

Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Resources and Council Services)

Date: 26 January 2015

Subject: Request for Scrutiny

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. A request for Scrutiny has been received from Councillor Alan Lamb. Councillor Lamb has requested that the Board undertakes an inquiry into the transfer of the former Fir Tree Primary School to the Khalsa Education Trust.
2. Reports to the Executive Board in June 2014 and September 2014, together with the relevant minutes are attached at Appendix 1 as background to the request. Councillor Lamb will be in attendance at the meeting to put his case for scrutiny. The Chair has not invited officers to attend.
3. The decision whether or not to further investigate matters raised by a request for scrutiny is the sole responsibility of the Scrutiny Board. As such, any decision in this regard is final and there is no right of appeal.
4. When considering the request for Scrutiny, the Scrutiny Board may wish to consider:
 - If further information is required before considering whether further scrutiny should be undertaken;
 - If a similar or related issue is already being examined by Scrutiny or has been considered by another body;
 - If the matter raised is of sufficient significance and has the potential for scrutiny to produce realistic recommendations that could be implemented and lead to tangible improvements
 - The impact on the Board's current workload;
 - The time available to undertake further scrutiny;

- The level of resources required to carry out further scrutiny;
- Whether an Inquiry should be undertaken.

Recommendations

5. The Scrutiny Board is asked to:
 - (i) Consider the Requests for Scrutiny;
 - (ii) Determine if the Scrutiny Board wishes to undertake further scrutiny on the matters raised; and
 - (iii) Agree any next steps.

Background papers¹

6. None used

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.