



meeting	EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING SELECT COMMITTEE	
date	6 December 2005	agenda item number

Report of the Chair of the Select Committee

Forward Plan

Purpose

1. To advise members of the Select Committee on educational issues listed on the current Forward Plan.

Background

2. The Education and Lifelong Learning Committee agreed to include the Forward Plan on all of its agendas for future meetings.
3. The Forward Plan (attached) has been cut and pasted to reflect only those issues directly related to educational issues which the Committee may wish further information on as pre-decision scrutiny.

Issues

4. The latest Forward Plan contains four items with educational issues, three with direct linkages and one which will impact on education as well as a number of other County Council areas :
 - Amalgamation : Amalgamation of schools are often placed on the Forward Plan and being so school specific (ie not a county wide issue) do not warrant specific scrutiny in most cases. As the decision is due to be made in December it is inadvisable to scrutinise this amalgamation further but Members may wish to be more informed in the future when amalgamation items are first placed on the Forward Plan.
 - Capital Programme : These variations are often minor and reflect changes required to be made since the setting of the budget (ie often involves a swapping of schools in the priority list for building works). This particular set of variations are due for decision in December and are therefore impossible to scrutinise pre-decision. Members may wish, however, to have further information in the future when a Capital Programme item is first placed on the Forward Plan.

- Designing the future : This item does not reflect an educational issue solely as it will be decision on the future departmental structure of the County Council as a whole. The Corporate Strategy and External Affairs Select Committee is continuing to scrutinise this process and Members may wish to raise any concerns they have with the Chair of that Committee, Councillor Llewellyn-Jones.
- Replacement schools : Predominantly exempt items not available for public scrutiny.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

Members discuss the Forward Plan and identify any issues from it that they would like further information on or on which they wish to comment.

Councillor Kevan Wakefield
Chair, Education and Lifelong Learning Select Committee

Background Papers
Nil