
MEETING	EXECUTIVE MEMBERS FOR CHILDRENS SERVICES AND ADVISORY PANEL
DATE	22 JANUARY 2007
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS RUNCIMAN (EXECUTIVE MEMBER), BRADLEY (CHAIR), ASPDEN, CUTHBERTSON, KIND, KING, D'AGORNE, MS F BARCLAY (CO-OPTED NON-STATUTORY MEMBER), MRS J ELLIS (CO-OPTED NON-STATUTORY MEMBER), MS B REAGAN (CO-OPTED NON-STATUTORY MEMBER), DR D SELICK (CO-OPTED STATUTORY MEMBER), MR J BAILEY (CO-OPTED STATUTORY MEMBER) AND GREEN (CO-OPTED NON-STATUTORY SUBSTITUTE) STATUTORY CO-OPTED MEMBERS DR D SELICK, MR J BAILEY NON STATUTORY CO-OPTED MEMBERS MS B REAGAN, MS F BARCLAY, MRS J ELLIS, MR G GREEN (SUBSTITUTE)
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLOR JAMIESON-BALL, MRS A BURN, THOMAS, GALLOWAY, MS C DUFFY AND MR A LAWTON

45. **Declarations of Interest**

At this point Members were asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they had in the items on the agenda. The following general personal non-prejudicial interests were declared.

Councillor Runciman:	Governor of Joseph Rowntree School Trustee of the Theatre Royal
Councillor Aspden:	Governor of Knavesmire Primary School. Member of National Union of Teachers (NUT) Teacher at Norton College, Malton, North Yorkshire
Councillor Bradley:	Governor of Poppleton Ousebank School
Councillor Cuthbertson:	Governor of Headlands Primary School Governor of Burnholme Community College
Councillor Kind:	Governor of Burnholme Community College Governor of Haxby Road Primary School
Councillor King:	Governor of Burton Green School

Councillor D'Agorne:	Governor of Fishergate School Employee at York College
Mr J Bailey:	Governor of Huntington School
Dr D Sellick:	Governor of Derwent Infant & Junior School
Ms F Barclay:	Teacher at All Saints School ATL Branch Secretary for City of York
Mrs J Ellis:	Governor of Burton Green Primary School Governor of Canon Lee School
Ms B Reagan:	Teacher at Joseph Rowntree School SENCO Secretary of York association of the National Union of Teachers

The following interests were also declared.

Councillor Runciman declared a general personal non-prejudicial interest, as she was a principal examiner and moderator for Edexcel.

Councillor D'Agorne declared a prejudicial Interest in agenda Item 9 (Young People's YorkKash Fund: 2006/07) and left the room and took no part in the discussions.

Geoff Green a Non-Statutory Co-optee Substitute declared a general personal non-prejudicial interest in that he held various positions with AQA.

46. Minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2006 be approved and signed as a correct record.

47. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

48. Local Authority School Governor Appointments

Members considered a report which provided information about the current position with regard to vacancies for Local Authority seats on governing bodies, lists current nominations for those vacancies, as detailed in Annex One.

Officers said that there were 11 vacancies for Local Authority Governors. The appointments had been delayed due to the fact that all prospective candidates were going to be meeting with the Head Teacher of the schools in question. This was taking more time than originally anticipated.

Advice of the Advisory Panel:

That the Executive Member note the report.

Decision of the Executive Member:

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To update Members.

49. Specialised Diplomas

Members considered an update report on developments that have taken place in preparation for the introduction of specialised diplomas in September 2008.

Officers said that the bid had been submitted but it would not be known until the end of March whether the bid had been accepted or not. Officers brought to Members attention the possible financial and legal implications that may arise. The Lifelong Learning Partnership was committed to finding £150k contribution if the capital bid was successful and the City of York Council could be required to underwrite this from the schools' formula capital budget.

Officers said that there was a legal requirement for Local Authorities to ensure that in 2013 there was adequate provision across the city for all 14-19 year old learners to access one of the 14 new diploma lines. There were risks in introducing the new diploma lines but these were being managed.

Members queried the definition of 'small numbers of students' and 'larger numbers of students' as mentioned in paragraph 2 of the report. Officers confirmed that small means about 20 across each level apart from the construction diploma which would give access to about 12. The larger number would be about 100.

Members asked how well the specialised diplomas would be received by employees and Officers responded that there was still a big job to be done but they were working alongside employees regarding this.

