

CABINET MEMBER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING, CULTURE AND LEISURE

Venue: Town Hall,
Moorgate Street,
Rotherham.

Date: Tuesday, 25th April 2006

Time: 8.30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
3. Minutes of a previous meeting held on 4th April, 2006 (Pages 1 - 2)
4. LEA Governor Appointment Panel - Minutes of a meeting held on 4th April, 2006. (Page 3)
5. LEA Governor Appointment
6. Organisation of School Terms 2007/08 (Pages 4 - 9)
- to consider proposed term dates for 2007/08
7. Proposal to make a Prescribed Alteration to the Age Range at East Dene J & I School (Pages 10 - 19)
- to agree that in the absence of any objections, a formal consultation on the proposal is begun
8. PRESENTATION - Green Space Strategy and Restructure (Pages 20 - 27)

(The Chairman authorised consideration of the following items in order to process the matters referred to without further delay)

9. Proposal to amalgamate Maltby Manor Infant and Maltby Manor Junior Schools (David Hill, Manager, School Organisation Planning and Development) (report herewith). (Pages 28 - 45)
10. Request to name the Clifton Multi-Agency Building - The Place (David Hill, Manager, School Organisation Planning and Development) (report herewith). (Pages 46 - 47)

The following item is likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972

11. Grants for Community Arts Projects (Pages 48 - 61)
 - **to consider the grant applications outlined in the report**

(report contains financial information)
12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

CABINET MEMBER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING, CULTURE AND LEISURE
Tuesday, 4th April, 2006

Present:- Councillor Boyes (in the Chair); Councillors Austen and Littleboy.

197. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 14TH MARCH, 2006

The minutes of a previous meeting held on 14th March, 2006 were agreed as a correct record.

198. JOINT SERVICE CENTRE PROJECT BOARD

The minutes of a meeting of the Joint Service Centre Project Board held on 8th March, 2006 were agreed as a correct record.

199. EDUCATION OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

The minutes of a meeting of the Education of Looked After Children held on 27th February, 2006 were agreed as a correct record.

200. PERMISSION TO RETROSPECTIVELY SUSPEND STANDING ORDER 44

Consideration was given to a report of the Acting Head of Service, Resources and Access which contained details of the need to seek approval to retrospectively suspend Standing Order 44 in respect of four purchases, in accordance with a recommendation from Internal Audit following an audit at Kilnhurst Primary School.

The nature of the breaches can be summarised as follows:

- (a) The School advised that they had obtained quotations for resurfacing the play area of the Autistic Resource (£8,503) and the purchase of ICT equipment (£6,315 and £5,989) but were unable to provide these quotations for the auditors at the time of their audit.
- (b) Book purchases (£8,000) were made from the same supplier by different members of school staff which resulted in the £3,000 threshold being exceeded. This was only recognised during the audit.

The school failed to observe the Authority's Standing Orders for the four specific purchases above. Audit recommendations accepted by the school should ensure future compliance.

It was reported that a number of finance training courses were being developed and would incorporate the use of Financial Regulations. These would be delivered to Finance Managers, Head Teachers and

Governors.

In addition, it was noted that it was the intention of Schools Finance to provide a more user-friendly version of the Financial Regulations for schools

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received.

(2) That, in view of the circumstances and the representations of the Officer, the retrospective suspension of Standing Order 43 for the four breaches of the Authority's Standing Orders identified in the recent audit report be approved.

201. PURCHASING OF SAILING BOATS AT ROTHER VALLEY COUNTRY PARK

Following recommendations by the Internal Audit Service, consideration was given to a report of the Head of Culture and Leisure which sought approval to exempt Standing Order 35 in order to allow the contract for the purchase of 3 Laser Pico's and 3 Laser Vago's for Rother Valley Country Park Water Sports Centre at a cost of £15,259.29.

As part of the ongoing replacement of equipment at Rother Valley Watersports Centre, there is a need to purchase six 'Laser' sailing boats. These will be used for general hire and instruction. 'Laser' boats are required because they conform to an Olympic standard, as specified for training purposes. Performance Sailcraft Limited are the sole manufacturers and suppliers of these boats, and it is not therefore possible to gain two written quotations as required by normal standing orders.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received.

(2) That, having considered the case set out in the report for exempting the contract for the purchase of six sailing boats from Performance Sailcraft Limited at a cost of £15,259.29, the Cabinet Member for Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure Services directed the exemption of the contract from Standing Order 43 (5) (b) (requirement to invite two oral or written quotations where estimated value of contract is between £3,000 and £20,000).

LEA GOVERNORS APPOINTMENT PANEL**4th April, 2006**

Present:- Councillor Boyes (in the Chair); and Councillors Austen and Littleboy.

Pursuant to Minute No. C50 of January 2000, consideration was given to nominations received to fill LEA vacancies on school governing bodies.

Resolved:- (1) That, with the effective date of appointment, the following appointments be made to school governing bodies:-

Anston Park Juniors	Mrs D Ball	04/04/06
Catcliffe Primary	Mrs M Hackleton	Not appointed
Kilnhurst Primary School	Mrs S Maleham	Not Appointed
Kilnhurst Primary School	Mrs K Biddle	Not Appointed
Kilnhurst Primary School	Mr N Clegg	Not Appointed
Kiveton Park Meadows	Mrs J Ness	04/04/06
Maltby Manor Juniors	Miss Z McNeil	04/04/06
Rockingham J&I School	Miss K Ward	04/04/06
Sitwell Junior School	Mr A Yousaf	04/04/06
Dinnington Comp School	Mr S Tweed	04/04/06
Thrybergh Comp School	Mr G Trow	04/04/06
Hilltop Special School	Cllr A Russell	04/04/06
Newman Special School	Mrs A Fennell	04/04/06
Newman Special School	Mrs P Hill	04/04/06
Dinnington Comprehensive	Mrs J Falvey	04/04/06

All the above appointments are subject to satisfactory checks being undertaken.

(2) That all governing bodies be informed of the criteria used by this Panel when considering the re-appointment of LEA governors, and that appointments will not be made if insufficient information concerning an individual governor's attendances is not available.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
--

1.	Meeting:	Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure Cabinet Member and Advisers
2.	Date:	25 th April 2006
3.	Title:	Organisation of School Terms 2007/08
4.	Programme Area:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary: The purpose of this report is to :

- Provide information on the outcome of discussions with the Teaching, and Non-teaching Union's Consultative Group in relation to the neighbouring South Yorkshire Authority's proposed term dates and the Local Government Association's recommendations for the school year 2007/2008.
- Make recommendations for the school term dates for the academic year 2007/08

6. Recommendations:

The proposed term dates (Annex A) for 2007/08 be adopted and circulated to all schools.

7. **Proposals and Details:** The Local Government Association (LGA) Standing Committee meets annually to agree recommended standard school year term dates.

The LGA have published guidance for 2007/08 and the principles behind their recommendations are:

- A return date for 2007 of Monday 3rd September (being as near to 1st September as possible)
- An even distribution of term lengths across the year
- A start date for 'term 5' (Summer Term) during the second, or early in the third, week of April. (irrespective of the incidence of Easter)
- A summer holiday of at least 6 weeks for those schools which want this length of break
- A 7 school-day break at October half term.
- A calendar based on 190 pupil days for 2007/08 and allowing the five INSET/CPD days to be set by the Head Teacher.

To assist in the determination of term dates, as well as the above information from the LGA, officers from the Authority have met with the other Authorities in South Yorkshire and suggested co-ordinated dates have been drafted for South Yorkshire:

(Copies of all these dates are attached as an Appendix to this report)

The LGA proposals were considered by the Consultative Group and concern was expressed at some of their recommendations. The concerns centered around (1) the failure to include the five in-service training days (2) the inclusion of two additional days in the October half-term break, which creates a split-week. There was, however, general support for the return date on September 3rd and the dates of the half terms breaks which are similar to the South Yorkshire suggested dates.

The recommendations made were:

- to commence the 2007/08 School Year on the 3rd September 2007.
- to take a week at October half term. (this is counter to the LGA proposal, which was to add two days and which would create a split week).
- the Easter holiday to fall at the start of the Holiday break, which gives a more even term structure.

