

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CABINET**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 18 JUNE 2013**

REPORT BY: **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER**

SUBJECT: **RESPONSE FROM THE LIFELONG LEARNING
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO THE CALL
IN OF A CABINET DECISION**

1.00 **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01 To inform the Cabinet of the result of the Call In meeting arising out of the Call In of Decision 2854 Home to School Transport Policy Changes – Denominational Transport.

2.00 **BACKGROUND**

2.01 On the 29th of May 2013 the decision on Home to School Transport Policy Changes – Denominational Transport was called in by Councillors Steele Mortimer, Mackie, Isherwood, Davies-Cooke, Legg and Woolley.

2.02 The basis for the Call In was given as “report to Cabinet ignored the Scrutiny Decision of the 14th of March, did not properly take into account the massive hostile response from the public consultation and is depriving future Flintshire school children of the right to free transport to Church schools”.

3.00 **CONSIDERATIONS**

3.01 As is the usual practice with a Call In meeting the Committee was provided with three documents

- Copy of the Report of the Director of Lifelong Learning – Home to School Transport Policy Changes – Denominational Transport
- Copy of the Record of Decision
- Copy of the Call In Notice

3.02 At the meeting the initiators of the Call In represented by Councillors Steele Mortimer, Mackie, Isherwood, Davies-Cooke and Woolley (Councillor Legg having sent his apologies) put forward an argument based on the following

- That the item should have been referred back to the Committee following the meeting on the 14th of March

- That the views of Consultees had not been taken account of
- Inequitable treatment between those attending Church and Welsh Medium Schools
- The implications for the School Admittance Policy

3.03 The Decision Makers represented by the Cabinet Member for Education, the Director of Lifelong Learning responded at length to the issues put forward by the initiators.

3.04 Having heard the case put forward by the Initiators and the Decision Makers, Members of the Committees asked questions of both parties.

3.05 At the end of discussions, the Members Engagement Manager explained the four options to the Committee. The Chair then asked for a proposal

Option 1 (that the Committee is satisfied and that the Decision be implemented) was voted on and the proposal fell

Option 4 (that the Decision be referred back to Council) was voted on and fell

Option 2. (that the Committee is no longer concerned and thus the decision could be implemented) was voted on and lost

and finally the Committee agreed on

Option 3 that the matter be referred back to the Decision Makers at the earliest scheduled meeting of the Cabinet

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That the Cabinet has regard to the above in further considering the changes to the Home to School Transport Policy relating to Denominational Transport

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None arising directly from this report

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None arising directly from this report

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None arising directly from this report

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None arising directly from this report

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None arising directly from this report

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None arising directly from this report

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None arising directly from this report

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1 – Copy of the report of the Director of Lifelong Learning Home to School Transport Policy Changes – Denominational Transport
Appendix 2 - Copy of the Record of Decision
Appendix 3 - Copy of the Call In Notice

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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