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Executive Board- 21st July 2010

Supplementary information to:

- Item 6
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Agenda Item 6

From: Walton, Ian (Governance)
Sent: 20 July 2010 14:05
To: Wallace, Sophie
Subject: FW: Executive Board School Closure Proposals

Ian Walton
Principal Governance Officer
2474350

From: Walton, Ian (Governance)
Sent: 20 July 2010 14:04
To: MEM Executive Board; Brazil, Eleanor; Dent, Jean; Edwards, Christopher; Evans, Neil; Farrington, Martin; Galapitage, Elinor; Gay, Alan; Jackson, Nicole; Keene, Sandie; Lancaster, Joanne; Rogers, James; Rogerson, Paul
Subject: Executive Board School Closure Proposals

Dear Councillor,

Items 6, 7 and 8 at tomorrow's meeting of the Board relate to school closure proposals. As stated in the reports "the Executive Board must give reasons for the decision irrespective of whether the proposals are rejected or approved indicating the main factors/criteria for the decision."

In the interests of ensuring compliance with this requirement Education Leeds have provided succinct reasons for the recommended decisions before the Board. The reasons are quoted below and Members are requested to agree these given reasons in the event of the proposals contained in the report receiving the approval of the Board. The reasons will then be included in the minutes for the meeting.

6 Primrose

As part of the LAs response to the national challenge, Executive Board had considered the future of Primrose. It judged that by closing the school and replacing it with an academy sponsored by the Co-Operative Group would deliver sustainable change and improvement in governance, leadership, the quality of teaching, and ultimately the outcomes achieved by young people attending the school. Executive Board were asked to endorse this proposal.

7 City of Leeds

As part of the LAs response to the national challenge, Executive Board had proposed to close City of Leeds as no other viable structural solutions had been identified. During the course of the consultation process, wider partners, who were committed to the school, developed compelling alternative proposals. Executive Board asked a project team to explore and develop options. The recommendation of this project team was to retain a school on the site and build a new governing body comprising strong partners who are committed to delivering a fresh vision for the school. Executive Board were asked to endorse this proposal.

8 Parklands Girls High School

As part of the LAs response to the national challenge, Executive Board had considered the future of Parklands Girls High School. It judged that by closing the school and replacing it with a co-educational academy sponsored by the E-ACT would deliver sustainable change and improvement in governance, leadership, the quality of teaching, and ultimately the outcomes achieved by young people attending the school. Executive Board were asked to endorse this proposal.

Please include this message with your papers for the meeting.

Ian Walton
Principal Governance Officer
2474350

Agenda Item 12

From: Walton, Ian (Governance)
Sent: 20 July 2010 10:54
To: MEM Executive Board; Corporate Leadership Team
Cc: Newbould, Sandra; Booth, Andrew
Subject: Executive Board - 21st July 2010 - Neighbourhood Network Services

Dear Councillor,

The Joint report of the Director of Adult Social Services and Assistant Chief Executive Corporate Governance on Neighbourhood Network Services appears as item 12 on the agenda for tomorrow's meeting of the Board. The same report was subject to consideration at a meeting of the Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Care) held yesterday. It is clearly appropriate that Members of the Executive Board should be aware of the outcome of the Scrutiny Board considerations when they consider the report tomorrow and I therefore attach a copy of the relevant minute from the Scrutiny meeting.

I would be grateful if you could include this with your papers for the meeting.

Regards
Ian Walton
Principal Governance Officer
2474350

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ADULT SOCIAL CARE COMMISSIONING SERVICES AND NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORK REVIEW UPDATE

The report of the Deputy Director, Strategic Commissioning provided Members with an update on progress made with the review of the Neighbourhood Network Schemes (NNS) and other commissioning initiatives. A report due to be considered at the Executive Board meeting on 21 July 2010 was submitted which detailed recommendations for the provision of Neighbourhood Network Services and also included the review brief the 'Independent Review of the Procurement and Commissioning for Neighbourhood Network Schemes'. Revised wording of the recommendations as detailed on page 16 was also submitted to the Board.

The following officers were in attendance for this item:

Sandie Keene – Director of Adult Social Services
Dennis Holmes – Deputy Director, Strategic Commissioning
Nicole Jackson – Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance)
Wayne Baxter – Chief Procurement Officer

Sandie Keene, Director of Adult Services addressed the meeting and gave the Board an overview of the report. It was reported that following the initial commissioning process and subsequent proposals for awarding contracts for Neighbourhood Network Services, concerns had been raised regarding the decision making process and representations had been made.

In view of the representations made, an independent review of the process was commissioned

The outcome of the review has highlighted lessons to learn, including the need for better communication and consideration of Member involvement at scrutiny level. However, the review had concluded that there was no justification for re-opening the procurement process.

The following issues were also brought to the attention of the Board:

- Positive outcomes of the review including the Council's intent to award 5 year contracts to voluntary organisations with options to extend for a further 3 years.
- The recommendations outlined in the report to Executive Board which included the following:
 1. Organisations that had been recommended to provide Neighbourhood Network Services
 2. Organisations that would be offered shorter term contracts and to work in conjunction with the Council before being awarded longer contracts
 3. The potential development of a Strategic Partnership in 5 areas in the East of the City.

In response to Members comments and questions, the following issues were discussed:

- All areas involved in the process had competing bids.
- The Director of Adult Social Services ,in consultation with the Executive Member for Adult Health and Social Care and the Leaders of the Council appointed the independent reviewers. The review was overseen by the Director of Adult Social Services and the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance).
- Communication issues - It was acknowledged that communication could have been better which is detailed in the report. Apologies had been given to the Neighbourhood Networks.
- With reference to the general commissioning report (page 3), reference was made to the award for Contracts for Hearing and Visual Services and the disadvantages for community groups who had requested information in Braille. It was reported that these groups would be given an extension in line with the time they have had to wait for translated information.

RESOLVED –

(a) That the report be noted

(b) That the amended recommendations presented to the Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Care) as outlined in the report of the Director of Adult Social Services and Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) to the Executive Board dated the 21st of July be endorsed.

Councillors Hanley, Kendall, Lyons and Varley left the meeting during the discussion on this item due to their earlier declarations of interest which were personal and prejudicial.