- **NASUWT Position**

The Teacher Union Representative advised the Consultative Group that the position of NASUWT was that the LGA term dates should be supported as this was the only way that consistent term dates could be established across the whole of the country. It was not acceptable to only have term dates consistent across South Yorkshire and that initiatives to promote consistent term dates across the country should be supported. He wished his views to be recorded as opposition to the current proposed dates for Rotherham (and the other Authorities in South Yorkshire).

The co-ordination of term dates as much as possible with neighbouring authorities was seen as a key issue and the Group recommended that the suggested dates for Rotherham be adopted. **(Attached)**

In Service training days

The school year for pupils is 190 days but teachers are required to make themselves available for 195 days. The five remaining days being used for in-service development and training. The five in-service dates have been incorporated into the proposed 195 days. Schools may still be needed for election purposes, the inclusion of the in-service training days allows for flexibility. In some schools the five teacher in-service days have traditionally been used as five full days of development for teachers but other schools have chosen a combination of full days and a dis-aggregation of the remaining in-service days into after school or “twilight” in-service sessions. It is recommended that this flexible practice should be allowed to continue if it best suits the professional development needs of staff.

8. **Finance:** N/A
9. **Risks and Uncertainties:** The setting of term dates which are inconsistent with neighbouring authorities will cause problems for parents who have pupils in schools in different authorities, and similarly for school staff who live outside Rotherham and who have children educated in the authority where they live.
10. **Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:** N/A
11. **Background Papers and Consultation:** The 'Standard School Year - 2007-08 Dates' published by the Local Government Association.

Draft term dates are initially considered by the Consultative Group and formally approved by the Cabinet Member and Advisers.

Contact Name : David Hill, Manager, School Organisation, Planning and Development, Resources and Information. Extension 2536
E-mail david-education.hill@rotherham.gov.uk

LGA Standard School Year – recommended calendar for 2007-08

These calendars are recommended for implementation in local authorities in England. They have been drawn up in accordance with the following principles established by the LGA Standing Committee on the School Year:

- start the school year on a September date as near as possible to 1 September;
- equalise teaching and learning blocks (roughly 2x7 and 4x6 weeks);
- establish a two-week spring break in early April irrespective of the incidence of the Easter bank holiday. (Where the break does not coincide with the bank holiday the date should be, as far as practicable, nationally agreed and as consistent as possible across all local authorities);
- allow for the possibility of a summer holiday of at least six weeks for those schools which want this length of break.
- identify and agree annually designated periods of holiday, including the summer holiday, where head teachers are recommended not to arrange teacher days.

The objective is to provide a model which allows for local flexibility, especially at the beginnings and ends to school terms, so as not to interrupt the integrity of smoother curriculum delivery, learning and assessment, and that teachers and parents with children at school in neighbouring authorities are not inconvenienced by differing term and holiday dates.

LGA recognises that 2007-08 presents particular difficulties owing to the timing of Easter and other factors, especially in those authorities looking to make their first move towards applying the principles of the standard school year which include that of even term lengths after Christmas. We are aware that that in some areas, in the light of extensive local consultation, there will be authorities who wish to place a higher priority to the tradition of linking the Easter bank holidays to the two-week break between terms 4 and 5. It is implicit in the statutory duty on local authorities to set term dates, that in doing so they should consult and then do what they consider right for their communities in the light of their consultations.

LGA maintains its position, however, while fully understanding the outcome of local consultations and decisions already taken, that in those occasional years like 2008 when an early Easter and other factors point towards it, the Easter bank holidays should form a long weekend within term 4 and not part of the subsequent two-week holiday.

The Association will be tracking what authorities decide for 2007-08 and hope to use the experience of schools and local authorities and other information gained from the exercise when addressing future situations of the kind, the next of which arises in 2015-16.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
--

1.	Meeting:	Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure Cabinet Member and Advisers Meeting
2.	Date:	25 th April, 2006
3.	Title:	Proposal to make prescribed alteration to the age range at East Dene Junior and Infant School.
4.	Programme Area:	Children and Young People's Services Ward 12

5. Summary

East Dene Junior and Infant School is currently a 4 -11 age range school. The report to Cabinet Member and Advisers on February 21st 2006 approved a pre-statutory consultation on the proposal to change the age range to 3 -11 years to allow younger pupils to be admitted to a Foundation Stage Unit. Consultations have been undertaken with School staff, Parents and the School Governors and copies of the consultation papers have also been sent to neighbouring schools and Ward Members. This report details the outcome of these pre-statutory consultations.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that in the absence of any objections formal consultation on the proposal is begun with publication of the 'Statutory Notices' and that a further report be brought to Members with details of the outcome of the formal consultation.

7. Proposals and Details

It is proposed to make a prescribed alteration to East Dene Junior and Infant School from September 2006. There will be a change in the age range of the school from its existing age range of 4-11 years to 3-11 years.

The school will have 350 places (R-Y6) with a foundation stage unit that can accommodate up to 50 pupils on a part-time basis (25 pupils in the morning and 25 in the afternoon). The admission number of 50 to the school (reception onwards) will replace the former admission number of 60 with PFI in 2006/07.

Meetings were held at East Dene School with School Staff (Friday 24th March 2006), Parents (Monday 20th March 2006) and the School Governing body (Wednesday 15th March 2006). All the groups were in favour of the proposal to open a foundation stage unit and no objections to the proposal were made. Copies of the consultation papers have also been sent to neighbouring schools and Ward Members. In the absence of any objections it is proposed that the statutory consultation be undertaken. The Governing Body, whilst supporting the proposals, expressed concern at the availability of funding to create the external rubberised soft play area for the foundation stage unit. The PFI programme does not include this type of play area and the Governing Body was concerned that this additional cost would fall on the school.

(The minutes of these meetings are attached to this report.)

8. Finance

The building costs would be met through PFI. (Additional funding for the external play area would have to come from the School or other funding source, such as devolved formula capital grant). Costs associated with the admission of younger age children would be funded through the Schools Funding Formula.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

None envisaged.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The major theme supported by the introduction of the Foundation Stage is "everyone has access to skill, knowledge and information needed to enable them to play a full part in society". It is believed that some of the advantages of the Foundation Stage as described in 'Appendix A' will contribute to this.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Report to Cabinet member and Advisers 21st Feb 2006, Minutes of the Meeting with School Staff, Parents and the School Governing Body attached.

The consultation timetable is:

Publication of Statutory Notices	5 th May, 2006
6 week period for representations and objections closes	16 th June, 2006
LEA/School Organisation Committee	by 14 th July, 2006
Implementation Date	1 st September 2006

Contact Name: David Hill, School Organisation, Planning and Development Manager - Tel: 822536,
e-mail, david-education.hill @rotherham.gov.uk

Appendix A

Background Information on the Foundation Stage Units

NURSERY RATIONALISATION

THE DEVELOPMENT OF FOUNDATION STAGE UNITS

It is well recognised and supported by research that the early years of a child's educational life provide the basis upon which all later achievement is based. The development of Foundation Stage units across the borough along with the rationalisation of places will build upon Rotherham's already high quality provision ensuring a strong secure start for all.

Aims

- ❖ To ensure children have access to appropriate provision at the right time and that our youngest children remain in the non-maintained sector benefiting from high adult /child ratios
- ❖ To provide equitable early years provision in the maintained sector across the borough
- ❖ To develop working partnerships between maintained and non-maintained providers to meet the needs of children and parents
- ❖ To ensure all Rotherham children have access to high quality early years education and parents are given a choice as to who provides this
- ❖ To raise the baseline profile
- ❖ To remove surplus nursery places

Current Issues

- ❖ Over provision of LEA places in some areas of the borough and under provision in others
- ❖ LEA provision taking in younger children to cope with falling roles
- ❖ Reception curriculum is not universally appropriate as early years provision
- ❖ Foundation stage now recognised as a key stage in its own right
- ❖ Continuity and progression between nursery and reception classes which are often in separate buildings
- ❖ Continuity and progression with the non-maintained sector
- ❖ Introduction of a foundation stage profile from September 2002
- ❖ Low baseline profile

Vision

- ❖ Universal quality early years education across the borough, resulting in a raising of attainment on entry and consequent raising of attainment/achievement throughout. A strong curriculum/care partnership between the maintained and non maintained sector.

