

**EDUCATION AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a meeting of the Education Committee held in Antrim Board Centre on 9 November 2017 at 1.00 pm

PRESENT Rev R Herron (Chair)

Rev A Adams	Sr C Hegarty
Ms Á Andrews	Dr A McMorran
Mr D Cargo	Dr I McMorris
Mr J Craig	Mr O McMullan
Dr M Dynan	Ms S O'Connor
Mrs B Hale	Miss R Rainey

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr J Collings, Mr M Baker, Mr J Unsworth, Mrs K Scott, Mr M McConkey and Ms L McCall. Mr S Sands attended in his role as Board Room Apprentice.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Mrs M Culbert Sir Gerry Loughran, Mr R Pollock and Ms N Toman.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the requirement to declare interests where appropriate.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12 OCTOBER 2017

The minutes* (E/11/17/3) of the meeting held on 12 October 2017 were agreed on the proposal of Miss Rainey and seconded by Mr Craig.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL NO 519 - DRUMRAGH INTEGRATED COLLEGE (4.3)

A Member queried if guidance had yet been provided by DE on how the various pieces of legislation should be addressed in EA responses. He highlighted the importance of receiving this information as soon as possible.

4.2 EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE 2017 (7.1)

Mrs Scott said that she had contacted CCEA to discuss costs associated with examination re-marking. No general guidance was available on this matter from the Joint Council for Qualifications. She had subsequently contacted a number of schools to find out how this process was being managed in schools. She advised that while some schools passed the costs to parents, some schools met the costs as it was on their advice that pupils' examinations were remarked.

Mrs Scott said that the EA would further review this matter when it was reviewing other policies relating to charges and remissions in schools.

A Member queried the age profile of examination re-markers. It was pointed out that this information was not available to the EA.

5. CHAIR'S BUSINESS

MUSIC SERVICE

Mrs Scott said that officers were currently working on a discussion paper for Members on a future service delivery model for the Music Service. She advised that a series of engagement events on the Music Service was taking place with schools at the start of December.

The Committee agreed to hold a workshop in January 2018 to consider proposals in respect of a future delivery model for the Music Service.

Action: *Convene workshop in January 2018 to discuss proposals for a future delivery model for the Music Service.*

6. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

6.1 TRAINING PROGRAMME 2016/17 FOR BOARDS OF GOVERNORS - EVALUATION REPORT

Mr Unsworth presented the report* (E/11/17/6.1) setting out an overview and evaluation of the training programme provided for School Governors in 2016/17.

Members paid tribute to the significant contributions made by Governors to manage schools in a volunteering capacity.

Members noted that arrangements were now being facilitated to provide some training programmes to Governors on-line, such as the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which was due to be implemented in May 2018.

Members discussed challenges associated with the uptake of courses by Governors, suitable locations for courses, direct engagement with Governors, evaluation of courses and measuring the effectiveness of school governance.

Mr Unsworth said that officers were continually reviewing supports for Governors, including the training programme, in order to inform training for the next cohort of School Governors. He confirmed that the commencement of the new reconstitution process in 2018 to appoint Boards of Governors would provide opportunities for officers to obtain consent from newly appointed Governors on the facility for the EA to contact Governors directly. These contact details, if made available, could also be used to provide reminders to individual Governors on attendance at training courses. Otherwise, he said that reminders would continue to be issued to schools on the attendance of Governors at courses. Mr Unsworth undertook to use the reconstitution process to also seek from newly appointed Governors their preferences for training venues.

Mr Unsworth advised that evaluations were carried out by Governors at the end of each training programme. Generally the feedback provided was very positive. He referred to challenges however in measuring the impact of the training programmes on the quality of school governance.

The Committee noted that officers were endeavouring to engage with the ETI on the evidence base of the judgements made by the ETI in respect of measuring the effectiveness of school governance within the inspection process.

A Member said that she had had received feedback from principals to request that training programmes should be delivered in locations in the North West of the Province. Mr Unsworth took this comment on board.

