

CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION

RECORD OF DECISIONS of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Education, Councillor Neill Young, at his meeting held on Thursday, 22 September 2016 at 5.00 pm at the Guildhall, Portsmouth

Present

Councillor Neill Young
Councillor Suzy Horton

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor John Ferrett.

2. Declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Education Portfolio Budget Monitoring Report for the First Quarter 2016/17

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The report was introduced by Richard Webb, Finance Manager.

DECISION

The Cabinet Member noted the Education Portfolio forecast revenue and capital budget positions, at the end of June 2016 together with the variance and pressure explanations.

4. Dedicated Schools Grant Budget Monitoring Report for the First Quarter 2016/17

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The report was introduced by Alison Egerton, Group Accountant - Schools and Traded Services. In response to questions, the following matters were clarified:

- The forecast underspend in respect of alternative provision place funding is expected to reduce to nil in Quarter 2 as the two emergency places at Flying Bull Academy have now been agreed.
- Two special schools are currently forecasting significant deficits, which will potentially place increased financial pressure on the DSG budget in the future. These deficits are being closely monitored and officers are working with the schools to seek to mitigate them.

DECISION:

The Cabinet Member noted the forecast year-end budget position for the Dedicated Schools Grant as at the end 30 June 2016, together with the associated explanations contained within the report.

5. Portsmouth Education Partnership

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The report was introduced by Mike Stoneman, Deputy Director of Children's Services - Education.

The Cabinet Member said the partnership will help the city's schools to prepare for the next part of the journey towards school improvement. He was pleased to hear that good feedback had been received from teachers and that the Regional Schools Commissioner was supporting the partnership.

Councillor Horton echoed these comments and said she was encouraged to see that so many schools and stakeholders were supporting the partnership.

DECISION the Cabinet Member:

- (1) Noted the progress made to establish the Portsmouth Education Partnership; and**
- (2) Agreed to receive a follow up report to consider the outcomes of the consultation and approval of the final arrangements for the Partnership, including an outline of a new education strategy for the City.**

6. Portsmouth SEND Strategy: Remodelling Portsmouth specialist educational provision

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The report was introduced by Julia Katherine, Head of Inclusion.

DECISION the Cabinet Member for Education:

- (1) Noted the progress made so far in implementing the SEND Strategy, including the remodelling of the specialist educational provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities.**
- (2) Noted the investment that has been made to improve and develop the specialist educational provision in Portsmouth for children with special educational needs and disabilities.**

The meeting concluded at 5.30 pm.

Councillor Neill Young
Chair