Principles

- ❖ Formal curriculum/care partnerships are developed between non-maintained and maintained providers
- ❖ Nursery and Reception children use the same space
- ❖ Resources are shared – variety of models
- ❖ Shared QCA foundation stage curriculum
- ❖ Shared system of planning and record keeping- carefully differentiated
- ❖ Access to outdoor play for all foundation stage children- foundation stage expectation outlined in the QCA guidance
- ❖ No imposition of inappropriate whole school routines
- ❖ Environment geared to children making their own choices
- ❖ Good adult child ratios allowing for maximum input at this vital stage

Advantages

- ❖ Youngest children are in appropriate provision with high adult/child ratios
- ❖ Maintained/non-maintained partnerships ensure continuity of care/curriculum.
- ❖ The needs of children and parents are met
- ❖ Value given to the Foundation Stage in the context of the whole school
- ❖ Staff are able to work collaboratively
- ❖ Units provide a basis for positive and supportive relationships with parents and carers
- ❖ Optimum utilisation of resources and equipment

Strategy

- ❖ To introduce foundation stage units in each school across the borough in a staged programme. To develop close formalised partnerships between maintained and non-maintained settings, providing quality early education for three and four year olds.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Children and Young People's Services

PROPOSAL TO MAKE A PRESCRIBED ALTERATION TO THE AGE RANGE AT EAST DENE JUNIOR AND INFANT SCHOOL

Meeting with Governing Body – Wednesday 15th March 2006

Present: David Hill, Ann Hercock (LEA), Mick Uttley (Head Teacher) and members of the Governing Body.

David Hill outlined the proposal to change the age range of the school from 4-11 years to 3-11 years from September 2006.

The school would have 350 places (R-Y6) with a Foundation Stage Unit that could accommodate up to 50 pupils on a part-time basis (25 pupils in the morning and 25 in the afternoon). The admission number of 50 to the school (Reception onwards) will replace the former admission number of 60 in 2006/07.

The Lifelong Learning Cabinet Member and Advisers, at their meeting on 21st February 2006, agreed that consultation on the proposal is begun. A further report would be brought to Members with details of the outcome of the consultation.

David explained the statutory process and the timetable for the consultation. He then invited questions and comments which were as follows:-

Whilst agreeing with the proposal in principle, there were concerns about funding for the provision of a soft-play area for the Foundation Stage Unit.

It was confirmed that there was no financial provision under PFI for a soft-play area. However, a sum of £25,000 was to be allocated for furniture for the whole of the school.

David stressed that this meeting was being held purely as part of the statutory process to change the age range of the school from 4-11 to 3-11. This would then allow the school to admit younger pupils should it wish to do so.

Concerns about funding of the outside play area were not within the remit of this meeting and would be dealt with by relevant officers within the LEA.

At what age can children be admitted to a Foundation Unit?

Usually, children can attend 3 terms part-time before going into Reception.

Would the Foundation Unit open in September 2006?

Yes, work to the school is due to be completed before the new school year begins.

Foundation Units are being provided across the borough – I personally feel it would be important for East Dene school and the local community to have one here.

The Chair of the Governing Body asked if agreement could be given to the proposal. Any funding concerns would have to be addressed at a later date.

Agreement was given to the proposal to change the age-range of the school.

There were no further questions.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Children and Young People's Services

PROPOSAL TO MAKE A PRESCRIBED ALTERATION TO THE AGE RANGE AT EAST DENE JUNIOR AND INFANT SCHOOL

Meeting with Parents – Monday 20th March 2006

Present: David Hill, Ann Hercock (LEA), Mick Uttley (Head Teacher), the Chair of Governors and 2 members of the Governing Body.

The meeting with parents had been arranged to discuss the proposal to change the age range of the school from 4-11 years to 3-11 years from September 2006.

The school would have 350 places (R-Y6) with a Foundation Stage Unit that could accommodate up to 50 pupils on a part-time basis (25 pupils in the morning and 25 in the afternoon). The admission number of 50 to the school (Reception onwards) will replace the former admission number of 60 in 2006/07.

The Lifelong Learning Cabinet Member and Advisers, at their meeting on 21st February 2006, agreed that consultation on the proposal is begun. A further report would be brought to Members with details of the outcome of the consultation.

The only parent who attended the meeting was the Chair of Governors who had already provided input into the meeting held with Governors on 15th March 2006.

The meeting was closed.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Children and Young People's Services

PROPOSAL TO MAKE A PRESCRIBED ALTERATION TO THE AGE RANGE AT EAST DENE JUNIOR AND INFANT SCHOOL

Meeting with Staff – Friday 24th March 2006

Present: David Hill, Ann Hercock (LEA), Mick Uttley (Head Teacher) and members of staff.

David Hill outlined the proposal to change the age range of the school from 4-11 years to 3-11 years from September 2006.

The school would have 350 places (R-Y6) with a Foundation Stage Unit that could accommodate up to 50 pupils on a part-time basis (25 pupils in the morning and 25 in the afternoon). The admission number of 50 to the school (Reception onwards) will replace the former admission number of 60 in 2006/07.

The Lifelong Learning Cabinet Member and Advisers, at their meeting on 21st February 2006, agreed that consultation on the proposal is begun. A further report would be brought to Members with details of the outcome of the consultation.

David explained the statutory process and the timetable for the consultation. He then invited questions and comments which were as follows:-

Can parents put their children's names down for September?

Yes, they can. There can be concerns that new Foundation Stage Units will affect existing provision but it is the Government's wish to encourage Foundation Stage provision in all schools along with day-care provision with the introduction of breakfast clubs and after-school care. (Extended schools)

Are all staff in favour of the proposal?

Yes, there are no objections.

Would the Foundation Unit have 26 FTE places?

Typically there are 25 places in the morning session and 25 in the afternoon.

Research suggests that children benefit from the introduction of Foundation Units in all future Key Stages.

Foundation Units provide the opportunity for children to progress between the nursery stage and beyond on the same site and is therefore more convenient for families.

Will more staff have to be recruited? Will a nursery teacher be required?

Children could move freely between 'Foundation Stage 1' (nursery) and 'Foundation Stage 2' (reception) under the supervision of existing staff. Funding for any additional staff would be generated by the extra numbers on roll.

There were no further questions.

Green Spaces Restructure

**Cabinet Member for Lifelong
Learning, Culture and Leisure**

April 2006

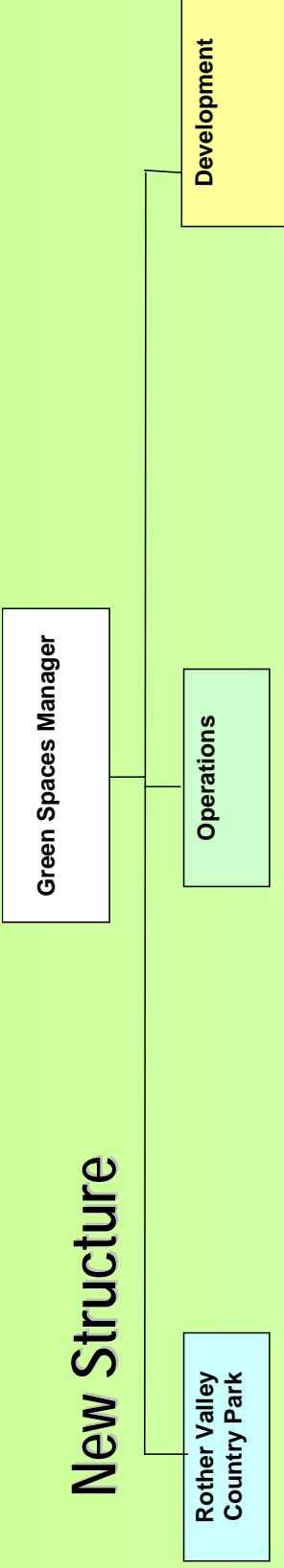
Best Value Review

- **Action Plan includes...**
 - Permanent Urban Park Ranger service
 - Better management arrangements for key urban green spaces
 - Site management plans
 - Seek Green Flag accreditation

