schools will always take precedence over any decision by their governing bodies to federate. On occasion the LA may propose federation as a first step to the governing bodies of schools that have been earmarked for amalgamation. This is most likely to be an option when:

- the process of amalgamation is likely to be prolonged over a number of years and the alternative of split site working would bring with it significant financial disadvantages
- it is proving difficult to recruit a headteacher to one or more of the schools involved
- there is a clear advantage in asking staff to work more closely together as a prelude to merger
- speed is of the essence

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