

FULL COUNCIL – 14 OCTOBER 2015

Written question from Councillor Ricard Priest to Councillor Jonathan Bacon, Leader and Executive Member for Resources and Children's Services

Would Cllr Bacon please update Full Council on the response made by this Authority to the current consultation on the proposed closure of Weston Academy?

Response

The decision to close an academy rests solely with the Department for Education (DfE) though on this occasion we understand they were responding to a request from the sponsoring academy trust. Isle of Wight councillors were informed individually on the 22 September 2015 of the intended closure of Weston Primary Academy (information embargoed until that date) and advised that interested parties were invited to submit any views on the proposal by 7 October 2015. The Isle of Wight Council per se has not formed a view on the intended closure of Weston Primary Academy.

The council's role in such circumstances is to ensure that, in the event of closure, displaced pupils have access to alternative school places and we have been and are working assiduously and closely with local schools and parents to that end. We are pleased with the progress we have made together on behalf of the children concerned.