

Notes

Schools Partnership Meeting – Macclesfield

Date: 23 November 2012

Appendix 4

Present:

Schools Andy Hodgkinson – Pott Shrigley
Victoria Rippon – Pott Shrigley
Phillippa Woswick – Wincle
Ian Burns – Wincle
Pam Childs – Gawsorth
Kathy Nichol – Puss Bank
Julie Downing – Bollington Cross
John Daley – St Gregory's
Brian Wilkinson – Broken Cross
Susan Pollard – The Marlborough
Caroline Waites – St John's
David Capener - Prestbury CE
John Rowan - Whirley
Mark Bertinshaw – Rainow
Michael Waters – Bollingbrook
Kevin Simpson - Ash Grove
Carol Corden – Parkroyal
Janet Mott - Hollinhey

LA Officers Barbara Dale
Ken White
Val Simons

Introductions

Presentation:

LA's role as strategic commissioner

Information re: forecasts for Macclesfield shared and discussion about the need to continue to review provision and ensure future demand and respond to parental preferences.

DfE presumption in favour of expansion of popular and successful schools and risks in relation to potential increase in the number of 'independent' schools (Academies/Free Schools)

Notes

Discussed operational surplus – local level 4%, CE level 10%

BD presented data and illustrated future forecasts for Macclesfield through to 2017.

Processes for considering any future options and statutory processes involved

Forecasting methodology currently being reviewed Pre school (NEG) data needed earlier in the process, GP data may be option.

Financial implications. and Section 106 process

Draft Town strategy and future housing developments. Confirmed any pupil yield is additional to the forecast shortfall that is already indicated.

Published Admission Numbers - changes under new School Admissions Code and consultation not required by AA schools, LA's only need to consult with Governing Body of school where change is proposed, but all schools need to consult fully on any proposed reductions. PAN's should be set in line with NET CAP but can also admit above PAN.

List of schools in Macclesfield area requesting an increase in PAN – Information given on the current position of applications for September 2013.

Feedback:

Further discussion and questions about the proposed PAN increases.

Comment received that the first approach should be to increase the PAN's again for those schools whose PAN's were reduced under TLC?. This appeared to be widely accepted as the initial way forward.

BD agreed that would seem the most sensible solution, in the first instance, for the LA to propose the expansion of Ash Grove. (- school was 1FE, reduced under TLC to 0.5FE but is now growing, school has admitted 30 children for last 3 years, places are required for local children, vulnerable community, school already has the accommodation so seems sensible to increase back to 1FE,). Also mentioned that this would require statutory consultation process as more than 30 pupils and increase in Net Cap of more than 25%.

Also agreed that would look increasing PAN's for the other schools listed in the presentation. However, need to be mindful that these could introduce more surplus in the area, which could undermine the LA's ability to secure future Section 106 funding from housing developers and could increase "competition" amongst schools, but with DfE's presumption of allowing "popular and successful" schools to expand LA has little argument against increases.