New structure objectives

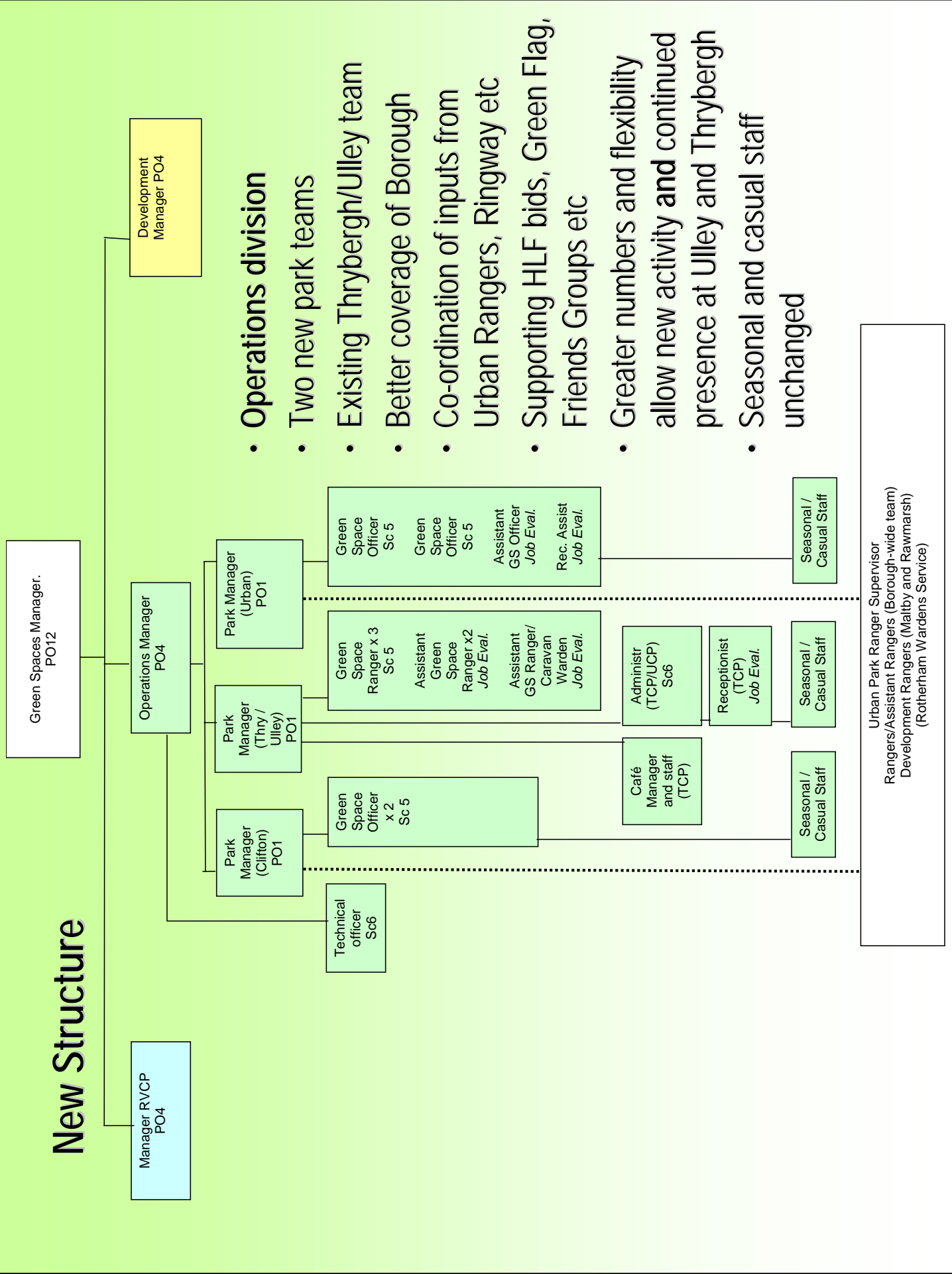
- More people working with communities to improve sites and increase use of green spaces
- More joined-up and accountable management of key urban green spaces
- More development in target areas and around priority themes

New Structure



- **Division of Service into three parts**
- For better distribution of management responsibility
- For improved focus on service improvement
- Rother Valley Country Park as currently, bearing in mind implications of YES! project

