

NOTICE OF MOTION**LABOUR AND CO-OPERATIVE GROUP****GOVERNMENT EDUCATION POLICY**

The Council resolves:

To request that the Chief Executive writes to the Secretary of State for Education stating the Council's support for:

- improving school standards through a family of schools approach, working within existing structures
- increased local accountability of schools, where families and communities are able to scrutinise and hold to account local plans for school improvement and action to reduce inequality of educational outcomes across communities
- protection, enhancement and valuing of the role of parents in the running of schools

To request that the Chief Executive writes to the Secretary of State for Education stating the Council's concern in relation to:

- national top-down reorganisations of schools that do not reflect local needs. School reorganisation should be based on the strengths and needs of local communities and have local support.
- any plans that mean parents will have a reduced role in running schools.
- any plans to restrict options for 'struggling' schools, including potentially forcing schools to become academies, that may cut them off from the key support that can be offered by the LA family of schools. There is a lack of firm evidence that academisation is the only or most effective route to guarantee school improvement.
- any plans that will reduce local authorities' vital role in educational provision, in terms of planning for school places, school admissions arrangements, support for special educational needs, staff support and development, and so limiting opportunities to reduce inequality in outcomes for young people across local communities, and ensure no young people are left behind.

Proposed by: Cllr Bewick

Seconded by: Cllr Chapman

Supported by: Labour Group of Councillors

