

Cabinet Meeting Resolution

<b>Executive Forward Plan Reference</b>	<b>E2233R</b>
---	---------------

**Call-in of Decision to close Culverhay School**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	14-Jul-11
<b>The Issue</b>	The Cabinet is required to reconsider the original decision to close Culverhay School (taken in February 2011) because Council, at its meeting of 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2011, decided to uphold the Call-in of the decision and to refer it back to Cabinet to be reconsidered. Under the Council's constitution, the reconsidered decision cannot be Called in.
<b>The decision</b>	(1) That it wishes to REVERSE the earlier decision and to decide instead <b>not</b> to close Culverhay School; (2) To INSTRUCT the Strategic Director, Childrens Services, to instigate the statutory revocation procedure and to report back to a future Cabinet meeting on any representations received in respect thereof
<b>Rationale for decision</b>	The Cabinet were very conscious that the local community was strongly in favour of allowing Culverhay School to seek co-educational status either as an Academy or as a Free School, and wanted to allow the school and community an opportunity to make applications to the Secretary of State to this effect. The school had been very clear for over 15 years that its aim was to become co-educational. The new Administration's policy in regard to Culverhay School was different from that of the previous Administration and new funds had been identified to support the school in its aims. The Cabinet took the view that it was necessary to have some empty places across the authority to ensure that there could be some parental choice. The Cabinet were also conscious of the increase in home to school travel which would have been a consequence of closing the school.
<b>Other options considered</b>	The Cabinet could have confirmed the original decision to close the school but it felt that the arguments for this course of action were not persuasive.
<b>The Decision is not subject to Call-in</b>	