New Structure

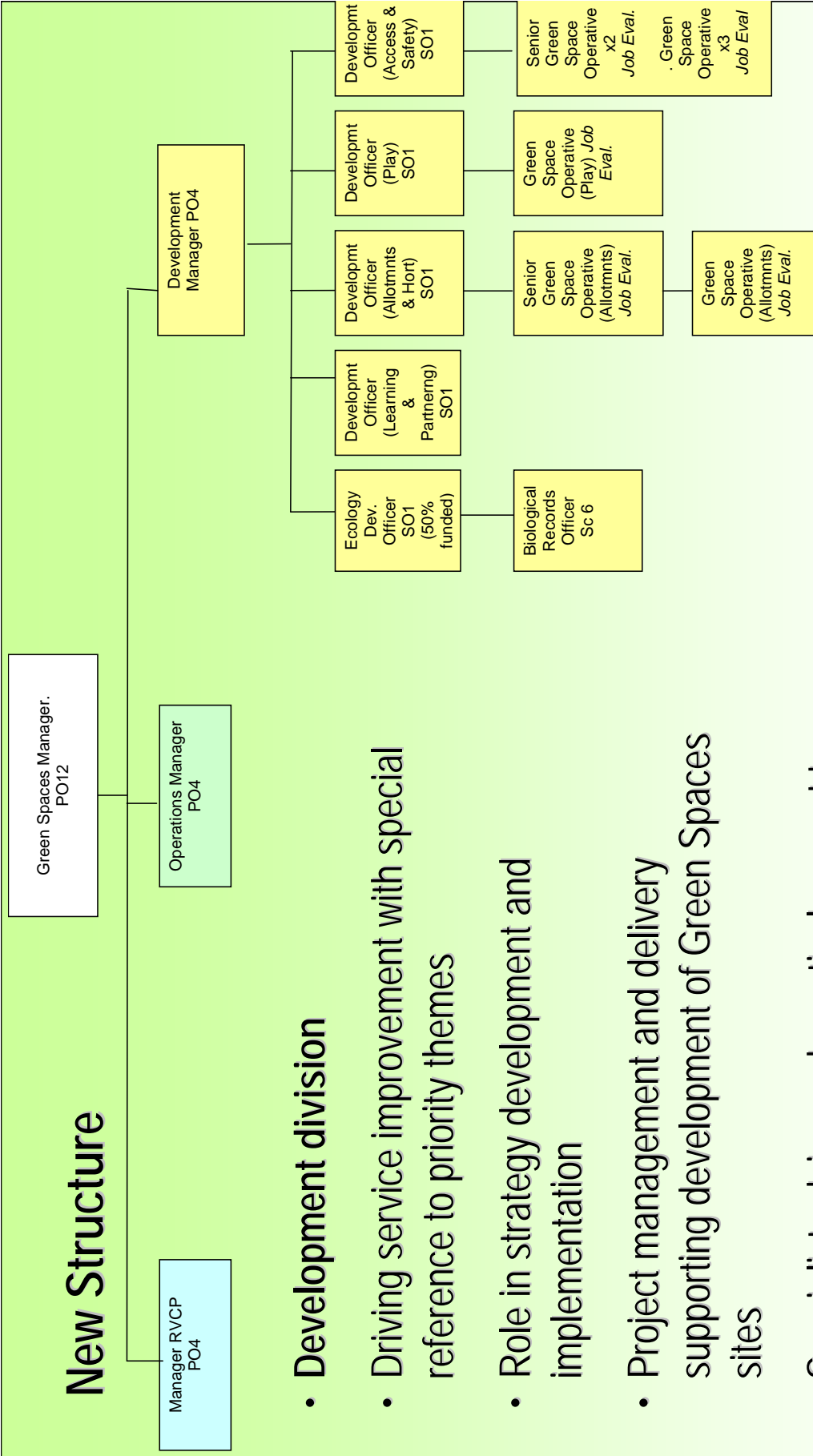


Operations division

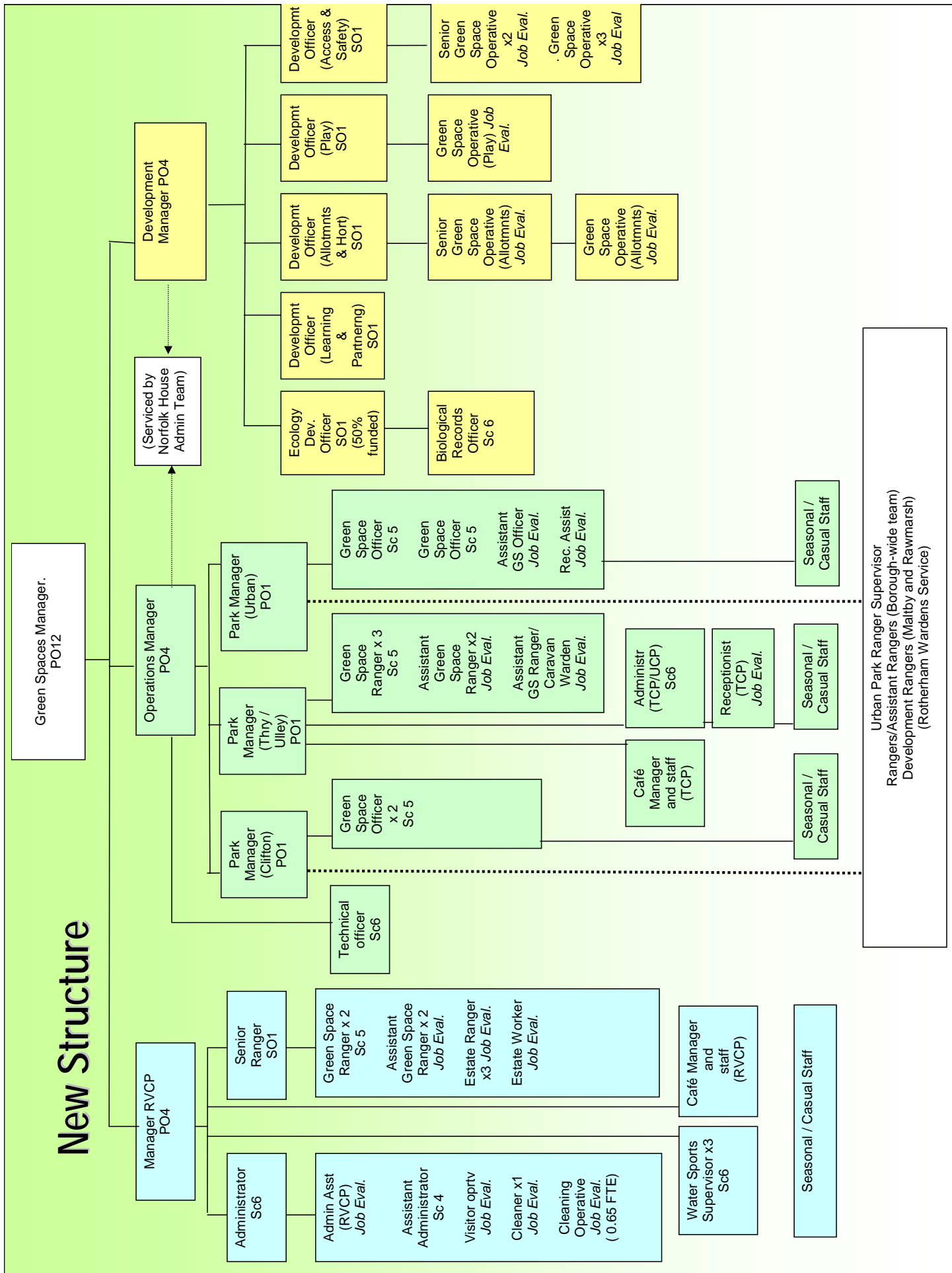
- Two new park teams
- Existing Thrybergh/Ulley team
- Better coverage of Borough
- Co-ordination of inputs from Urban Rangers, Ringway etc
- Supporting HLF bids, Green Flag, Friends Groups etc
- Greater numbers and flexibility allow new activity and continued presence at Ulley and Thrybergh
- Seasonal and casual staff unchanged

Urban Park Ranger Supervisor
Rangers/Assistant Rangers (Borough-wide team)
Development Rangers (Maltby and Rawmarsh)
(Rotherham Wardens Service)

New Structure



- **Development division**
- Driving service improvement with special reference to priority themes
- Role in strategy development and implementation
- Project management and delivery supporting development of Green Spaces sites
- Specialist advice and practical support to others, including community groups, farmers, schools, public rights of way, planning etc



Progress

- Internal consultation complete
- 12 expressions of interest received
- Information sessions for other stakeholders
- Target date for change – 5th June 2006

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
--

1.	Meeting:	Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure Cabinet Member and Advisers
2.	Date:	25th April, 2006
3.	Title:	The proposal is to amalgamate Maltby Manor Infant and Maltby Manor Junior Schools by closing both schools and opening a new Maltby Manor Primary School.
4.	Programme Area:	Children and Young People’s Services Ward 9 - Maltby

5. Summary

Maltby Manor Infant and Maltby Manor Junior are both separate schools. The report to Cabinet Member and Advisers on the 14th March 2006 approved a pre-statutory consultation on the proposal to amalgamate the two schools by closing both schools and opening a new Maltby Manor Primary School. Members have previously agreed to consult as appropriate where two schools meet the considerations for amalgamation which are described in the ‘School Organisation Plan’. Pre-statutory consultations have been undertaken with School Governors, Staff and Parents, and copies of the consultation papers have also been sent to Ward Members. This report details the outcome of these pre-statutory consultations.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that the statutory consultation on the proposal to the amalgamation of Maltby Manor Infant and Maltby Manor Junior Schools by closing both schools and opening a new Maltby Manor Primary School as described in Appendix ‘A’ is begun and that a further report be brought to Members with details of the outcome of the formal consultation.

7. Proposals and Details

The proposal to be consulted on is:-

It is proposed to amalgamate Maltby Manor Infant and Maltby Manor Junior Schools from April 2007. To do this both Maltby Manor Infant and Maltby Manor Junior Schools will be closed and a new Maltby Manor Primary school with an age range of 3-11 years will be opened. The new Primary school will accommodate the same number of pupils as are currently accommodated within the two schools.

The new School would have 420 places (R-Y6) with a Nursery unit of up to 52 places (26FTE). (This is the combined numbers of the current two schools) The school would have an admission number of 60.

The principal objectives of amalgamation are:

- 1) to provide a continuous primary entitlement across the key stages; and
- 2) to provide a unified management structure with a single school ethos which will be more efficient and make more effective use of resources.

Considerations for amalgamation are described in the School Organisation Plan in Section 4, 'LEA Policies and Principles'. (These are described in **Appendix 'A'**)

There will be a vacancy for the Head Teacher's post at the Infant School and the Head Teacher of the Junior School has indicated that she will retire if the amalgamation goes ahead. Both schools are on the same site and the admission number of the two schools is 60. The conditions for consultation on amalgamation are, therefore, met.

A Meeting was held at Maltby Manor Junior School on the 27th March 2006 for the Governors of both schools. A meeting was held at Maltby Manor Junior School on the 29th March 2006 for Staff from both schools and also on the 29th March 2006 for Parents from both schools.

(The minutes of these meetings are attached to this report)

Copies of the consultation papers have also been sent to Ward Members. No comments have been received from Ward Members.

A number of issues were raised at all these meetings and officers from the Authority responded to the questions asked. The following comments address the main issues raised at the meetings:

- 1) Concern was expressed at the proposed date for the amalgamation. The Governors were concerned that the timescale was very tight and that the appointment of a new Head Teacher was essential for the amalgamation to be successful. The Acting 'Head of Resources and Access' advised the meeting that the timescale was tight and if objections were made to the proposals, the decision would have to be made by the School Organisation Committee which would delay the process.