Mrs Scott advised that the Membership and Teaching Appointments Committee, at its meeting on 1 June 2017, had considered a paper on the process of appointing and electing governors to controlled schools for the period 2018-22. The paper had provided a checklist for prospective governors, their roles and responsibilities, a competency framework including personal attributes, and the actions to be taken to ensure the best people could be appointed to fully contribute to the effective governance of a school.

The Chair paid tribute to officers from across all the Directorates who provided training to Governors and thanked those officers for the work in compiling the evaluation report.

Action: *Officers to avail of the reconstitution process in 2018 to seek information on training venues and personal contact details from newly appointed Governors.*

6.2 EXTENDED SCHOOLS' PROGRAMME - ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

Mrs Scott presented the annual report* (E/11/17/6.2) which set out an evaluation of the programme in 2016/17 on outcomes for learners, parents, schools and communities. Members noted that a wide range of support was being offered across the 549 schools and the 144 clusters participating in the programme. The report also provided an overview of the management of the programme.

Mrs Scott said that schools continued to prioritise literacy and numeracy support programmes for pupils to assist in tackling underachievement. Priority areas were identified through School Development Plans. She advised that steps had been taken in 2016/17 to change the programme's management in order to support schools by reducing administrative workloads. She said that the quality of the action plans submitted by schools continued to improve with schools able to identify how needs would be addressed through targeted support.

Members paid tribute to the positive impact and benefits of the wide range of programmes and services provided to target groups.

A Member referred to the geographical distribution of Irish medium schools across the Province. She queried if the finance made available through clustering could be used by Irish medium schools to work together on common issues within a clustering arrangement. Mrs Scott said that the ETI would be carrying out an evaluation on Extended School clusters in 2017/18. She undertook to clarify the clustering issue regarding Irish medium schools.

A query was raised on the approach taken by schools to target Extended School activities. He was mindful of the skills gap in the Province and whether schools were incentivised to address this gap. Mrs Scott said that schools, in focusing on intervention strategies, made clear links between activities and their School Development Plans. Proactive schools engaged with pupils on the range of activities. Mr Collings said that officers advised and supported schools in the programme and provided challenge where appropriate. It was the responsibility of schools to take forward activities within the parameters of the programme.

A Member referred to the possibility of drawing on available expertise within District Councils to support and enhance Extended School activities. Mrs Scott said that it was

the intention of officers to promote such partnerships not only with District Councils but also with all the partners within the framework of community planning.

The Chair expressed appreciation to those officers involved in supporting schools in this area and for the work in compiling the evaluation report.

Action: *Clarify the clustering issue regarding Irish medium schools.*

6.3 IRISH MEDIUM EDUCATION - UPDATE

Members were mindful that DE had requested the EA to engage and work in partnership with the new Irish Medium Leaders' Group, which had been established by the IM community, to develop the approach to IME and to take forward, where possible, the recommendations contained in the Irish Medium School Leaders' Working Group Report.

Mr Baker reported that meetings had taken place involving the IM community to discuss issues specific to the sector. He also reported that the IM Leaders' Group had met and had considered its terms of reference.

A full report on this matter would be presented to the Committee at its next meeting.

7. CONTROLLED SCHOOLS' SUPPORT COUNCIL (CSSC) - DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND WORKING PROTOCOL

Mr Collings presented the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and working protocol** (E/11/17/7) which had been considered by the Membership and Teaching Appointments Committee and the Shared Education Committee at meetings in the previous week. He advised that the working protocol had been amended by the Membership and Teaching Appointments Committee in order to clarify the issue around including ethos as part of employment considerations where it related to the CSSC. This amendment was now reflected in the document now presented.

It was noted that the CSSC would consider the final MoU and working protocol at its next meeting.

Discussion ensued on the work which would be necessary to determine the ethos of the controlled sector, given that the controlled sector included schools from grant maintained integrated, grammar and Irish medium sectors.

Mr Collings advised that officers continued to meet all the sectoral partners on a monthly basis to build collaboration and co-operation. In working with representatives from NICIE, CnaG, GBA NI and CCMS on the draft protocols, he advised that all stakeholders were focusing on raising standards and improving outcomes for children and young people.

