

## **CABINET MEETING 03042014 – EXTRACT OF MINUTES**

The full minutes can be found on the county council website at:

<http://councilportal.cumbria.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=117&MId=7296&Ver=4> .

### **149. ACADEMY PRESUMPTION PROCESS AND RECOMMENDATION**

#### **Minutes:**

Cabinet considered a paper by the Acting Corporate Director – Children’s Services in relation to the academy presumption process undertaken between 20 January 2014 to 14 March 2014, to select a preferred sponsor for a new Workington Academy if the proposed closure of Southfield Technology College and Stainburn School & Science College were agreed.

Members noted that any decisions they made were recommendations only that would be put to the Secretary of State for final determination. He had the power to accept, or not accept, the recommendation made by the council and ultimately make the final decision on who would be the academy sponsor. The sponsor could be one that had submitted an expression of interest or indeed could be another sponsor that the Secretary of State wished to see run the school.

The Cabinet Member for Children confirmed that the Lakes Academy Trust had been the successful bidder having demonstrated clear vision, commitment to working with partners, local knowledge and experience and a readiness to deliver for children in new and exciting ways.

The Leader acknowledged that whoever the successful sponsor was they would face a challenge to deliver on the aspirations of the community. He noted that despite academies having been around for a number of years the community still remained largely unaware that by law any new school had to be constituted as an academy as he still received queries from the public as to why other arrangements were not pursued.

**RESOLVED**, that the Lakes Academy Trust be recommended to the Secretary of State as the preferred sponsor of the proposed new academy in Workington.