Members asked that if one of the five bids failed would this effect the others and Officers responded that they were all separate and could fail or succeed independently of each other.

Members said that moving from offering 5 to 14 specialised diplomas in approximately 5 years was very challenging; Officers agreed with this but stressed that it was a challenge worth taking.

Members queried the credibility of the specialised diplomas in the eyes of the Higher Education establishments, especially universities, and asked how would the Council convince them to accept the diplomas as entrance qualifications. Officers said that the Government wanted to see 50% of

young people in Higher Education and that there was a willingness from the Higher Education establishments to take this on board.

Members queried how the diplomas would fit in the light of the Government aiming to raise the school leaving age to 18 by 2013 and Officers stated that the diplomas could help with this, as it would be essential to offer different forms of education and qualifications to achieve this.

Members asked how work based learning would be developed and the Officer said that, locally, the two week work placement could not be sustained in its present form. There would be some amendments made to the guidelines and at levels one and two of the diplomas simulation and workshop experience may replace work-based learning.

Advice of the Advisory Panel:

The Executive Member is recommended to approve the plan for the introduction of specialised diplomas.

Decision of the Executive Member:

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To work towards requirements which will be statutory in 2013

50. Building Schools for the Future: Prioritising Schools

Members considered a report that reviewed the progress of the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programmes and recommended to Members criteria for prioritisation of the order in which schools should enter the programmes.

Officers explained that the main concept of the report was about setting criteria rather than the production of a list of schools and their building needs. They were hoping to bring a list of schools to an early summer meeting of the Executive Members for Children's Services and Advisory Panel. These would be updated annually to reflect any change in needs and circumstances that may occur.

Advice of the Advisory Panel:

The Executive Member is advised to approve the criteria for prioritising the order in which the schools should enter the programmes.

Decision of the Executive Member:

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To have a strategy for prioritisation in place that would allow DfES to release the funding as it becomes due.

51. Extended Schools Capital Programme

Members considered a report that detailed the results of the bidding round for capital support for Extended Schools.

Officers drew Members attention towards the fact that they were going to work with those schools whose bids were not successful in this round to work up to a stronger bid should further funding become available.

Members stressed that it was very important that if an area had several of the same kind of facility then one should not lose out over another. Officers said that they were also seeking sensible community agreements so that premises worked together to the best advantage of everybody.

Members expressed concerns that question 10 (Will the monies be used according to the principles of Best Value) on the proforma at Annex 1 of the report was not very useful as few people were going to answer no to the question and a yes response did not tell one very much. Officers said that further guidelines had been issued with the proforma to stop this from happening.

Advice of the Advisory Panel:

That the Executive Member:

1. Give approval for the supported bids to go ahead
2. Recommend that all successful bidders undertake to deliver the outcomes described in their bids with their funding allocation
3. Give approval for the conditional bids to go ahead, providing that schools agree to meet the additional conditions relevant to their project.
4. Recommend that projects currently below the line are further developed with Directorate staff and, if a higher score can be achieved and funding is available, these projects come forward for approval in the quarterly Capital Monitoring reports.

Decision of the Executive Member:

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To enable the DfES funding to be spent on appropriate projects within the required timescale, to mitigate the risks of overspending against this cash-limited budget, to ensure that DfES and corporate objectives are fulfilled and to ensure that funding is spent within the time limits and best value is achieved.

52. Big Lottery Funding: Play

Members considered a report that set out how the Council may apply for Children's Play; Big Lottery Funding. It seeks endorsement of the process

followed to identify projects, approval to work up the identified projects for inclusion in the portfolio to be presented to the Big Lottery Fund, approval for the reserve projects and approval for use of the Council's top-sliced funding.

Additional information in the form of an update report was circulated to Members after the agenda had been published. This material was also available for viewing at the meeting. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Officers said that this was a very exciting time for play as the Government was allocating £150 million of funding for projects. York had been allocated just over £320k of this.

Members welcomed the idea as a whole but said that the Council needed to build a comprehensive picture of play areas in order to avoid the same areas getting the funding every time.

Advice of the Advisory Panel:

The Executive Member is recommended to:

- Endorse the process followed to identify projects.
- Give approval for Officers to work up the identified projects for inclusion in the portfolio to be presented to the Big Lottery Fund.
- Approve the list of reserve projects
- Approve the approach set out for use of the Council's top-sliced funding

Decision of the Executive Member:

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To ensure that York delivers a successful portfolio to the Big Lottery to enable our play sector to benefit from the funding on offer.

