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**REPORT OF SCHOOL ORGANISATION COMMITTEE**


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**MEETING HELD ON 17 JANUARY 2006**


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Chair:	* Councillor Gate	
Councillors:	* Miss Bednell * Branch * Jean Lammiman	* Anjana Patel * Ray * Bill Stephenson
Church of England:	Mr G Edwards	* Reverend P Reece
Roman Catholic Church:	* Mr J Coyle † Sister S McNamara	† Mr M Murphy
Learning and Skills Council:	* Mr P Holmes	
Schools (Parent/Secondary):	(Vacancy)	
Schools (Parent/Primary):	(Vacancy)	
Schools (Headteachers):	* Mrs J Howkiss Ms A Lyons	* Mr B A Robertson
Schools (Co-optee and Special)	* Mrs P Langdon	
HCRE:	† Mr P Pawar	
Adviser:	* Mr B Leaver	

\* Denotes Member present  
† Denotes apologies received

**PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS - NIL**
**PART II - MINUTES**

87. **Appointment of Vice-Chair:**  
The Chair having called for nominations for Vice-Chair from non-Council Members of the Committee, it was
- RESOLVED:** To appoint Reverend P Reece as Vice-Chair of the School Organisation Committee for the 2005/2006 Municipal Year.
88. **Attendance by Reserve Members:**
- RESOLVED:** To note the attendance at this meeting of the following duly appointed Reserve Member:-
- | <u>Ordinary Member</u> | <u>Reserve Member</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mr D A Jones           | Mrs J Howkiss         |
89. **Declarations of Interest:**
- RESOLVED:** To note that the following interests were declared:
- Councillor Bill Stephenson declared an interest in that he was the Local Education Authority representative for Harrow College.
  - Councillor Miss Bednell declared an interest in that she was a member of the Governing Bodies of Whitmore School and Stanmore College.
  - Councillor Jean Lammiman declared an interest in that she was a Governor of Nower Hill School.

- (iv) Councillor Gate declared an interest in that he was the Local Education Authority representative for St Dominic's Sixth Form College.
- (v) Councillor Branch declared an interest in that his wife was Chair of Harrow High School.
- (vi) Mrs J Howkiss declared an interest in that she was Headteacher of Bentley Wood School.
- (vii) Mrs P Langdon declared an interest in that she was a temporary teacher at Bentley Wood School.
- (viii) Mr J Coyle declared an interest in that he served on the Board of Governors at Sacred Heart School.

90. **Arrangement of Agenda:**

**RESOLVED:** That (1) in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the following agenda item be admitted late to the agenda by virtue of the special circumstances and grounds for urgency detailed below:-

<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Special Circumstances/Grounds for Urgency</u>
9. Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate	This report had not been available at the time the agenda was printed and circulated as final clearances had not been given. Members were requested to consider the report as a matter of urgency since the deadline for submission of the bid to the Learning and Skills Council for funding of the Sixth Form proposals was earlier than the date of the next scheduled meeting of the School Organisation Committee.

(2) all items be considered with the press and public present.

91. **Minutes:**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2005, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

92. **Public Questions:**

**RESOLVED:** To note that no public questions were put at the meeting under the provisions of Committee Procedure Rule 18.

93. **Petitions:**

**RESOLVED:** To note that no petitions were received under the provisions of Committee Procedure Rule 15.

94. **Deputations:**

**RESOLVED:** To note that no deputations were received at the meeting under the provisions of Committee Procedure Rule 16.

95. **Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate:**

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director (People First), which outlined the invitation from the London West Learning and Skills Council to bid for capital funding for 1000 post-16 places at Harrow High Schools. The officer informed the Committee that the bid would build on existing work undertaken on 14-19 provision, and the development of the Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate. The officer also briefed Members of the Committee on the role of the Post-16 Collegiate Core Group, the definition of the Collegiate, curriculum planning and learning numbers, school site development, revenue and capital funding, Information and communication technology, applications and admissions, and the statutory process and timetable.

In response to questions, a member from the Learning and Skills Council confirmed that College Sixth Form students were funded differently from Sixth Form students attending schools. This meant that if proposals were accepted for schools to change their age-range to 12-18 years, they would be funded under schools regulations, rather than colleges regulations. The same member stated that the Central Consortium

comprised six schools, but that the Collegiate would be made up of all the schools and colleges in Harrow. He also informed the Committee that although the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) had requested an estimate of costs for the Collegiate, the LSC would provide all capital funds for accepted proposals. The funding for 16-18 year olds would be funded under schools regulations.

Noting that the Central Consortium would offer post-16 learners AS level provision at their High Schools from September 2006, but that the Collegiate would not be established until September 2007, a member highlighted the need to ensure the Central Consortium was not disadvantaged in the bid. The officer informed the Committee that the bid was being submitted in line with the long-term needs of the Collegiate, and that, as a result, no school would be disadvantaged. A member stated that although the LSC would consider the bid as a complete package, it would also look closely at each school's proposal to ensure value for money.

Members congratulated all involved on their efforts, and were appreciative of the cross-party nature of work undertaken. Noting that young people had previously left the Borough for Sixth Form education, Members believed the Collegiate to be an exciting prospect. It was also noted, however, that there was still much hard work to be done to make the bid successful. Although Harrow already had one of the highest levels of post-16 participation in the country, Members emphasised the need to strive for constant improvement, which would entail identifying the reasons why some young people did not participate in post-16 education.

A member from the Learning and Skills Council stated that an independent panel would be established and would form part of the LSC's assessment. Noting that the Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate might act as a magnet to students from outside Harrow, a member asked whether this could result in dissatisfaction with the places provided. The officer responded that there was an expectation that students wishing to stay within the Collegiate would be able to do so, and that the Collegiate would have to keep monitoring which schools students wanted to attend in order to meet their needs.

A member noted that Harrow schools had limited vocational provision and welcomed the announcement that part of the bid would be the creation of a further Skills Centre.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

96. **Any Other Business:**

- (i) Membership  
The Chair reported that Ms M Roe was no longer a member of the Committee but had been listed as a member on the agenda in error.
- (ii) Children and Young People's Plan  
A member of the Committee, who was also a member of the Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committee, informed the Committee that the latest version of the Children and Young People's Plan had been tabled at the meeting of the Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committee held on 10 January 2006, but that Members had not been given the opportunity to read the document prior to the meeting. Consequently, it had been decided at the meeting to refer the report to the joint meeting of the Health and Social Care and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committees that was being held on 18 January 2006.

**RESOLVED:** To request that the joint meeting of the Health and Social Care and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committees formally respond to the School Organisation Committee after considering the Children and Young People's Plan on 18 January 2006.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 8.17 pm).

(Signed) COUNCILLOR B E GATE  
Chair