

Mrs Pat Frost  
Chairman of the Local Committee's  
Chairmen Group

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Dr Zully Grant-Duff  
Chairman of the Children  
and Education Select  
Committee

Surrey County Council

Room 122, County Hall  
Penrhyn Road  
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16 March 2015

Dear Pat,

**Children and Education Select Committee:  
School Governance and Local Committees**

The Committee has recently conducted a School Governance Task Group. In its interim and final reports the Task Group made a series of recommendations to Cabinet. For your reference I attach the recommendations and the answers received.

The overall findings of the Task Group have highlighted the need to engage regularly with school governing bodies, not only because school governance is recognized as a key factor in school improvement but also given governing bodies' increased responsibilities in recent years.

I am sure you will agree that it is important we work together with schools in order to drive continued improvements in school performance and attainment for the children of Surrey.

It is also important that we use local forums, such as our Local Committees, to explore the impact of county-wide strategic priorities. The School Expansion Programme is a notable case where Local Committees can help the County Council understand how best to work with the local community and schools to deliver its statutory responsibility.

To that effect, the Select Committee would like to encourage the Local Committees to use the benefit of their local knowledge and experience to engage with school governing bodies, in order to understand their priorities and to communicate those of the County Council. It is my hope that this will enable us to work collaboratively to achieve the best outcomes for Surrey residents.

The Select Committee would welcome any feedback individual Local Committees may have concerning matters that fall under its terms of reference.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Zully Grant-Duff  
Chairman of the Children and Education Select Committee

Cc. Mrs Linda Kemeny, Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning, Surrey County Council  
Mr Nick Wilson, Director of Children, Schools and Families, Surrey County Council  
Peter-John Wilkinson, Assistant Director for Schools and Learning, Surrey County Council