In addition following discussions, within the 'Children and Young Peoples Service' regarding the number of Head Teacher appointments that were to be made this year, there were reservations that the proposed timescale did not give any leeway for the post to be advertised more than once. Given the potential delays in recruiting high calibre Head Teachers the date for amalgamation would be moved to the 1st April 2007. The 'Principal School Adviser' advised the Governors that this would give a better field from which an appointment could be made. The Acting 'Head of Resources and Access' further advised the meeting that he had already discussed this with the Head Teacher of the Junior School who had agreed to work until the 1st April 2007 if the amalgamation went ahead. The Governors considered that the 1st April 2007 was preferable and it would give the 'temporary Governing body' sufficient time to carry out the Head Teacher appointment.

- 2) Concern was expressed that the new Head Teacher would most likely be based in one building and would not know all the children. The advice given was that additional funding would be provided for four years to allow the school to have two deputy head teachers and that the new Head Teacher would spend time in each building.
- 3) Concern was expressed at the distance between the two schools and the physically linking of the two buildings. The advice given was that the physical linking of the two buildings was not possible but an improved walkway between the two schools could be considered but that the cost of any work would be the determining factor.
- 4) Concern was expressed that the staff would be located in two schools and the facilities to be provided for them. The Governors were advised that the creation of a staff room within one of the buildings would be considered as part of the amalgamation process.
- 5) Concern was expressed about the provision of school meals. The Governors were advised that no changes to the meal arrangements were being proposed.

8. Finance

Financial savings which arise are savings on staffing, mainly from the loss of a Head Teacher's post from the school's budget and the 'Minimum Funding Guarantee' procedures protect the school budget in 2007-08.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

If formal objections are lodged during the 'statutory consultation' the proposal will be determined by the School Organisation Committee' (SOC). If unanimous agreement cannot be made by the SOC the final decision lies with the 'Chief Adjudicator of Schools' to whom all the relevant documentation would be sent.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The major theme supported by the proposal is 'to ensure that everyone has access to skills, knowledge and information to enable them to play their part in society'. The principle advantages of amalgamation arise from the continuous primary education entitlements which are:-

- Removal of the school transfer at the end of key stage 1;
- Provision of a whole school curriculum across the primary age range;
- A unified management structure with a single school ethos;
- The potential to remodel the staffing structure and to safeguard the staffing establishment when pupil numbers change across the key stages;
- A whole school approach to staff development across the primary phase; more efficient and effective use of resources, especially accommodation, when numbers fluctuate across the infant and junior phases.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Report to Cabinet member and Advisers 14th March 2006, minutes of the meetings held with School Governors, staff and parents. The School Organisation Plan and the 'School Standards and Framework Act 1998'

The statutory consultation timetable is:

Publication of statutory notices	5 th May 2006
6-week period for representations and objections closes	16 th June 2006
LEA/School Organisation Committee decision	by 7 th July 2006
Implementation	1 st April 2007

Contact Name: David Hill, Manager, School Organisation Planning and Development, Ext 2536, david-education.hill@rotherham.gov.uk

EDUCATION, CULTURE AND LEISURE SERVICES**Proposal to 'amalgamate' Maltby Manor Infant and Maltby Manor Junior Schools****1. The Proposal and its Purpose**

The proposal is to amalgamate Maltby Manor Infant and Maltby Manor Junior Schools from April 2007. To do this both Maltby Manor Infant and Maltby Manor Junior Schools will be closed and a new Maltby Manor Primary school, with an age range of 3-11 years, will be opened. The new Primary school will accommodate the same number of pupils as are currently accommodated within the two schools.

The School would have 420 places (R-Y6) with a Nursery unit of up to 52 places (26 FTE). (This is the combined numbers of the current two schools) The new school would have an admission number of 60.

The principal objectives of amalgamation are:

- i) to provide a continuous primary entitlement across the key stages; and
- ii) to provide a unified management structure with a single school ethos which will be more efficient and make more effective use of resources.

Considerations for amalgamation are described in the School Organisation Plan in Section 4, 'LEA Policies and Principles'. These are where:-

- 1) It is possible to accommodate all of the children on one site, thereby removing surplus places (if applicable).
- 2) The admission number is already no more than 60, or can be reduced to no more than 60, by the associated removal of surplus places.
- 3) Both Key Stages are on the same site.
- 4) There will be a vacancy for both head teacher posts as a result of retirement or resignation.

2. Existing Situation: Numbers on roll and Capacity**2.1 Maltby Manor Infant School**

Net Capacity	=	180
Admission Number	=	60
Number on Roll (2005) (NOR)	=	168
Surplus Places	=	12

2.2 Maltby Manor Junior School

Net Capacity	=	243
Admission Number	=	60
Number on Roll (2005) (NOR)	=	231
Surplus Places	=	12

3. **Development of Numbers on Roll**

Year	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Infant	168	164	153	162	145
Junior	231	240	233	228	225
Total	399	404	386	390	370

4. **Advantages and Disadvantages**

The principal ADVANTAGES of amalgamation arise from the continuous primary education entitlement:

- removal of the school transfer at the end of key stage 1;
- provision of a whole school curriculum across the primary age range;
- a unified management structure with a single school ethos;
- the potential to remodel the staffing structure and to safeguard the staffing establishment when pupil numbers change across the key stages;
- a whole school approach to staff development across the primary phase;
- more efficient and effective use of resources, especially accommodation, when numbers fluctuate across the infant and junior phases.

The principal DISADVANTAGES of amalgamation are:

- the loss of the Head teacher of one of the schools which could impact upon accessibility to staff, parents and pupils (this may have particular relevance where schools serve areas of social and economic disadvantage);
- potential difficulties in bringing together two different sets of working practice;
- possible fear of and resistance to change amongst staff, governors and parents;
- in some (but by no means all) cases, a lack of staff expertise in teaching and management across the two key stages.

5. Financial Implications

Financial savings which arise are savings on staffing, mainly from the loss of a Head Teacher's post from the school's budget and the 'Minimum Funding Guarantee' procedures protect the school budget in 2006-07.

6. Consultation Timetable

The statutory Consultation timetable is:

Publication of statutory notices	5 th May 2006
6 week period for representations and objections closes	16 th June 2006
LEA/School Organisation Committee decision	by 7 th July 2006
Implementation	1 st April 2007

Maltby Manor Infant and Junior School Proposed Amalgamation

Joint Meeting with Governors of Maltby Manor Infant and Junior Schools on Monday 27th March 2006.

Present: David Hill, Graham Sinclair, Helen Rogers and Ann Hercocock (LEA), Governors of Maltby Manor Infant and Junior Schools, Chris Garner (Head of Infant) and Marion Tanner (Head of Junior).

David Hill outlined the proposal to close both Maltby Manor Infant and Maltby Manor Junior Schools and to open a new Maltby Manor Primary School, with an age range of 3-11 years. The new Primary School would accommodate the same number of pupils as are currently accommodated within the two schools.

He spoke about existing and predicted numbers on roll, financial implications and the advantages and disadvantages of amalgamation. A summary of the information had been distributed prior to the meeting, which also included a timetable for the consultation process.

He then invited questions and comments which were as follows:-

The schools serve an area which has a large proportion of social and economic disadvantage. How would an amalgamation impact on this? Would it not be better to have a Head Teacher available in both infant and junior departments?

It is a question of balance. East Dene and Coleridge are positive examples of through primary schools in areas of social and economic disadvantage.

Why were Maltby Crags Infant and Maltby Crags Junior Schools not amalgamated?

The situation was different – one school was in serious weaknesses and the other had serious difficulties with staffing. The LEA felt that the schools would be better served with 2 Head Teachers. If in the future one of the Heads left, amalgamation would then be considered.

Both Maltby Manor schools are strong schools and it is felt that amalgamation would not be detrimental.

Would the jobs of kitchen staff be secure? At the moment there are two separate kitchens. The junior school has a cafeteria system and the infant has a family service which contributes greatly to social skills development. There would be a reluctance to lose this.

Ron Parry, the Principal Catering Officer, has confirmed that there would be no reason to change existing arrangements unless the schools wanted to.

