

**MINUTES of the meeting of General Services Committee held on 13 June 2013
at 6.30 pm**

Present: Councillors John Kent (Chair), Phil Anderson, Rob Gledhill (substitute for Councillor Coxshall), Steve Liddiard (substitute for Councillor Hale), Barry Palmer and Andy Smith (from 6.33 pm).

Apologies: Councillors Mark Coxshall, Diana Hale and Barbara Rice.

In attendance: V Cutler –Strategic Lead, School Improvement, Learning & Skills
C Littleton –Director of Children’s Services (from 6.52 pm)
S Jones – Democratic Services Manager

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the General Services Committee, held on 25 April 2013, were approved as a correct record.

2. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair informed the Committee that he had not agreed to the consideration of any items of urgent business.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item 6 as two members of his family attended the school that was mentioned in the report.

Councillor Anderson declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item 6 as his children attended a school that was mentioned during consideration of the report.

4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business, on the grounds that they could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) 2 (Information that is likely to reveal the identity of an individual) and 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) of Schedule 12A of that Act.

5. BUSINESS CASE FOR COMPROMISE AGREEMENT

The Strategic Lead, School Improvement, Learning & Skills introduced the report, which sought permission to enter into a compromise agreement in respect of a member of staff employed within the school identified in the report.

Members considered the issues identified within the report and asked questions of both the Strategic Lead, School Improvement, Learning & Skills, and, the Director of Children's Services.

During consideration of the item, Members considered the financial implications of the recommendation and the potential impact of this on a contingency allocation of funding that could benefit other schools in the borough. A Member requested that, should the recommendation in the report be agreed, the majority of the funding to support this should come from the budget of the school identified in the report.

In addition, some Members felt that it was not right to enter into a compromise agreement and that the issues that had been identified by officers, both in the report and during the meeting, ought to be dealt with through the Council's existing human resources policies.

It was proposed by the Chair and seconded by Councillor Smith:

"That the recommendation contained within the report be agreed."

Upon being put to the vote, 3 Members voted in favour of the proposal and 3 members voted against, whereupon the Chair used his casting vote to approve the proposal.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendation contained within the report be agreed.

The meeting finished at 7.14 pm.

Approved as a true and correct record

CHAIR

DATE

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
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or alternatively e-mail sjones@thurrock.gov.uk**