A Member considered that the protocol should have outlined specific detail on the role of the CSSC so as to ensure no duplication of resources. She considered that the protocols with the other sectoral partners would be able to provide clear demarcation of duties and responsibilities between the organisations.

The Chair said that the MoU with the CSSC would be reviewed within a period of three years and the working protocol reviewed within one year, or as deemed necessary. Any issues around roles and responsibilities would be presented to the Committee as and when they became apparent.

Subject to the CSSC agreeing the Memorandum of Understanding and the working protocol, the Committee approved both documents on the proposal of Rev Adams and seconded by Mr Craig.

8. AREA PLANNING

8.1 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2017/18

An overview of progress against the 2017/18 annual action plan would be presented to the Committee at its next meeting.

8.2 PROVIDING PATHWAYS - STRATEGIC AREA PLAN FOR SCHOOL PROVISION 2017-2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2018-19 - PRIMARY, POST-PRIMARY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Mr McConkey presented the first draft of the annual action plan (year two)* (E/11/17/8.2) which set out the work of the three Area Planning Local Groups and the Area Planning Working Group. The work streams identified in the annual action plan reflected the key issues and proposed actions published in the Strategic Plan for each local government district. Individual action plan proposals would be further developed through discussion with affected schools and then taken forward by the relevant managing authority.

Mr McConkey gave a high level overview of the work streams identified in the plan. He outlined emerging issues across the region which included available places in schools, the financial position of schools, the Entitlement Framework, sustainability issues, and issues within special education.

Mr McConkey said that the draft plan would be considered by the Board of CCMS at its next meeting. Thereafter, the final draft of the annual action plan (year two) would be presented to the Committee for approval.

A Member sought confirmation that all the sectoral partners had been given equal consideration to approve the draft plan. Mr McConkey said that all the sectoral partners were represented on the Area Planning Local Groups. The plan had been agreed in draft format at that stage by all the partners.

In response to a Member's query, Mr Collings confirmed that the Strategic Area Plan and the associated annual action plans would integrate into the work to be taken forward within the Transformation Programme.

A Member queried the process to facilitate consultation on the annual action plan with community groups and elected representatives. Mr McConkey advised that the EA had already consulted with stakeholders on the document 'Providing Pathways - Strategic Area Plan for School Provision 2017-20'. Any proposals within the year two annual action plan which progressed to a Development Proposal would be consulted on within that process.

A Member referred to available data from NISRA which could be used to support the EA in area planning. In addition, she highlighted that the EA should seek to further develop capacity in order to layer analysis in terms of EA planning information and information provided through other available sources in order to ensure effective decision making.

Mrs Scott said that Mr McConkey in his new role as Head of Area Planning and Community Planning would be able to align the two areas to inform decision making.

A Member received confirmation that any significant change to a nursery school or nursery unit required the publication of a development proposal. The Sustainable Schools' Policy however did not apply to pre-school provision as it was non-statutory. It was noted that a number of development proposals concerning pre-school provision were being considered later in the meeting. Mr McConkey advised that the Pre-school Education Group (PEG), comprising representatives from the statutory, voluntary and private sectors, considered all pre-school proposals and forwarded comments on each to the Committee. He said that NICIE was currently in discussion with DE on an issue relating to designating pre-school provision.

A Member said that a letter had been received from DE on this issue. He outlined the content of the letter.

A Member drew attention to the previous Minister's expectations with regard to area planning. Mr McConkey confirmed that the annual action plan took account of the previous Minister's directive.

(Miss Rainey left the meeting temporarily at 2.31 pm.)

It was agreed that the layout of the membership of the Area Planning Local Groups in the appendix would be amended.

In response to a Member's query, clarity was provided on the collaboration which took place with CCMS and the sectoral bodies representing the Integrated, Irish medium and controlled sectors as well as the Voluntary Grammar sector. It was pointed out that the wording of this narrative in the annual action plan had been taken from DE guidance and this guidance had been updated recently. Mrs Scott undertook to discuss the uniformity of approach in this narrative with DE colleagues.

(Miss Rainey re-entered the meeting at 2.34 pm.)

