

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES SELECT
COMMITTEE**

TUESDAY 19 JUNE 2001 AT 2.15 PM

Agenda Item
No.

4

ESTABLISHMENT OF PANELS, ETC.

Report of the County Secretary

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1. Purpose of the report

To consider the Select Committee's requirements for Panels.

2. Summary

The Select Committee are asked to consider: -

- (1) The establishment of the following panels:
 - (i) Pupil Achievement and School Improvement
 - (ii) School Provision and Resources
 - (iii) Special Educational Needs
 - (iv) Student Services
 - (v) Youth Service
 - (vi) Early Years
 - (vii) Children, Schools and Families
 - (viii) Corporate Parenting
 - (ix) LEA Services to Schools Best Value Review Group
- (2) The remits of the panels and best value review group.
- (3) The size of panels and membership, to be appointed at this meeting or by the County Secretary after consultation with Select Committee spokesmen.

3. Conclusion

The panels and best value review group referred to in the report, with remits as shown, have been identified as being required by the Children, Schools and Families Select Committee.

1. Background

- 1.1 The County Council on 16 May 2000 adopted a new constitution with effect from 1 August 2000 (subsequently amended by the Council on 28 November and 3 April 2001). Within that constitution it was agreed that each select committee should determine whether to establish panels to consider matters which regularly require comment or investigation. Two or more select committees may agree to establish a joint panel to report to them.
- 1.2 Each Select Committee may set up Topic Groups with limited life to consider and comment on "one-off" matters.
- 1.3 Both Panels and Topic Groups may include, or consist of, members who are not members of the parent select committee, and also non-members in a non-voting capacity.
- 1.4 A Best Value Review Group shall report direct to the Cabinet on behalf of the Select Committee. The Cabinet considers these recommendations before making a proposal to the Executive Committee. A Panel or topic Group may respond direct to the Cabinet on a matter which the Cabinet has referred to it for comment.
- 1.5 The Select Committee can establish a Best Value Review Group(s) to oversee reviews, which shall include at least one member of the Select Committee.
- 1.6 This report invites the committee to agree the establishment and size of panels.

2. Proposals for Panels

- 2.1 The Select Committee are requested to consider the establishment of the following: -

- (i) **Pupil Achievement and School Improvement Panel** [previously 8 members (5:3)]

Remit

- (a) To comment on proposals from the Cabinet in relation to Pupil Achievement and School Improvement
- (b) To scrutinise any matter in relation to Pupil Achievement and School Improvement chosen by the panel or referred by the Select Committee

- (ii) **School Provision and Resources Panel** [previously 8 members (5:3)]

Remit

- (a) To comment on proposals from the Cabinet in relation to the provision and resourcing of schools
- (b) To scrutinise any matter in relation to the provision and resourcing of schools chosen by the panel or referred by the Select Committee

- (iii) **Special Educational Needs Panel** [previously 8 members (5:3)]

Remit

- (a) To comment on proposals from the Cabinet in relation to the exercise of the duties of the Education Authority to children with special educational needs
- (b) To scrutinise any matter in relation to the exercise of the duties of the Education Authority to children with special educational needs chosen by the panel or referred by the Select Committee

- (iv) **Student Services Panel** [previously 8 members (5:3)]

Remit

- (a) To comment on proposals from the Cabinet in relation to the following student services: -

- admissions
- pupil transport
- exclusions
- children out of school
- post 16
- adult education
- connexions service

- (b) To scrutinise any matter in relation to the above student services matters chosen by the panel or referred by the Select Committee

- (v) **Youth Service Panel** [previously 8 members (5:3)]

Remit

- (a) To comment on proposals from the Cabinet in relation to the Youth Service
- (b) To scrutinise any matter in relation to Youth Service chosen by the panel or referred by the Select Committee

- (vi) **Early Years Panel** [previously 8 members (5:3)]

Remit

- (a) To comment on proposals from the Cabinet in relation to early years development and the Childcare Plan
- (b) To scrutinise any matter in relation to early years development and the Childcare Plan chosen by the panel or referred by the Select Committee

- (vii) **Children, Schools and Families Panel** [previously 10 members (6:4)]

Remit

- (a) To comment on proposals from the Cabinet in relation to the development of the Children, Schools and Families service
- (b) To scrutinise any matter in relation to the development of the Children, Schools and Families service chosen by the panel or referred by the Select Committee

- (viii) **Corporate Parenting Panel** [previously 8 members (5:3)]

Remit

- (a) To scrutinise on proposals from Cabinet in relation to the Council's duties as a corporate parent.
- (b) To scrutinise any matter in relation to the Council's duties as a corporate parent chosen by the Panel or referred by the Select Committee.

- (ix) **LEA Services to Schools Best Value Review group** [previously 7 members (4:2:1)]

Remit

Best Value Review of LEA Services to schools

3. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Background information used by the author in compiling this report:

Constitution of County Council adopted by the Council at its meeting on 16 May 2000.