

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
16 SEPTEMBER 2009**

**ACTIONS FROM THE LAST PANEL MEETING
Assistant Chief Executive**

1 INTRODUCTION

This report presents information requested by Members at the last meeting of the Children's Services and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel which has previously been circulated by e-mail.

2 SUGGESTED ACTION

- 2.1 **That the Children's Services and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel notes the attached information.**

3 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Information in respect of primary admissions 2009/10, Connexions – LEAP Project and funding to support the 'Grow Our Own' Project requested by Members at the last meeting of the Panel is attached. This information was current when provided by officers in June / July 2009.

Background Papers

None.

Contact for further information

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Primary Admissions 2009/10

Once again, Bracknell Forest schools have proved very popular and there is great demand for places in all of the schools. All applications received by the closing date have been processed and the majority of parents have accepted their offer of a place. However 16 parents have failed to accept or decline these offers and 2 reminders have now been sent to these parents; the option remains for these places to now be withdrawn. We will continue to try and ascertain what the position is within these families.

In addition we received 55 applications after the closing date of 20 January 2009. All of these have been processed and places have been offered.

The current position is that all schools except College Town are fully allocated and all schools except College Town and Great Hollands have waiting lists.

Applications will continue to come into the School Admissions Team, where children have moved into the area or where parents have forgotten to apply. To date there are 22 of these who live in the designated area of the following schools.

Late Applications not yet processed		
DA	Sibling	No. of Applications
Holly Spring	1	5
Meadow Vale		2
Wildridings	1	4
Wooden Hill		1
Broadmoor		1
Binfield	1	1
Owlsmoor	1	1
College Town		1
Fox Hill	1	2
Great Hollands	1	2
Windsor & Maidenhead resident		1
Wokingham resident		1
Total		22

The position will continue to change over the coming weeks as family circumstances change. The school admissions team will continue to monitor the situation closely.

We have received 50 appeals and these will be heard during June and July 2009 and they cover a number of schools across the Borough. For the first time in a number of years, we are seeing appeals for both Crown Wood and The Pines.

Connexions – LEAP Project

A Member of the Children's Services and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel asked how many young people from Holly House and Rainforest Walk are taking part in the LEAP Project – a ten week programme operated by Connexions which provides young people with the opportunity to take part in team building activities, develop social skills, pursue art projects and receive work placements. The object of the programme is to assist young people into education, employment or training.

All the young people at Holly House and Rainforest Walk were contacted about the opportunity and the following numbers are taking part:

- Three young people were submitted to the programme from Rainforest Walk and two commenced the programme.
- Two young people were submitted to the programme from Holly House and both started it.

Funding to Support the 'Grow Our Own' Project

At the last meeting of the Panel, clarification was sought as to the origin of S106 monies proposed to be utilised to support the 'Grow Our Own' project and the conditions placed on its use.

Planning application no. 08/00188 for retail development at the Peel Centre, Skimped Hill Lane -

'Towards the costs of providing, expanding or improving employment and training skills levels within 10km' - £39,600.

Planning application no. 07/00825 for employment buildings at former Thales site, Western Road, Bracknell –

'Towards the costs of providing, expanding or improving employment training facilities and training skills levels within 10km' - £179,270.

The 'Grow Our Own' project is based at the Open Learning Centre and therefore meets the 'within 10km' criterion.