

### When is the next meeting?

Meetings take place on average every half term.

The dates and venues for meetings are as follows:

- ◆ **Tues. 4 May 2004** Clevedon School
- ◆ **Tues. 13 July 2004** Clevedon School
- ◆ **Tues. 21 September 2004** Clevedon School
- ◆ **Tues. 23 November 2004** Clevedon School
- ◆ **Wed. 15 December 2004**  
Venue To Be Arranged
- ◆ **Tues. 11 January 2005** Clevedon School
- ◆ **Tues. 22 March 2005** Clevedon School
- ◆ **Thurs. 5 May 2005** Clevedon School
- ◆ **Thurs. 14 July 2005** Clevedon School
- ◆ **Tues. 13 September 2005** Clevedon School
- ◆ **Thurs. 24 November 2005** Clevedon School
- ◆ **Wed. 14 December 2005**  
Venue To Be Arranged

### Can anyone go to the meetings?

Partners who are not members of the group are involved and invited to attend when relevant agenda items arise.

Meetings are open to observers so members of the public may attend and, at the discretion of the Chair, participate.

It is requested that you give notice of at least one week if you wish to attend a meeting.

For further information on the SSF or if you would like to attend a meeting, please contact:

**Helen Jones**  
**Education Strategy Officer**  
**PO Box 51, Town Hall**  
**Weston-super-Mare**  
**BS23 1ZZ**

**[Helen-L.Jones@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:Helen-L.Jones@n-somerset.gov.uk)**

**Tel: 01275 884 169**



10567 04/04



*The role  
of the  
North  
Somerset*

**Strategic  
Schools  
Forum**

## **What is the Strategic Schools Forum (SSF)?**

The SSF is a statutory body under the Education Act 2002. Since January 2003, Local Education Authorities are required to have established a Schools Forum.

The Schools Forum must be consulted on issues such as schools funding formula, contracts for supplies and services and financial aspects of the Education Department's function including arrangements for special educational needs, the use of pupil referral units, free school meals, insurance and early years.

## **What is the role of the SSF?**

In North Somerset, we have created an SSF with a wide remit to cover the role of both the Schools Forum and the Education Partnership Boards adopted in other authorities. This has enabled us to avoid duplication of meetings and membership.

The North Somerset SSF aims to create an effective partnership between all stakeholders to:

- ◆ develop, sustain and maintain North Somerset's Vision for Learning
- ◆ formulate business plans
- ◆ determine priorities
- ◆ provide recommendations on funding
- ◆ monitor the post-Ofsted Action Plan.

The stakeholders provide advice to the authority on the formulation of key aspects of strategy and budget whilst having regard to wider educational issues.

The SSF receives and comments upon:

- ◆ Education Development Plan
- ◆ inclusion and SEN strategy
- ◆ Behaviour Support Plan
- ◆ School Organisation Plan
- ◆ National Literacy and Numeracy Strategy
- ◆ ICT development plan
- ◆ Asset Management Plan
- ◆ Key Stage achievements
- ◆ 14 to 19 Strategy.

It may recommend acceptance of the plans, or that further work be undertaken particularly in relation to funding implications.

## **Who is on the SSF?**

North Somerset SSF is made up of:

- ◆ an independent chair
- ◆ three primary headteachers
- ◆ two secondary headteachers
- ◆ one special school headteacher
- ◆ three primary governors
- ◆ two secondary governors
- ◆ one special school governor
- ◆ one elected member
- ◆ one diocesan member
- ◆ one representative of the Teachers' Professional Associations (RTPA).

Collectively, its members have a wide range of personal strengths and experiences to contribute to the group. The independent chair of SSF is Dr John Visser, Senior Lecturer in Special Education at the University of Birmingham. He has been appointed by the Executive Member for Learning until April 2006 in the first instance.

The Director of Education and the Executive Member for Learning attend the meetings, as do other officers of North Somerset Education Department on request. The West of England Learning & Skills Council (LSC) is also entitled to nominate a representative to attend.