53. Yorkash Funding

Members considered a report that presented the recommendations of YorKash Panel of young people for distribution of the £170k YorKash Fund.

Two panel members from YorKash spoke to Members. They said that there had been a good response to the project and they had met many times to discuss issues ultimately leading to 34 of the applicants receiving funding. The panel of young people had developed the funding criteria, the application form and the publicity for the scheme. The group also organised a press event in the City Centre distributing fortune cookies to young people.

Members expressed their thanks to the panel of young people for their hard work and congratulated them on the wide range of projects funded as well as the geographic cover of the projects chosen. They said that the application form had obviously been very well designed as the right information appeared in annex 1 of the report.

Members queried the rejection of the application from York Ebor District Scouts on the grounds that it would only benefit a small number of people. They expressed the concern that small groups will often grow into much bigger groups if funding is provided.

Officers and YorkKash panel members stated that York Ebor District Scouts had put in more than one bid for funding and had actually been awarded funds for a different project.

It was also announced that Sarah Nicholson was to cover for Carole Pugh whilst she was on maternity leave.

Advice of the Advisory Panel:

That the Executive Member be advised to approve the proposals from the YorkKash Fund as detailed in Annex 1.

Decision of the Executive Member:

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: In order to support young people's participation and involvement within the City and increase the range of activities and spaces that are open to young people.

Cllr C Runciman
Executive Member for Children's Services

Cllr G Bradley
Chair of Advisory Panel

The meeting started at 6.05 pm and finished at 7.20 pm.

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Executive Member for Children's Services - **22 January 2007**

Report of the Assistant Director (Lifelong Learning and Culture)

Big Lottery Fund: Play – Update report

1. Following the submission of the Emap paper to January's Children's services Committee, officers wish to present an update of the progress made throughout December. Since writing the paper officers have visited the seven shortlisted projects to gain further information and clarity on how these proposed schemes meet *Taking Play Forward* and Big Lottery Criteria.
2. As outlined in the full report the seven shortlisted projects currently have a total bid value of £672.8k which exceeds the available allocation by £377.6k. Officer would like to present schemes which best meet the criteria with a proposed allocation to ensure these schemes can be further developed to be included as part of the Big Lottery Portfolio.
3. On visiting to proposed projects it became apparent that 2 of the projects did not meet as many of the criteria as some of the others and therefore it is proposed that these schemes are rejected.
4. Recommendations as detailed in the original paper remain the same but now refers to the table below.

No	Description of Project	Cost	Recommended allocation
Q	Leeside Play Area (Dringhouses and Wood Thorpe)– To regenerate a once popular play area that is now losing numbers due to wear and tear of existing equipment. Funding would entail retaining the best of the existing equipment and introducing new, modern and exiting play equipment.	£52,251	£52,000
V	Rawcliffe Boulders (Rawcliffe Country Park)– to construct two large climbing boulders that will have 24 hour access for all young people to encourage them to be more adventurous with and through their play.	£88,000	£88,000
P + T	Running Wild Yorkshire Wildlife Trust in partnership with Extreme (St.Nicholas Fields, Moorlands Nature Reserve, Fishponds Wood, Clifton Backies, Acomb Wood) – Outdoor activity that challenges young people in an urban setting. – To fund a project assistant to help develop outdoor activities. The project will seek to further enhance the 5 sites and develop safe accessible play spaces whilst retaining their wild nature and develop features such as chainsaw sculpture, musical playgrounds and orienteering trails.	£63,125 + £90,000	£105,000
S	Park Grove Play Area (Guildhall)– to enhance one side of the school field which will provide play opportunities for children ages between 3 – 14 years and encourage young parents to become involved with the school and one another. As well as being open to the public the project will also be made available for children who attend a number of local out of school groups and the school itself.	£117,500	£50,000
W	Playground Zoning (Fishergate) – To remodel play areas with multi game markings, stage, benches and tables.	£28,248	Reject due to limited access
X	Therapeutic Play Zones (Examples given: 68 Centre, Heworth, Tang Hall, Moor Lane, Dringhouses) – To run three therapeutic play zones in three areas of deprivation in York. Open access for up to 40 children 8 – 13 years, 2 nights per week, 50 weeks per year in 3 areas.	£233,762	Reject due to limited access

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