

# Sutton Education and Services to Schools 'Spin Out' from the Local Authority

The Forum of Sutton Governors  
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# Our aims

To secure a coherent, robust and stable local school system...

...that helps Sutton children and young people be safe and succeed...

...at significantly lower cost to the Council than at present

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# Context

“the next step towards the government’s goal of ending local authorities’ role in running schools and all schools becoming an academy”

“The government will reduce the local authority role in running schools and remove a number of statutory duties”

“around £600 million savings from the Education Services Grant”

Per pupil protection for schools (in 'cash' terms rather than real terms)

Following a consultation in 2016 government propose to introduce a national fair funding formula

⇒ £££ reductions for schools and for the Council

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# The strategic choice

Sit back and hope the government changes its mind, relying on escaping or deferring the reductions in resources

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Get ready for the new world order, and go for growth, building on Sutton's strong reputation, and protecting what we have locally

AND

Help Sutton schools deliver school-to-school support and challenge

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# Opportunities and threats

To grow in order to increase resilience and achieve economies

For professional development

Sutton education – successful reputation

Increasingly competitive marketplace

Staff anxieties

Schools uncertain about LBS strategic intentions

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# Spin-out scope, shape - proposals

February C, F & E Committee – seeking agreement to progress spin-out proposals

Scope – proposal:

All services sold to schools except where operationally illogical to separate schools' element from corporate whole (eg payroll, tree maintenance)

All education services funded by LBS – presumption that almost everything can be commissioned, rather than directly employing staff.

Delivery vehicle – proposal: Joint venture company for launch September 2016

June 2016 Committee – decision

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# Transfer principles

Existing teams will transfer as they are – unless intervening budget decisions require them to change

Staff's terms and conditions transfer intact under TUPE

Existing SLAs with schools will transfer as they are – unless intervening budget decisions require them to change...

...in which case schools will be a) informed and b) given the opportunity to change their buying decisions [see Colin Stewart foreword to Traded Services Brochure]

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# Owning and governing the company

An opportunity for governing bodies and academy trusts to invest in an organisation dedicated to supporting education in Sutton

All the flexibility and strength of a standard company in English law – limited liability, profit for re-investment and/or distribution to shareholders (detail of this to be worked out)

A company jointly owned by schools and the Council will provide a reliable foundation and transparent basis for our relationships going forward.