A Member welcomed the substantial work being proposed in respect of additional learning support and autism specific provision attached to mainstream primary and post-primary schools. She also welcomed that the annual action plan set out the challenges associated with Entitlement Framework.

The Chair said that the final draft of the plan would be presented to the Committee for final approval following its consideration by the Board of CCMS.

Actions: *Layout of the membership of the Area Planning Local Groups in the appendix to be amended; Mrs Scott to discuss uniformity of approach in the narrative relating to sectoral bodies with DE colleagues.*

8.3 NON-SELECTIVE CONTROLLED POST PRIMARY EDUCATION IN NEWTOWNARDS

The Committee considered a paper* (E/11/17/8.3) providing information on population patterns in Newtownards and Bangor, primary and post-primary school provision in Newtownards and Bangor, and school transfer data from primary schools in Newtownards.

Members had received a letter dated 3 November 2017 from the Chair and the Vice Chair of Movilla High School outlining issues to be taken into consideration on this matter.

A Member outlined his recent engagement with representatives of Movilla High School in relation to school improvement and wider school issues.

Considerable discussion took place on non-selective post-primary provisions across all sectors in the greater Newtownards area. Mr McConkey drew attention to Development Proposals which had been brought forward by CCMS and which were awaiting Ministerial consideration.

It was agreed that a strategic review of all schools in the greater Newtownards area would be carried out and a paper would be presented to the Committee setting out options for non-selective post-primary provision within the controlled sector and as part of a possible shared solution. The paper would also take account of the needs of pupils currently attending Movilla High School.

It was also agreed that officers, when considering the school estate in the greater Newtownards area, would explore opportunities relating to the wider estate.

Action: *Strategic review of all schools in the greater Newtownards area to be carried out.*

8.4 ASHFIELD BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

Proposal to increase the enrolment number from 600 to 750 with effect from 1 September 2019 or as soon as possible thereafter

(Dr McMorran declared an interest in this item.)

Mrs Scott presented the papers* (E/11/17/8.4) which set out the rationale in respect of the request to commence pre-publication consultation on the above proposal.

Members considered the Case for Change and the summary paper.

On the proposal of Ms O'Connor, seconded by Dr McMorris, the Committee agreed to recommend that the EA would commence pre-publication consultation on the above proposal.

8.5 BELFAST BOYS' MODEL SCHOOL

Proposal to increase the admission number from 151 to 200 with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 905 to 1250 with effect from 1 September 2019 or as soon as possible thereafter

Mrs Scott presented the papers* (E/11/17/8.5) which set out the rationale in respect of the request to commence pre-publication consultation on the above proposal.

Members considered the Case for Change and the summary paper.

On the proposal of Miss Rainey, seconded by Mr Cargo, the Committee agreed to recommend that the EA would commence pre-publication consultation on the above proposal.

8.6 BELFAST MODEL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Proposal to increase the admission number from 160 to 200 with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 950 to 1250 with effect from 1 September 2019 or as soon as possible thereafter

Mrs Scott presented the papers* (E/11/17/8.6) which set out the rationale in respect of the request to commence pre-publication consultation on the above proposal.

Members considered the Case for Change and the summary paper.

On the proposal of Rev Adams, seconded by Miss Rainey, the Committee agreed to recommend that the EA would commence pre-publication consultation on the above proposal.

8.7 BIRCHES PRIMARY SCHOOL

Proposal to increase the admission number from 23 to 28 with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 161 to 196 with effect from 1 September 2019 or as soon as possible thereafter

Mrs Scott presented the papers* (E/11/17/8.7) which set out the rationale in respect of the request to commence pre-publication consultation on the above proposal.

Members considered the Case for Change and the summary paper.

On the proposal of Rev Adams, seconded by Sr Hegarty, the Committee agreed to recommend that the EA would commence pre-publication consultation on the above proposal.

8.8 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL NO 508 - LISMORE COMPREHENSIVE

Proposal to establish two Learning Support Centres with the addition of an Autism Specific Learning Support Centre

The Committee, at its meeting on 13 April 2017, had considered the above Proposal, including all associated papers, and had approved the EA Response for submission to DE along with the publication of the Proposal. At its meeting on 11 May 2017, the Committee had noted legal advice and that the process had been halted to await the outcome of a legal challenge.