There are building considerations. There is not a staffroom big enough to accommodate the infant and junior staff together. Also, a covered walkway between the two buildings would be desirable.

It is accepted that a space large enough for a joint staffroom would have to be identified. As to a link between schools- this could be costed but no promises could be made as the work would be expensive.

Which building would the new Head Teacher be based in?

There are other schools in the authority housed in two buildings. This is not necessarily disadvantageous to amalgamation. It is an individual decision based on personal management style.

The shape of the junior school is long and thin. There would need to be an alternative use of rooms to cut down on walking distance.

This is a matter for the school to resolve in the best way possible.

How is all the work going to be done with the loss of one full-time Head Teacher. In addition to all her other duties the current Infant Head regularly goes into classrooms and she knows all the names of the children

Leadership in schools has changed. Schools now have leadership teams consisting of Heads, Deputy Heads and senior members of staff who all make a significant contribution. Retaining two Deputy Heads will help.

But the two Deputy Heads will only be retained for 4 years.

Other schools are changing ways of managing. Some bring in business managers for example. The governing body has a critical role. In a school as large as the proposed amalgamated school it would be the expectation that the budget would allow for some non-teaching time during the school day.

Would parents think in this way? They want to speak to the Head Teacher not someone else.

That is a fair point but parents would still be able to arrange to see the Head Teacher and there is no reason why in a school of this size that the Head would not become familiar with the names of the children.

The movement of children between buildings for joint activities would take up valuable time.

There would not necessarily have to be much movement. The key word is flexibility. It can be beneficial to mix key stages occasionally so that the children feel part of the whole school but this would not have to be a daily event. Governors have a significant role to play in how practicalities are sorted out.

What would be the make-up of a new governing body for the new school?

Paul Carney would be the best person to provide advice. The first step would be to ask for nominations for a temporary governing body. Current governors should consider if they would wish to be a member of a temporary governing body.

The timetable for the implementation of the proposal could be a problem. As it stands we would need to appoint a new Head before the summer term as a full term's notice has to be given.

Graham Sinclair said timing was a concern for the LEA. If there were any objections to the proposal the School Organisation Committee would need time to consider them. Also, placing the job advert in July could result in fewer applications being received due to it being missed during the holiday period.

It would therefore make more sense to wait until September to advertise the post. Therefore, it is proposed that the implementation date should be changed from 1st January 2007 to 1st April 2007. This would also give more time if the post had to be advertised more than once.

This would result in 1 term without a Head for the junior school and 2 terms for the infant.

Graham informed governors that he had spoken to Marion Tanner who was prepared to carry on until 1st April 2007 if the amalgamation was approved. The Deputy Head of the infant school had also agreed to take on the role of Acting Head if a temporary class teacher was appointed and funded by the LEA for the extra term.

Would there be any extra funding to cover building adaptations?

It depends on what the new Head Teacher would want in terms of building priorities. The provision of a staffroom large enough to accommodate all staff would be supported as part of the process.

Would teachers be expected to teach children in different key stages?

There can be advantages in having some movement. It can benefit the children to be taught by someone with wider experience and could also be beneficial for the career progression of teachers.

Would there be retraining for teachers who were expected to teach a different year group?

It is unlikely that teaching a different year group would happen in the short term for existing staff.

How does Rotherham compare with the national trend towards through primary schools?

It fits with the national trend.

Are most of them as a result of amalgamations?

No, there have always been more through primaries and these have been gradually built on.

It was originally a through primary here!

I still feel the amalgamated school will not be a single entity – it will still be 'them and us'.

That is a good point. However, in a through primary school there is scope for a more consistent approach in the teaching of the curriculum. Also, themes can bring children together and can provide opportunities for them to gain a greater understanding of each other.

This would be a relevant subject to bring up at the interviews of candidates for the Head Teacher post.

Would Governors support the proposal if the implementation date was moved to 1st April?

There was positive support.

Do we need an amended proposal?

No, the Public Notice would contain the amended date and that would be sufficient.

The Governors were thanked for their questions and comments and the meeting was closed.

Maltby Manor Infant and Junior School Proposed Amalgamation

Meeting with Parents/Carers of children attending Maltby Manor Infant and Junior Schools on Wednesday 29th March 2006.

Present: David Hill, Graham Sinclair, Helen Rogers and Ann Hercock (LEA), Chris Garner (Head of Infant) and Marion Tanner (Head of Junior) and 9 parents.

David Hill outlined the proposal to close both Maltby Manor Infant and Maltby Manor Junior Schools and to open a new Maltby Manor Primary School, with an age range of 3-11 years. The new Primary School would accommodate the same number of pupils as are currently accommodated within the two schools.

He spoke about existing and predicted numbers on roll, financial implications and the advantages and disadvantages of amalgamation. A summary of the information had been distributed prior to the meeting, which also included a timetable for the consultation process.

He then invited questions and comments which were as follows:-

Eventually, will there be only one Head Teacher and one Deputy Head?

Yes, this is most likely but after four years it would be up to the Governors and the school to decide whether to carry on with two Deputy Heads.

In effect, will the schools be as they are now but with one Head Teacher?

Superficially, yes, but there would be much more linking with staff and parents; literacy and numeracy schemes etc would be more consistent through the key stages and there would be more opportunities for year groups to mix.

How would the transition from infant to junior differ from now?

The transition here is already quite smooth but the children are still moving from one school to another. In an amalgamated school, it is theirs on entry. This would be built on during the child's primary school years by linkages between year groups and a consistent approach to the running of the school.

It has always been thought of as one school.

This is really a tribute to the two schools. There are few separate infant and junior schools in Rotherham. Amalgamation would not be considered if the school had any more than a 2-form entry.

With having only one Head Teacher, are some children and parents losing out on contact?

Yes and no. In a school of this size there would be scope for the Deputy Heads to have contact with parents. Parents would have to adapt to only being able to see the Head at particular times.

In an amalgamated school a Head will often opt to be based in the Infant department as those parents probably need contact with the Head Teacher the most. It would be up to the Head Teacher to make a judgement on that.

An advantage of a single school is that parents will see the same Head Teacher all the way through their child's time at the school. That is another reason why the selection of the right candidate for the post is so important.

Why cannot the remaining Head Teacher take over?

It is purely personal choice.

Would removing the transition at Y2/Y3 from one school to another have an adverse effect when the child transferred to secondary school. Age 3 to 11 years old in one school is a long time.

Not usually at 11 years old. A child of that age is better equipped to cope. The majority are eager to transfer to secondary school. Primary schools in Maltby work hard to ensure the move is as smooth as possible.

Going back to the accessibility of the Head Teacher – children are sent to the Head for a number of reasons – good and bad.

Amalgamation is not a barrier to this in a school with 420 places. There are a number of schools this size and it does work. A bigger school provides more scope for staff to share workload in terms of subject co-ordination. This can free up time for the Head to spend time with the children.

Does creating a larger school remove the intimacy of a smaller one?

The Infant Head, Chris Garner stated that she had worked in a bigger primary school and this was not a problem. The Head Teacher and staff make it work.

What does the admission number of 60 mean?

This is the maximum number of children admitted to the school. This gives a two-form entry.

Reference is made in the material circulated, to areas of social and economic disadvantage. Is this considered to be a deprived area?

Various statistics are used to determine the level of social and economic disadvantage including the number of free school meals taken and the level of unemployment. The catchment area of the Maltby Manor schools is quite mixed.

How much would the school gain from salary savings by reducing from two Head Teachers to one?

The salary saving (approx £50,000) would go into the central education budget and would be used for the benefit of all pupils. All schools are protected by a minimum funding guarantee.

Would the same thing happen when reducing from two Deputy Heads to one?

The savings would go back into the central budget although some non-teaching time for the Deputy Head would possibly be identified.

How much would it cost to support two Deputy Heads for four years?

The extra cost is the difference between a Deputy Head's salary and the top of a main scale teacher scale – this is typically £6,000 - £7,000.

Is the structure of the school going to change – particularly the kitchens?

This has already been discussed with Ron Parry, the Principal Catering Officer. There would be no changes to the existing arrangements unless the school requested it.

