



***Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Children,  
Education & Families***

***Monday, 9 March 2015 at 12.00 pm  
County Hall, Oxford***

***Items for Decision***

The items for decision under individual Cabinet Members' delegated powers are listed overleaf, with indicative timings, and the related reports are attached. Decisions taken will become effective at the end of the working day on 18 March 2015 unless called in by that date for review by the appropriate Scrutiny Committee.

Copies of the reports are circulated (by e-mail) to all members of the County Council.

**These proceedings are open to the public**

*Peter G. Clark.*

Peter G. Clark  
County Solicitor

February 2015

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Note: Date of next meeting: 20 April 2015

**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, but please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.**

## Items for Decision

1. **Declarations of Interest**
2. **Questions from County Councillors**

Any county councillor may, by giving notice to the Proper Officer by 9 am two working days before the meeting, ask a question on any matter in respect of the Cabinet Member's delegated powers.

The number of questions which may be asked by any councillor at any one meeting is limited to two (or one question with notice and a supplementary question at the meeting) and the time for questions will be limited to 30 minutes in total. As with questions at Council, any questions which remain unanswered at the end of this item will receive a written response.

Questions submitted prior to the agenda being despatched are shown below and will be the subject of a response from the appropriate Cabinet Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Cabinet Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting. Questions received after the despatch of the agenda, but before the deadline, will be shown on the Schedule of Addenda circulated at the meeting, together with any written response which is available at that time.

3. **Petitions and Public Address**
4. **Proposal to Close West Kidlington Nursery School and Extend the Age Range of West Kidlington Primary School to Effect a "Merger"** (Pages 1 - 10)

*Forward Plan Ref:* 2014/183

*Contact:* Diane Cameron, School Organisation Officer Tel: (01865) 816445

Report by Director for Children's Services (**CMDCEF4**).

The proposal is to close West Kidlington Nursery School and alter the age range at West Kidlington Primary School to enable the establishment of a Nursery class. This will effect a "merger" between the two currently separate establishments.

The introduction in April 2011 of the Early Years Single Funding Formula, which funds eligible children attending settings, rather than the number of places provided (as previously), means there is now no financial advantage in the two establishments being separate.

This proposal's intention is to maintain the same level of high quality early years places while improving the financial viability and long term future of this provision.

*As set out under Rule 17(a) of the Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules, this decision is exempt from Call-In as it is deemed urgent and any delay would seriously prejudice the Council's interests, in that the decision must be made within*

*2 months of the close of the notice period; as a consequence, it is necessary for the Chairman of the Council to determine that the decision cannot be subject to 'call-in' as this would, in most cases, prevent a decision being finalised within the required timescale and mean that the Cabinet Member's role would be negated by referral to the Schools' Adjudicator.*

***The Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families is RECOMMENDED to approve the closure of West Kidlington Nursery School and the linked extension of age range of West Kidlington Primary School.***

## **5. Home to School Transport for RAF Benson (Pages 11 - 24)**

*Forward Plan Ref: 2015/010*

*Contact: Neil Darlington, Admissions & Transport Services Manager Tel: (01865) 815844*

Report by Director for Children's Services (**CMDCEF5**).

The Council has undertaken a consultation with the families living at RAF Benson, the public, the headteachers of the three schools involved upon a proposed amendment to the Home to School Transport Policy.

The proposed change is intended to address a capacity issue in the area of RAF Benson which can be resolved without significant additional cost to the council or the secondary schools involved.

The report contains an analysis of the responses to the consultation.

The Cabinet Member is asked to consider the consultation responses and then to decide which, if any, of the proposed changes are to be implemented.

***The Cabinet Member for Children, Education & families is RECOMMENDED to adopt the following proposals:***

- (a) to provide free travel for those of statutory school age from RAF Benson to Icknield Community College;***
- (b) to review the need for this provision on an annual basis since it concerns capacity and likely demand.***

## **6. Recommended Sponsor for New Primary School in Banbury at Longford Park (Pages 25 - 26)**

*Forward Plan Ref: 2014/109*

*Contact: Diane Cameron, School Organisation Officer Tel: (01865) 816445*

Report by Director for Children's Services (**CMDCEF6**).

The Cabinet meeting of 4 September 2012 approved a process for the identification of sponsors for new academies to meet the needs of population growth such as this which requires a new primary school for 2016. In July 2014 Cabinet agreed that the decision on the preferred option could be delegated to the Lead Member for Children Education and Families.

This process has been followed and has now reached the point where a preferred provider has been identified from a group of 2 short-listed bidders which were assessed against criteria.

The Lead Member is asked to agree the preferred provider which will be submitted to the Regional Schools Commission for a final decision.

***The Cabinet Member is RECOMMENDED to agree GLF Schools as the recommended provider to be submitted to the Regional Schools Commissioner for final agreement.***

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