



# School Organisation Committee

## AGENDA ITEM: 7

### REPORT PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED TO SCHOOL ORGANISATION COMMITTEE ON 25 JUNE 2003 - DEFERRED TO SEPTEMBER MEETING.

**Title:** Statutory Notices: Bedgrove Infant and Bedgrove Junior Schools Change of Category from Community to Foundation

**Date:** 24 September 2003

**Contact Officer:** Raj Popat (01296) 383636

#### Recommendation

The School Organisation Committee is asked to consider the proposal and to agree whether or not to determine the Statutory Notice.

#### Supporting Information

To bring to the Committee, statutory proposals in relation to the change of category of Bedgrove Infant and Junior Schools to Foundation status. These proposals have been consulted upon and the statutory objection period is now finished. Proposals relating to the change of category from Community to Foundation status for the Schools were published on 3 April 2003 (by the Governing Body of the Infant School) and on 2 April (by the Governing Body of the Junior School) through the publication of statutory notices along with relevant supporting information and are proposed to take effect from 1 September 2003. A pack of documents relating to these proposals containing a copy of the statutory notice, and all the prescribed information will be available for inspection at the meeting and also can be seen at [www.buckscc.gov.uk/cabinet\\_papers/other\\_school\\_organisation\\_committee](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/cabinet_papers/other_school_organisation_committee).

The formal objection period closed on 3 June 2003 (for the Infant School) and on 2 June 2003 (for the Junior School). No objections to the proposals were received prior to the end of the Objection Period. As the proposals are from governors they must be determined by the Committee.

At the meeting of the Committee on 22 January 2003, it was agreed that it would be helpful to have written confirmation from the Secretary that the published proposals and the prescribed information provided by the School complies with the Education (Change of Category of Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2000.

The published proposals conform with the requirements of Section 28 School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (as modified by the Education (Change of Category of Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2000) and the supporting documents include the information prescribed in the said 2000 Regulations.

The Committee should note however that the said 2000 Regulations provide that Governing Bodies bringing forward these type of proposals must consult all interested parties, and in so

doing must have regard to the DfE's guidance. The relevant extract from DfE's guidance (DfE's 9/99) is attached as an annex and provides a list of interested parties who should be consulted by proposees. This includes all other schools in the area that may be affected by the proposals. It should be noted that neither the Infant nor Junior School consulted with all schools within a two-mile radius prior to publication of the notices. The schools that were not consulted include Ashmead Combined, Elmhurst Infant and Junior, Oak Green Combined and St Louis Catholic Combined.

In addition to this, and contrary to the said DfE's guidance, the Junior School did not formally consult with their staff, who would be affected by the proposals, prior to publication of the notice.

The relevant guidance from the DfEE 'Guidance on Statutory Proposals' can be found on pages 103 – 105 of that document.

See attached as annexes the statutory notice, a selection of background papers, extract from DfE's Circular 9/99.

### **Background Papers**

Correspondence between the Head of School Organisation and the Chairman of Governors.