Mr McConkey confirmed that the challenge brought forward in respect of the closure of Drumcree College and the associated arrangements for learning support provision had been dismissed. The EA was now in a position to proceed with this Development Proposal.

On the proposal of Ms O'Connor, seconded by Sr Hegarty, the Committee re-affirmed its position taken at the meeting held on 13 April 2017 and agreed to publish the Development Proposal.

8.9 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL NO 515 - BUNSCOIL BHEANNA BOIRCHE

Proposal to establish a new Irish medium nursery unit for 26 children on a part time basis with effect from 1 September 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter

Mrs Scott presented the papers* (E/11/17/8.9) for publication and provided a summary of key areas for the Committee's consideration including that, in accordance with Article 14 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, the EA had undertaken formal

consultation with the Board of Governors and Trustees of schools which might be affected by the proposal.

Members considered the Case for Change. This included the rationale for the proposal, the sustainability of the school, the impact of the proposal on schools in the locality and the three responses received to the consultation process. They noted that PEG had supported the proposal on the basis that the current playgroup operating at the school site would discontinue and would be replaced by the proposed new nursery unit. No new pre-school provision would be added into the area. Members considered the comments set out in the draft EA Response to the Department of Education.

On the proposal of Miss Rainey, seconded by Rev Adams, the Committee approved the Response* (Appendix D) for submission to DE along with the publication of the Proposal.

8.10 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL NO 518 - OAKWOOD INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Proposal to establish a grant maintained nursery unit for 26 children on a part time basis with effect from 1 September 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter

Mrs Scott presented the papers* (E/11/17/8.10) for publication and provided a summary of key areas for the Committee's consideration including that, in accordance with Article 14 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, the EA had undertaken formal consultation with the Board of Governors and Trustees of schools which might be affected by the proposal.

Members considered the Case for Change. This included the rationale for the proposal, the sustainability of the school, the impact of the proposal on schools in the locality and the response received to the consultation process. They noted that PEG had supported the proposal on the basis that the current PEG funded pre-school provider operating at the school site would close and would be replaced by a nursery unit attached to the primary school. No new pre-school provision would be added into the area. Members considered the comments set out in the draft EA Response to the Department of Education.

On the proposal of Dr McMorris, seconded by Ms O'Connor, the Committee approved the Response* (Appendix D) for submission to DE along with the publication of the Proposal.

8.11 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL NO 523 - DRUMLINS INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Proposal to establish a grant maintained nursery unit for 26 part time pupils with effect from 1 September 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter

Mrs Scott presented the papers* (E/11/17/8.11) for publication and provided a summary of key areas for the Committee's consideration including that, in accordance with Article 14 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, the EA had undertaken formal consultation with the Board of Governors and Trustees of schools which might be affected by the proposal.

Members considered the Case for Change. This included the rationale for the proposal, the sustainability of the school, the impact of the proposal on schools in the locality and the four responses received to the consultation process. They noted that PEG had reported that it would not support the proposal as it would have a negative impact on existing pre-school provision in the area. In addition, PEG had stated that the existing providers were not operating at full capacity and if an increased demand for pre-school places presented in the future, the existing provision could be increased.

Members considered the comments set out in the draft EA Response to the Department of Education.

A Member referred to a letter from DE dated 31 October 2017 on the implications of the statutory duty for integrated education in relation to pre-school provision at integrated primary schools. The letter stated that it was important that the EA and PEG supported DE in fulfilling its statutory duty by striving to meet demonstrated parental demand in an area for pre-school education at grant-maintained and controlled integrated primary schools as well as parental demand for Irish medium pre-school education.

Members sought clarity on how this guidance should be addressed within the EA response. Some Members queried whether the process should be delayed so as to give due regard to the letter. Mr Collings said that officers had not yet had the opportunity to consider the letter and provide advice to Members.

The Chair referred to the role of the EA as planning authority to publish the Development Proposal. He also referred to the guidance which was being sought from DE on how the various pieces of legislation should be addressed in EA responses.

