

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Briefing for Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 18 March 2014

UPDATE OF THE 2014/15 EDUCATION PORTFOLIO PLAN

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1. Summary

- 1.1 This information briefing provides the Education Portfolio Holder and PDS Committee with an updating report on the 2014 Spring Term Portfolio Plan priorities as agreed at the Education PDS meeting on the 12th November 2013 (**Appendix 1**), and a concluding update on progress made against the 2013 Autumn Term Portfolio Plan priorities. A further update on progress against the 2014 Summer Term Portfolio Plan priorities will be presented to the September 2014 PDS meeting.

2. **THE BRIEFING**

- 2.1 Both the 2013 and 2014 plans focus on seven key priorities, covering both the changing environment and the statutory duties of the local authority (ensuring an adequate supply of school places, determining the special educational needs of qualifying pupils).

Each of these seven priorities has clearly defined aims, actions planned across the school terms, and measures to monitor end of year achievement.

Autumn Term update (2013 Education Portfolio Plan)

Good progress has been made against all aims reported in the 2013 Portfolio Plan. Where work continues into 2014, this has been factored into the current plan.

Key achievements of 2013 include:-

- Eight fewer schools supported by the school improvement service
- 20 Bromley students with more complex needs have moved from school to Bromley College and are reported to be progressing well, enjoying the new facilities and the opportunities they bring around vocational training and life skills
- Creation of employment opportunities for 48 young people
- 44 primary and secondary schools converted to academy status

Areas carried forward to the 2014 Education Portfolio Plan include:-

- Review of the number of school places to ensure a sufficient supply to meet current and forecast demand
- Delivery of an additional 600 places (1200 overall) for two year olds by September 2014
- Implementation of the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Local Offer

Spring Term update (2014 Education Portfolio Plan)

Whilst many of the aims are in the early stages of inception, progress has been reported across all priorities for the Spring Term 2014 (**Appendix 1**).

Key notable successes include:-

- 97% of the 4,015 primary school and 97% of the 3,324 secondary school applications received on time for the 2014/15 academic year were submitted on line
- The primary school academy conversion programme has achieved 28 conversions with a further 9 conversions in progress and 28 schools exploring conversion
- 780 places created for two year olds within the private, voluntary, independent and maintained early years provision

Key challenges remain across all areas with particular focus on:-

- Implementation of the SEN Education Reform as laid out in the Children and Families Bill
- Supporting primary schools in the process of conversion, or exploring conversion, to Academy status

The Education PDS Committee has received a number of reports on areas covered within this briefing. The table below provides more details:-

| PDS Number | Meeting Date | Agenda Item | Report Title |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| ED13079 | 17th Sept 2013 | 7a | Basic Need Programme |
| ED13089 | 17th Sept 2013 | 7d | Proposed school expansions for 2014/15 Review of Primary School Development plan |
| ED14010 | 30th Jan 2014 | 8b | Update on School expansions |
| ED14014 | 30th Jan 2014 | 12 | SEN Pathfinder Project, Children and Families Bill |
| ED14016 | 30th Jan 2014 | 5 | Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) - Strategies for improving the participation of young people in EET |
| Web Page | Published 16 th Jan 2014 | N/A | Raising the Participation Age Bromley Web Site Page |
| DRR14/015 | 5th Feb 2014 | 8a | Bromley Youth Employment Project |
| DRR13/134 | 26th Nov 2013 | 7 | Recreation and Renewal Portfolio Plan 2013/14 (Aim 3d page 23) |