



Notice of a Meeting

Education Scrutiny Committee Thursday, 16 April 2015 at 10.00 am Meeting Rooms 1&2, County Hall

Membership

Chairman Councillor Mark Gray
Deputy Chairman - Councillor Michael Waine

<i>Councillors:</i>	Kevin Bulmer	Pete Handley	Richard Langridge
	Steve Curran	Steve Harrod	Sandy Lovatt
	Tim Hallchurch MBE	John Howson	Gillian Sanders

Co-optees: Mrs Sue Matthew

By Invitation: Ian Jones Carole Thomson

Notes: *Date of next meeting: 9 July 2015*

What does this Committee review or scrutinise?

- a focus on the following key areas:
 - work in relation to the education strategy, and including review of an annual report on progress;
 - constructive challenge on performance issues highlighting issues where the Committee can support the improvement dialogue;
 - reviewing the Council's education functions including early years, Special Education Needs and school place planning;
 - reviewing the progress of, and any issues emanating from, the School Organisation Stakeholder Group with regard to admissions patterns and arrangements;
 - reviewing issues raised by the Schools Forum.
- assists the Council in its role of championing good educational outcomes for Oxfordshire's children and young people;
- provides a challenge to schools and academies and to hold them to account for their academic performance;
- promotes jointed up working across organisations in the education sector within Oxfordshire.

How can I have my say?

We welcome the views of the community on any issues in relation to the responsibilities of this Committee. Members of the public may ask to speak on any item on the agenda or may suggest matters which they would like the Committee to look at. **Requests to speak must be submitted to the Committee Officer below no later than 9 am on the working day before the date of the meeting.**

For more information about this Committee please contact:

Chairman	-	Councillor Mark Gray E.Mail: mark.gray2@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Senior Policy Officer	-	Sarah Jelley, Tel: (01865) 896450 Email: sarah.jelley@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Policy & Performance Officer	-	Andreea Anastasiu, Tel: (01865) 323535 Email: andreea.anastasiu@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Committee Officer	-	Andrea Newman Tel: (01865) 81028362 andrea.newman@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Peter G. Clark
County Solicitor

April 2015

About the County Council

The Oxfordshire County Council is made up of 63 councillors who are democratically elected every four years. The Council provides a range of services to Oxfordshire's 630,000 residents. These include:

schools	social & health care	libraries and museums
the fire service	roads	trading standards
land use	transport planning	waste management

Each year the Council manages £0.9 billion of public money in providing these services. Most decisions are taken by a Cabinet of 10 Councillors, which makes decisions about service priorities and spending. Some decisions will now be delegated to individual members of the Cabinet.

About Scrutiny

Scrutiny is about:

- Providing a challenge to the Cabinet
- Examining how well the Cabinet and the Authority are performing
- Influencing the Cabinet on decisions that affect local people
- Helping the Cabinet to develop Council policies
- Representing the community in Council decision making
- Promoting joined up working across the authority's work and with partners

Scrutiny is NOT about:

- Making day to day service decisions
- Investigating individual complaints.

What does this Committee do?

The Committee meets up to 6 times a year or more. It develops a work programme, which lists the issues it plans to investigate. These investigations can include whole committee investigations undertaken during the meeting, or reviews by a panel of members doing research and talking to lots of people outside of the meeting. Once an investigation is completed the Committee provides its advice to the Cabinet, the full Council or other scrutiny committees. Meetings are open to the public and all reports are available to the public unless exempt or confidential, when the items would be considered in closed session.

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting

A hearing loop is available at County Hall.

AGENDA

1. **Introduction and Welcome**
2. **Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
3. **Declarations of Interest - see guidance note of the back page**
4. **Minutes (Pages 1 - 8)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2015 (ESC4) and to receive information arising from them.

5. **Petitions and Public Address**
6. **Changes to Local Authority Arrangements to Support School Improvement (LAASSI): Inspection Framework & Implications for Scrutiny (Pages 9 - 16)**

1010

Judith Johnson, CEF Schools Partnership Project will attend to present the report (ESC6) that outlines the new statutory Ofsted Framework for the inspection of local authority arrangements for supporting school improvement functions - as set out in the November 2014 Ofsted Framework and Guidance Handbook.

The report has important implications for the local authority overall in the event of such an inspection and the implications for Scrutiny Committees. Their role and remit will form part of the inspection process with respect to their scrutiny function of school improvement at service and school levels.

