

Decision Maker: **Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee**

Date: **27<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

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

**TITLE: UPDATE ON UNDER PERFORMING SCHOOLS**

Contact Officer: Nina Newell, Head of Schools, Early Years Commissioning and Quality Assurance

Chief Officer: Terry Parkin, Executive Director, Education and Care Services

Ward: Boroughwide

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1. Reason for report

- 1.1 To provide an update on maintained schools identified as underperforming in the last report dated October 2014.
  - 1.2 To provide an updated list of Ofsted outcomes and details from recent Ofsted visits. Plus any recent inspection activity if relevant for Local Authority Maintained schools and Academies.
  - 1.3 To provide an overview of Local Authority Support and challenge to those schools considered to be underperforming.
  - 1.4 To provide a RAG rating of risk
  - 1.5 To provide an overview of the role of the Regional Commissioner Dominic Harrington
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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **The Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the updated information provided in this report**

## Corporate Policy

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

1. Cost of proposal: N/A
  2. Ongoing costs: N/A
  3. Budget head/performance centre: School Standards
  4. Total current budget for this head: £445,350
  5. Source of funding: The approved service budget is funded from Council Revenue and Dedicated Schools Grant.
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## Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional) -
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours - N/A
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## Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory requirement: The LA has a number of statutory duties to secure school improvement and to meet the statutory targets with respect to attainment of children and young people and a duty of care to all children and young people in all Bromley schools
  2. Call-in: Not Applicable:
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## Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected) - 47,000 children and young people in 95 schools and other education settings (e.g. PRS).
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## Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? N/A
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

### 3. COMMENTARY

#### 3.1 Ofsted Inspections

3.2 Since the last report in October 2014 there have been three further Ofsted Inspections and one Monitoring Visit.

Blenheim Primary School Ofsted Inspection – 22/23 October 2014 – Good

The Glebe School Ofsted Inspection – 12/13 November

Riverside School Ofsted Inspection December 2014 – not yet published

Burwood School Ofsted monitoring visit – 23 October 2014

### 4. OFSTED OUTCOMES

4.1 A list of Ofsted outcomes for Bromley **Academies** is attached at **Appendix 1**.

### 5. OVERVIEW

#### 5.1 LA Categorisation and Support

5.2 **Appendix 2** details all current Ofsted outcomes in Bromley **maintained schools**, detailing any subsequent visits. It also provides information in respect of the challenge and support provided to all maintained schools by the Local Authority. Risk has been assessed in line with the categorisation process outlined in a previous report together with recent inspection reports and HMI follow up visits plus local school intelligence.

5.3 The support and challenge provided to schools is co-ordinated using a combination of the Local Authority staff team, externally commissioned consultants and brokered school to school support. Where Head teachers are reluctant to engage with the support available from the Local Authority, challenge is provided by the Head of Schools and Early Years, and where necessary the Assistant Director Education, or the Director of Education Health and Care Services.

5.4 An initial categorisation has taken place following receipt of un-validated attainment data. This has enabled an immediate judgement to be made about those schools requiring LA support and challenge. The categories will be refined once progress data and validated data is available and at that point all LA maintained schools will be formally advised of their category and this will form part of a future report to Education PDS.

#### 5.5 Role of the Regional School Commissioner

5.6 In view of the reduction in the statutory role of the Local Authority in supporting School Improvement in Academies a meeting was arranged with the Regional Schools Commissioner, Dominic Harrington, to establish how we could work together in partnership to ensure high quality on Bromley schools.

5.7 The Commissioner confirmed that his initial area of work would be to seek to improve those open academies who were performing in the bottom 10% in the region. This will be achieved by utilising a range of tools, both punitive and capacity building. He has the power to issue warning notices and also to transfer academies to another sponsor if this is deemed to be necessary. He has support from a Head Teacher Board, and there is the capacity to commission School Improvement support.

- 5.8 There are at present 107 sponsors across his region. He will hold review/challenge meetings with these sponsors. The very large chains are now working to a model of consolidation, medium sized sponsors will be allowed managed growth, and there will be a drive to increase the number of sponsors with an optimum level of 1-5 schools.
- 5.9 He is keen to join up open Academies with the support available from the National College, and the local contact in this respect is Kieron Osborne, Head at Hayes Secondary.
- 5.10 There was then a discussion about those academies/sponsors where there are concerns on both sides and an agreement that there will be a regular dialogue so that we are aware of action taken in Bromley and we can flag up any concerns to him .
- 5.11 Further meetings are likely, probably termly.

**6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The Education Portfolio Plan highlights as a main aim promoting educational opportunity in the borough, ensuring all families have a choice of good and outstanding schools.

**7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The Council has a statutory duty to provide support and challenge to schools (Education and Inspection Act 2006) in order to raise attainment and to intervene in schools causing concern.

<b>Non-Applicable Sections:</b>	Personnel Implications, Financial Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Education Portfolio Plan 2013/14