Would there be any enforced staff savings?

No, this was dealt with at the staff meeting earlier today. Paul Fitzpatrick, the Human Resources Manager told staff that the proposed amalgamation was not about cutting staff. There was no reason why anyone should be at risk.

Is it a 'done deal'?

In all proposals to amalgamate except one a number of years ago, all have been accepted. The Council believes it is the right thing to do. If there have been objections, the School Organisation Committee has considered the proposal. Generally these have been approved.

Who is the Adjudicator?

The Adjudicator is employed by the Department for Education and Skills. A decision not agreed by the School Organisation Committee would be referred to the Adjudicator who's decision is final and binding.

How long had this proposal to amalgamate been looked at prior to any indication that a Head Teacher was leaving?

As part of the School Organisation Plan for the authority, amalgamation is looked at as a possibility for schools of this size, that is schools where the admission limit would be no more than 60.

Does the process of amalgamation usually work smoothly?

Almost every one has gone very smoothly. In most cases an existing Head of one of the schools has become the Head of the amalgamated school. St. Ann's J&I was an exception; the Deputy Head of the Junior School became the Head of the amalgamated J&I school in an open recruitment situation.

If the amalgamation goes ahead would there be any demolition or physical joining of the school?

The staffroom situation would need to be looked at. A space large enough to accommodate all the staff would be necessary.

The distance between the two buildings prevents a joining corridor being constructed but a covered walkway will be costed. There are a number of schools housed in separate buildings and this has not usually been a problem.

There should be no disruption to the school site.

Is this a Council cost-cutting exercise in the long term?

No, any money saved goes back into the education budget. Dedicated funding has to be put back into education.

We have been told that through primary schools are better for the education of the children. What about amalgamating primary and secondary schools?

Hinde House, in Sheffield is to become a 3-19 age school. It could be said that secondary schools should be aware of what primary schools have done. However, there is a different curriculum in secondary schools and a different approach.

It is not a route Rotherham would want to take at the moment. It could be counter-productive.

Do statistics support amalgamation as being better?

There is an identified curriculum for the key stages. However, this only gives the 'what' and not the 'how'. Two Head Teachers can work together closely but not necessarily on individual subject areas. Amalgamation ensures greater consistency.

Are any more delays in the timetable likely?

No, once the implementation date of 1st April 2007 is put on the Public Notice it will not change.

Is not a smaller school preferable to a larger one?

It is a Rotherham issue to consider amalgamation. There are some very small schools but this can create difficulties. Out of necessity one member of staff will have more than one subject to co-ordinate.

Are you already looking at appointing a Head Teacher?

No, we will wait to see if the proposal is approved or not. In the meantime, Paul Carney will meet with governors with a view to setting up a temporary governing body.

Are Head Teachers eventually going to be replaced by managers to run schools?

No, but in particular circumstances there could be a Head Teacher in charge of a Federation. In some secondary schools there are, for example, premises managers and finance managers but this is not usually the case in primary schools.

Would the job of one of the secretaries be in jeopardy?

Paul Fitzpatrick has looked at hours worked by admin staff and it would not be necessary to lose a post if the proposal went ahead.

Does integration work with one Head Teacher moving between one building and the other?

The Governing Body has indicated their wish would be to appoint a new Head with the same values as the existing two Heads.

Would an office in either of the schools no longer be used by admin staff?

This would be looked at with the new Head Teacher.

The parents were thanked for their questions and comments and the meeting was closed.

Maltby Manor Infant and Junior School Proposed Amalgamation

Joint Meeting with Staff of Maltby Manor Infant and Junior Schools on Wednesday 29th March 2006.

Present: David Hill, Helen Rogers, Paul Fitzpatrick and Ann Hercock (LEA), Chris Garner (Head of Infant), Marion Tanner (Head of Junior), members of staff of both schools and union representatives.

David Hill outlined the proposal to close both Maltby Manor Infant and Maltby Manor Junior Schools and to open a new Maltby Manor Primary School, with an age range of 3-11 years. The new Primary School would accommodate the same number of pupils as are currently accommodated within the two schools.

He spoke about existing and predicted numbers on roll, financial implications and the advantages and disadvantages of amalgamation. A summary of the information had been distributed prior to the meeting, which also included a timetable for the consultation process.

Paul Fitzpatrick, Human Resources Manager stressed that the proposed amalgamation was not about reducing staff. There was no reason why any post should be at risk. Teaching staff would remain the same as the numbers of children would not change and catering and cleaning staff would be unchanged. Admin and clerical staff could see some changes but no jobs were at risk. The new Head would probably wish to look at structures but there was no cause for concern.

Questions and comments were then invited which were as follows:-

The secretary of the junior school asked about the possible changes to working arrangements and pointed out that the secretary in the infant school was leaving at the end of the summer term.

The new Head Teacher would look at this. There was a possibility that extra hours would be available but this would be open to consultation and advice would be given.

Would staff have to apply for their own jobs?

No, that is not the policy in Rotherham.

Would there be whole school assemblies?

It would depend on the leadership of the school. Usually there are flexible arrangements. It can be beneficial to bring year groups together occasionally.

What about subject co-ordinators? Will there be two of everything?

The usual practise is to run with two. This may reduce in time after consultation. Having more than one expert to cover subject areas can be a good thing.

Will extra funding be provided?

The provision of a staffroom large enough to accommodate all staff would be supported as part of the amalgamation process. Costs would be requested for a covered walkway between the two buildings but no promises could be made.

The movement of children from one building to another could waste time and could be a problem in inclement weather.

Some schools in the authority have a number of buildings and this does not cause any problems. There would not necessarily have to be much movement – it is a question of being flexible.

Would teaching assistants be required to work with different year groups?

The new Head would look at structures in detail. There could be opportunities for staff development and should be looked at positively.

Catering staff were asked if they felt comfortable with the proposal. They confirmed that they were on being told that no changes in current provision were planned in the new school.

We have been told there will be one Head and two Deputy Heads but what about the next level down?

Both schools will already have implemented TLR restructuring. The new Head will consider and amend if necessary with the involvement of unions.

Is it Rotherham's policy to amalgamate?

Amalgamation is looked at when at least one Head Teacher vacancy occurs but not in schools with more than a 2-form entry. The maximum size of an amalgamated school in Rotherham is 420 full-time places.

If the amalgamation went ahead would the school be one of the largest in Rotherham?

No, there are more of a similar size. If staff had any queries or concerns they would be welcome to speak to staff in other amalgamated schools and they could also seek advice from the unions.

Staff were thanked for their questions and comments and the meeting was closed.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure Cabinet Member and Advisers
2.	Date:	25th April, 2006
3.	Title:	Request to name the Clifton Multi Agency Building - The Place
4.	Programme Area:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary:

A request has been received from The Clifton Team Strategy Group to name the new multi agency team building **The Place**.

6. Recommendations:

That consideration be given to this request.

7. Proposals and Details:

The Clifton Team are a co-located multi-agency team consisting of health, education and social services staff providing statutory services to children in the Clifton Community.

The team were based in the old Simon Womack Youth/Community Centre for the last year, which has since been demolished.

Through the PFI project, the opportunity was taken to move into the newly refurbished old art, design and technology (ADT) block on the old Clifton Upper School site.

The Clifton Team are resident in one side of the building the other side being a new youth and Community Centre.

A competition involving local schools and the local community was launched to give children and young people an opportunity to name the new building.

4,000 leaflets were printed and the most suitable name suggested was **The Place**.

8. Finance:

There are no financial implications associated with this request.

9. Risks and Uncertainties:

There are no specific risks concerned in considering this request.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:

This request does not have specific implications for Policy and Performance.

11. Background Papers and Consultation:

The refurbishment of the old Clifton Comprehensive ADT forms part of the redevelopment of the Clifton Upper School site. When the project is completed in December 2006, the site will include a new school for Coleridge, a new sports hall, pitches and tennis courts for Clifton: A Community Arts School which can also be used by the community.

Contact Name: *David Hill, Manager, School Organisation Planning and Development, ext 2536*
David-education.hill@rotherham.gov.uk

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted