

Decision Maker: EDUCATION PORTFOLIO HOLDER

Date: For Pre-Decision Scrutiny by the Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday 29 September 2015

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Non-Key

Title: EDUCATION PORTFOLIO PLAN SEPT 2015-AUG 2016 AND EDUCATION COMMITMENTS

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Ward: Borough-wide

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 This report presents the Education PDS Committee with the draft portfolio priorities and aims for the 2015/16 academic year. 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 established in 2013.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 **The Education PDS Committee is requested to comment in the draft Education Portfolio Plan for the academic year 2015/16**
- 2.2 **The Education Portfolio Holder is requested to agree the draft Education Portfolio Plan for the academic year 2015/16**

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: £5.124m Revenue Budget
 5. Source of funding: Existing Revenue Budgets
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 175 LBB funded
 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 approx. 6,000 BAEC users
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Ward Councillor Views

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

3. COMMENTARY

3.1 On 3rd 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 deliver models for the service. Subsequent approval to market testing all relevant Education Services was received from Executive on 16th 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 the development of the Education Commissioning Programme have been reflected in the milestones.

3.2 Key achievements against the 2015 plan include:-

- Permanent expansion of local schools and opening of new free schools to provide 720 more places for Bromley children than in 2010
- Increasing the percentage of primary school applicants receiving their first or second choice preference to 91% (2014 – 87%)
- The Academies and Free Schools programme continues with 91% of Bromley Schools now either converted to Academy status, in a formal process of conversion to Academy status, or actively exploring conversion. Work is in course to establish the intentions of the schools with 'no confirmed plans'
- Enabling five young people with more complex Learning Disabilities to live, learn and work within their own community by developing mixed education packages across mainstream and specialist provision
- Supporting 34 young people into contracted employment through the Bromley Youth Employment Project (Phase 2)

3.3 The priority outcomes within the Education Portfolio Plan for the 2015/16 academic year (Appendix A) retain 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

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The proposed Portfolio Plan for the 2015/16 academic year reflects the Building a Better Bromley 2020 vision and both the local and national priority direction for Education Services.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 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

- 6.1 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.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Personnel Implication
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	N/A