The report sets out the focus areas for inspection, the national context, the risk assessment for the local authority and the steps taken to date to prepare for an inspection under this framework.

The report poses some queries for future Scrutiny Committee consideration related to their forward planning to ensure appropriate scrutiny of school improvement and school quality assurance functions.

The Committee is RECOMMENDED to note this report and consider how their forward work plan enables them to ensure appropriate Scrutiny coverage of the nine inspection themes.

7. Children on the Edge of Care & Exclusions (Pages 17 - 20)

1040

Rebecca Matthews, Interim Deputy Director, Education & Learning and Lucy Wawrzyniak, School Intervention Leader will attend to present a report (ESC7) to update Education Scrutiny Committee about children on the edge of care and exclusions.

8. Briefing on Overview of System Diversity & Draft Protocol on Relationship with Academies (Pages 21 - 86)

1110

Roy Leach, School Organisation & Planning Manager will attend to present the attached briefing (ESC8).

*Please note colour copies of **Annex 3 - Academies Conversions Update Table – March 2015** will be provided at the meeting.*

The Education Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the contents of the report.

9. Breakfast Clubs (Pages 87 - 92)

1150

John Mitchell, Assistant to the Director will attend to present a report (ESC9) in response to a **Motion from Councillor Gill Sanders and agreed at Council:**

“This Council asks the Education Scrutiny Committee to consider asking those schools which currently do not, to provide school breakfast clubs for their pupils. In particular, it is asked to consider the impact this would have on raising attainment, improving absence rates and lateness and to investigate how sponsorship, alongside the Pupil Premium, might fund the breakfasts. This information should then be provided to all schools in the County.”

The Committee is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) Ask officers to draw this report to the attention of headteachers and chairmen of governors with a suggestion that active consideration be given to the introduction of breakfast clubs in schools and academies which do not already have them. The suggestion to include a recommendation that this might extend to discussion with colleagues in schools or academies which do have breakfast clubs; and***
- (b) Ask officers to explore what charitable or other sources of funding might be available to support breakfast clubs in Oxfordshire and to alert schools and academies to those opportunities.***

10. Strategic Schools Partnership Model Update

1230

A verbal update will be provided by Rebecca Matthews, Interim Deputy Director, Education & Learning.

11. Scrutiny Annual Report to Council (Pages 93 - 112)

1240

The Scrutiny Annual Report to Council (ESC11) is attached for consideration.

12. Forward Plan and Committee Business (Pages 113 - 114)

1250

An opportunity to discuss and prioritise future topics for the Committee, potential approaches to its work and to discuss the schedule for future meetings.

CLOSE OF MEETING: 1300

Declarations of Interest

The duty to declare.....

Under the Localism Act 2011 it is a criminal offence to

- (a) fail to register a disclosable pecuniary interest within 28 days of election or co-option (or re-election or re-appointment), or
- (b) provide false or misleading information on registration, or
- (c) participate in discussion or voting in a meeting on a matter in which the member or co-opted member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Whose Interests must be included?

The Act provides that the interests which must be notified are those of a member or co-opted member of the authority, **or**

- those of a spouse or civil partner of the member or co-opted member;
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as husband/wife
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as if they were civil partners.

(in each case where the member or co-opted member is aware that the other person has the interest).

What if I remember that I have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the Meeting?.

The Code requires that, at a meeting, where a member or co-opted member has a disclosable interest (of which they are aware) in any matter being considered, they disclose that interest to the meeting. The Council will continue to include an appropriate item on agendas for all meetings, to facilitate this.

Although not explicitly required by the legislation or by the code, it is recommended that in the interests of transparency and for the benefit of all in attendance at the meeting (including members of the public) the nature as well as the existence of the interest is disclosed.

A member or co-opted member who has disclosed a pecuniary interest at a meeting must not participate (or participate further) in any discussion of the matter; and must not participate in any vote or further vote taken; and must withdraw from the room.

Members are asked to continue to pay regard to the following provisions in the code that *“You must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself”* or *“You must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned.....”*.

Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting should you have any doubt about your approach.

List of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

Employment (includes *“any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain”*.), **Sponsorship, Contracts, Land, Licences, Corporate Tenancies, Securities.**

For a full list of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and further Guidance on this matter please see the Guide to the New Code of Conduct and Register of Interests at Members’ conduct guidelines. <http://intranet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/wcm/connect/occ/Insite/Elected+members/> or contact Glenn Watson on (01865) 815270 or glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk for a hard copy of the document.