

Report to: Hailsham Town Council

Date: 25th January 2012

By: John Harrison, Town Clerk

Title of report: Hailsham Community College – Academy Conversion
Consultation

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Council is recommended to:

Appoint a Consultation Committee to agree and draft a response, on behalf of the Town Council, to the Hailsham Community College Board of Governor's proposal to apply for Academy Status.

1. Background

1.1 On Friday 13th January Hailsham Community College notified key stakeholders that it was starting a consultation process to gather views on converting to an Academy.

1.2 The Consultation period begun on Monday 16th January and ends at 4.00pm on Friday 10 February 2012.

2. Supporting Information

2.1 A letter advising of this and an "Academy Consultation Document" was sent to parents/carers and also to staff and union at the college, the Local Authority (East Sussex County Council), local schools and colleges and other interested parties.

2.2 Hailsham Community College is holding consultation meetings on Tuesday 31 January and Wednesday February 2012 in the main hall. The invitation to these meetings is extended to all interested parties and stakeholders.

2.3 Questions and views can also be addressed to cochranea@hailshamcc.e-sussex.sch.uk or in writing to the college.

2.4 The Governing Body will then meet on Thursday 23 February 2012 to consider responses to the consultation process. It will then decide whether to:

- Apply to become an academy
- Undertake further investigations
- Retain the current status of the college

2.5 The Community College has published an "Academy Consultation Document" which sets out the details of the proposal and the main reasons for its intention to apply for Academy status.

3. Conclusion

3.1 The Town Council should agree and draft a collective respond to the stakeholder consultation on behalf of the council.

3.2 It should appoint a temporary committee to agree on, draft and submit a response to the consultation on behalf of the Town Council.

3.3 It will be necessary for members of that committee to attend the consultation meetings on 31st January and/or 2nd February to ask any questions that may arise.