

COUNCIL MEETING – 8th JULY 2015

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper Amendment	A2 to WP1	7/7/15	7/7/15

Submitted by: Councillor Lucinda Yeadon

Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel: Executive Board

Executive Member/Chair: Executive Member (Children and Families)
Relevant Director Director of Children's Social Services

Delete all after "This Council believes that every child in the city should" and replace with:

"....be able to go to a good local school.

The progress made by schools across Leeds means that the number of primary schools judged to be Good or Outstanding is now at 90.1% putting Leeds top in the Yorkshire and Humber region. However, ensuring that we have the appropriate number of school places in the areas where they are needed is an issue we continue to address.

We have already seen great progress in tackling this challenge by proactively creating an additional 1273 places since 2010, we must continue this momentum to meet the need in future years.

Council has recognised that basic need is an issue that requires a corporate response and a cross-Council approach. This recognition is underlined by both the Cross-Party Basic Need Group which has been in place since 2012 and the Cross-Directorate Basic Need Steering Group led by the Deputy Chief Executive.

We acknowledge that it took longer this year to resolve difficulties for some parents and understand the concern this has caused families. We believe that this illustrates the scale of the basic need challenge facing the city.

We welcome the steps taken to secure more school places in the areas affected, both before and after offer day and thank all schools for working with us to address this challenge and we look forward to continuing this positive dialogue in the future.

Council recognises the complexity of the basic need issue and believes it is exacerbated by Government legislation removing the ability of local authorities to open new community schools, separating local authorities from the process of opening free schools and failing to provide funding for the acquisition of land and buildings to be used for educational purposes.

We recognise the desire of many parents who wish to send their children to a local authority run community school and the constraints that the current national policy has on delivering this.

Council, therefore, supports the position of the LGA cross-party Children and Young People's Board, calling for these powers to be reinstated and calls on all Members to continue to lobby Government to give Local Authorities the power to build and open new community schools and to provide meaningful funding to allow this to take place."

Full motion will then read:

"This Council believes that every child in the city should be able to go to a good local school.

The progress made by schools across Leeds means that the number of primary schools judged to be Good or Outstanding is now at 90.1% putting Leeds top in the Yorkshire and Humber region. However, ensuring that we have the appropriate number of school places in the areas where they are needed is an issue we continue to address.

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Deadlines for submission

White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons

Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting

(including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)