A Member also referred to EA's duties in this regard: to publish the Development Proposal, to consult with schools that might be affected by the proposal, to consider the impact of any proposal and to submit its comments to DE for final consideration.

Mr McConkey outlined PEG's recommendation in respect of this proposal.

The Chair of the Board said that the letter should be directed to Board Members and guidance provided on how it impacted on the Board's decision making.

A Member received confirmation that the DE letter would be forwarded to all Board Members.

On the proposal of Dr McMorris, seconded by Ms O'Connor, the Committee approved the Response* (Appendix D) for submission to DE along with the publication of the Proposal.

Action: *DE letter dated 31 October 2017 to be forwarded to all Board Members; advice to be provided to Members on the implications of this letter on the Board's decision making.*

8.12 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL NO 535 - ROWANDALE INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Proposal to establish a 26 place part-time nursery unit with effect from 1 September 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter

Mrs Scott presented the papers* (E/11/17/8.12) for publication and provided a summary of key areas for the Committee's consideration including that, in accordance with Article 14 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, the EA had undertaken formal consultation with the Board of Governors and Trustees of schools which might be affected by the proposal.

Members considered the Case for Change. This included the rationale for the proposal, the sustainability of the school, the impact of the proposal on schools in the locality and the three responses received to the consultation process. They noted that PEG had reported to state that the proposal would have a negative impact on existing pre-school provision in the area. In addition, the existing providers were not operating at full capacity and if an increased demand for pre-school places presented in the future, the existing provision could be increased.

Members considered the comments set out in the draft EA Response to the Department of Education. The comments raised by Members during discussion of DP No 523 (Drumlins Integrated Primary School) in respect of the DE letter dated 31 October 2017 also related to this proposal.

On the proposal of Dr McMorris, seconded by Ms O'Connor, the Committee approved the Response* (Appendix D) for submission to DE along with the publication of the Proposal.

(Ms Andrews left the meeting at 3.43 pm.)

A Member referred to previous consideration given by the Committee to development proposals for pre-school provision attached to controlled primary schools. He asked that an exercise be carried out to detail those nursery units, attached to a controlled primary school, which did not proceed or were not approved over the past 18 months approximately. This was agreed.

Action: *Exercise to be carried out on those nursery units, attached to a controlled primary school, which did not proceed or were not approved over the past 18 months approximately.*

(Mr McMullan left the meeting at 3.45 pm.)

8.13 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL NO 537 - BUNSCOIL BHEANN MHADAGÁIN

Proposal to increase the admission and enrolment numbers from 21 to 26 and 145 to 182 respectively with effect from 1 September 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter

Mrs Scott presented the papers* (E/11/17/8.13) for publication and provided a summary of key areas for the Committee's consideration including that, in accordance with Article 14 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, the EA had undertaken formal consultation with the Board of Governors and Trustees of schools which might be affected by the proposal.

Members considered the Case for Change. This included the rationale for the proposal, the sustainability of the provision, the impact of the proposal on schools in the locality and the correspondence received. Members considered the comments set out in the draft EA Response to the Department of Education.

On the proposal of Miss Rainey, seconded by Sr Hegarty, the Committee approved the Response* (Appendix D) for submission to DE along with the publication of the Proposal.

8.14 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL NO 539 - ST MATTHEW'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, GARVAGHY

Proposal to discontinue with effect from 31 January 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter

Mrs Scott presented the papers* (E/11/17/8.14) for publication and provided a summary of key areas for the Committee's consideration including that, in accordance with Article 14 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, the EA had undertaken formal consultation with the Board of Governors and Trustees of schools which might be affected by the proposal.

Members considered the Case for Change. This included the rationale for the proposal, the sustainability of the school and the impact of the proposal on schools in the locality. It

was noted that no responses had been received to the consultation. Members considered the comments set out in the draft EA Response to the Department of Education.

On the proposal of Dr McMorris, seconded by Ms O'Connor, the Committee approved the Response* (Appendix D) for submission to DE along with the publication of the Proposal.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for 9 November 2017.

The meeting ended at 3.47 pm.

CHAIRPERSON

DATE

* Paper issued with agenda ** Paper tabled