

48 PROPOSED CHANGE OF AGE RANGE DECISION ON STATUTORY PROPOSAL - THWAITES SCHOOL

The Leader set out in detail the procedure to be followed in relation to the school organisation proposals below having regard to the Protocol adopted by Cabinet on 4 September 2007 and noting this proposal was at stage 3 of the process and that a final decision was to be taken.

In the absence of the Corporate Director, the Assistant Director – Partnerships and Prevention introduced a report which covered in detail the statutory proposal on behalf of the Governing Body of Thwaites School for the proposed change of age range from 4 – 11 to 3 – 11 effective 1 January 2014.

The report explained the background to the publication of the proposal and the outcome of the subsequent period for representations. The consultation on the proposals had complied with DfE guidance and had received a positive response from the parents, the local community and Copeland Local Committee. Members were asked to consider whether or not to approve the proposal based upon all relevant factors as set out in the statutory guidance at Appendix A of the report.

A number of Cabinet members spoke and outlined their support for the proposals.

In the absence of the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, a Copeland member himself, having carefully considered the report prepared by the Corporate Director and the responses to the public consultation moved that Cabinet approved the statutory proposal to change the age range of Thwaites School from 4 -11 to 3 - 11.

The Interim Assistant Director – Legal and Democratic Services confirmed that all the legal provisions having been complied with that Cabinet were able to take a final decision on the matter.

RESOLVED, that the statutory proposal to change the age range of Thwaites School from 4-11 to 3-11 effective 1 January 2014 be approved.