

**Decision Maker:** EDUCATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Date:** Tuesday 12 November 2013

**Decision Type:** Non-Urgent Executive Non-Key

**Title:** DRAFT 2014 EDUCATION PORTFOLIO PLAN INCLUDING EDUCATION COMMITMENTS

**Contact Officer:** Jane Bailey, Interim Assistant Director (Education)  
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**Chief Officer:** Terry Parkin, Executive Director of Education, Care & Health Services

**Ward:** (All Wards);

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1. Reason for report

This report presents the Education PDS Committee with the draft portfolio priorities and aims for 2014. The seven priority outcomes for the Education Portfolio set out the direction of travel for education in the borough, strongly reflect the policies of the Secretary of State for Education, and support the Education Covenant and Commitments.

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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**The Education PDS is requested to comment on the draft Education Portfolio Plan for 2014**

**The Portfolio Holder is requested to agree the 2014 draft Education Portfolio Plan**

### Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
  2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People Supporting Independence:
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### Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost:
  2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
  3. Budget head/performance centre: Education Portfolio
  4. Total current budget for this head: £14,169k
  5. Source of funding: RSG, Council Tax, DSG, other Grants
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### Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 345 staff in Education Services and 368 in Bromley Adult Education College (of which 43 FTE and 325 sessionally employed)
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: N/A
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### Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
  2. Call-in: Applicable:
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### Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): All Bromley School and Academies together with 7,000 BAEC users.
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### Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

### 3. COMMENTARY

3.1 On 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2013, Executive approved the recommendation of the Commissioning Team Programme Budget report (DRR13/043) to implement the Commissioning Programme of service reviews to consider future delivery models for the service. Subsequent approval to market testing all relevant Education Services was received from Executive on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013. The work of the Commissioning Programme has been reflected in the Education Portfolio Plan aims, underpinning the draft Priority Outcomes, and anticipated timescales for development of the Education Commissioning Programme have been reflected in the milestones.

3.2 The draft priority outcomes within the Education Portfolio Plan for 2014 (Appendix 1) focus on seven key activities in support of the Education Covenant and Commitments.

- Promote educational opportunity in the borough ensuring all families have a choice of good and outstanding schools and early years providers
- Work with governing bodies, the Department for Education and others to expand popular and successful schools
- Use the academy and free school programme to promote and develop further that choice
- Support all maintained schools to enter into the academy programme to allow them to benefit from the opportunities it presents
- Encourage parents, faith groups, and others to work with the borough to increase the range and diversity of the outstanding schools on offer
- Ensure those pupils with special educational needs have good outcomes
- Ensure high quality provision continues for vulnerable groups, those leaving school and others over the school leaving age whether through preparation for employment, apprenticeships or higher education

3.3 These priority outcomes will be underpinned by supporting aims, and key areas for the 2014 Portfolio include:-

Creation of an additional 600 places for two year olds within early years' provision, delivery will be through partnership working with the independent and voluntary sector.

Significant changes to the government's approach to children with special educational needs (SEN) have been regularly reported to the Education Portfolio Holder and PDS Committee. High quality provision for the increasing numbers of children with SEN entering education remains a priority. Officers are working closely with the school Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the Education Funding Reform implications.

The Basic Need Programme is responding to the significant increase in pupil numbers in Bromley, with expansion works currently under way at a number of schools and feasibility studies in course to identify the best options for future expansion. For 2014/15, three new free schools are due to open – Harris Beckenham and Harris Bromley, both providing two forms of entry (60 places), and a Bilingual school also expected to be located in central Bromley offering 50 places. These will not only alleviate demand but will also act to improve parental choice.

The Academies and Free Schools programme continues with 68% of Bromley schools now either converted to Academy status, in a formal process of conversion to Academy status, or actively exploring conversion. Support continues to enable all financially viable schools to convert to academy status by December 2015, and to ensure that all remaining primary schools are in discussions with the Local Authority on federations/sponsors by that date.

Data from the borough's information and tracking services will enable targeted support to be provided to young people who are at risk of not participating in Education, Employment or Training.

Education for those over the school leaving age, delivered through the Bromley Adult Education College, provides lifelong learning and training for employment and career development, and learning for personal development. Partnership work with Job Centre Plus will continue to focus on supporting local adults into employment and training.

3.4 Progress against the Portfolio priorities will be reported to Education PDS in March 2014.

#### **4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed Portfolio Plan for 2014 reflects the Building a Better Bromley 2020 vision and reflects both the local and national priority direction for Education Services.

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Four Year Financial Strategy provides an overview of the key service and financial pressures facing the Council and identifies in detail the cost pressures facing the Education, Care and Health Services department.

#### **6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report. Any legal implications arising from the implementation of the various actions contained within the plan will be reported to the PDS Committee separately.

<b>Non-Applicable Sections:</b>	Personnel Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	N/A