

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held in Council Chamber, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford on Monday, 30 October 2017

PRESENT

Cllr K Ferguson (Chairman)

Councillors:	J Chatterley P Hollick Cllr M Liddiard	Councillors:	A Ryan B Saunders S Watkins
Parental Co-optees:	Mr S Court Mrs G Deans		
Church of England Co-optee:			
Roman Catholic Co-optee:			
Apologies for Absence:	Cllrs	Mrs D B Gurney D Shelvey B Walker Mrs E Rowlands Mrs D Main Mr D Morton	
Substitutes:	Cllrs	R D Berry N B Costin P A Duckett	
Members in Attendance:	Cllrs	Cllr S Dixon Mrs C Hegley	Executive Member for Education and Skills Executive Member for Social Care and Housing and Lead Member for Children's Services
Officers in Attendance:	Mrs S Harrison Mrs R Preen Mr V Wan		Director of Children's Services Scrutiny Policy Adviser Senior Education Officer (Planning)
Public:	0		

CS/17/38. **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 12 September 2017 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

CS/17/39. **Members' Interests**

Cllr Liddiard declared an interest in item 10 as a Governor of Shefford Lower School and Robert Bloomfield Academy which were both part of the Bedfordshire School's Trust (BEST).

CS/17/40. **Chairman's Announcements and Communications**

The Chairman announced that the meeting would not be webcast due to the confidential nature of the item to be considered. The Committee were apprised of the Chairman's concerns regarding due process and several areas contained within the report regarding the proposals they were being asked to consider.

CS/17/41. **Petitions**

None.

CS/17/42. **Questions, Statements or Deputations**

None.

CS/17/43. **Call-In**

None.

CS/17/44. **Requested Items**

None.

CS/17/45. **Executive Members' Updates**

None.

CS/17/46. **Commissioning of New School Places Through the Temporary Expansion of Henlow Middle School**

The Director for Children's Services outlined the reasons behind the need for urgency, why the report was being delivered at such a late stage to the Committee and the challenges the directorate had faced in terms of planning conditions applied to the proposals leading to a substantial increase in costs.

RECOMMENDED:-

- 1. That the Committee recognised the unfortunate situation in terms of how the process had been managed but moved to support the approval of the additional basic need funding to temporarily expand**

Henlow Church of England Academy in order to accommodate the additional 2017 and 2018 cohorts.

Cllrs Berry and Chatterley abstained from the vote.

- 2. That a detailed report be delivered to the Committee in January 2018 comprehensively outlining the reasons behind the breakdown in process management, with a detailed action plan in order to mitigate similar instances in the future.**
- 3. That an update on the tender process be delivered at a future meeting.**
- 4. That concerns regarding current legislation be addressed via the Executive Member, the Regional Schools Commissioner and the Secretary of State for Education as it did not support the local authority in planning for the provision of additional school places between academies and local authority maintained schools.**

CS/17/47. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that its consideration was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CS/17/48. Commissioning of New School Places Through the Temporary Expansion of Henlow Middle - Executive Report

Refer to Item 10.

(Note: The meeting commenced at 2.00 p.m. and concluded at 3.35 p.m.)

Chairman

Dated