

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

ANNUAL COUNCIL

18 MAY 2010

COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF OSBORN
TROWBRIDGE GROVE DIVISION

TO COUNCILLOR LIONEL GRUNDY CABINET MEMBER FOR
CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Question 1

How has the Local Education Authority been affected by the publicised action not to implement SATS?

Response

Schools are not required to tell the Local Authority of the action they intend take. However DCE contacted all schools and asked their intentions. 7 confirmed that they would be taking some form of action. 22 advised us that they were undecided and the remaining schools indicated that they would be continuing as normal. LA staff have continued to monitor the situation.

The LA has role through the SATs of undertaking a sample of monitoring and compliance visits to ensure that the SATs are appropriately undertaken. We wrote to all schools and advised them that these visits would continue. Officers have continued in their visits, making a note on their report if the SATs have not taken place or other action in line with union guidance is in place. I am advised that the majority of these visits have taken place as expected.

From feedback & general intelligence it would appear that the majority of schools have continued with the SATs in Wiltshire. However from informal feedback the number not participating does seem higher than the 7 reported, although at this stage we do not have definite numbers.

Schools HR have issued guidance to governing bodies on their role with regard to the Headteacher and teacher action.