

CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 6
29 JANUARY 2018	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Wendi Ogle-Welbourn - Executive Director, People and Communities	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Lynne Ayres - Lead Cabinet Member - Education	
Contact Officer(s):	Gary Perkins - Assistant Director (Education)	07920 160285

EDUCATION REVIEW - UPDATE REPORT

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM: Gary Perkins, Assistant Director (Education)	Deadline date: 29th January 2018
<p>It is recommended that the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the contents of the report and 2. Support both Elected Members and Officers in their efforts to support and challenge schools to improve outcomes for children and young people in Peterborough. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is offered by the Assistant Director (Education) at the request of the Committee.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 This report is offered to the Committee to inform Committee Members of the progress made on implementing the recommendations contained within the Education Review report previously presented.

2.2 This report is for the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph No. 2.1 Functions determined by Council :

Education, including

- a) University and Higher Education;
- b) Youth Service;
- c) Careers; and
- d) Special Needs and Inclusion.

2.4 This report links to the Corporate Priority: Improve educational attainment and skills.

2.5 This report links to the Children in Care Pledge: Support children in care to have a good education.

3. **TIMESCALES**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. **BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

4.1 Following the publication and release of outcomes for 11 year olds in Peterborough schools in the 2016 National Curriculum tests and teacher assessments, the Leader of the Council commissioned a report to be undertaken to review the reasons for such poor outcomes and make recommendations as to how outcomes in schools might be improved.

4.2 The report was concluded in August 2017 and was reported to the Committee in September 2017.

4.3 The recommendations contained within the report were accepted by the Committee in full and it was recommended that they be implemented. This was endorsed by the Cabinet.

4.4 The Committee requested that there be periodic updates regarding the progress being made in implementing the Review recommendations. This report seeks to provide Committee Members with the first update.

4.5 Actions taken to date are as follows (recommendations listed in chronological order):

(1) There is a need for a new Vision and Mission for the Local Authority in relation to education from Early Years to Secondary level. The Vision should support ‘an Education System that works for all children in Peterborough’

1. The work to develop a “vision and mission” for the Local Authority began with the shared conversation at the Education Conference held in September 2017. This will be continued by working groups established at the conference to examine a) the analysis and use of data; b) communication; c) recruitment and retention of staff in schools; d) Emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people. In addition, a Vulnerable Pupils working group is to be established to consider issues related to particular groups of children and young people, school readiness and pupil mobility (moves between schools). Actions from these groups can be reported to the Committee at a future date;

(2) There should be a conference called to discuss and workshops run to debate the need for the Vision and Mission and the general target for the Local Authority in relation to Education over the course of the next 5-10 years. A “hearts and minds” approach is required from all taking part.

2. Covered in 1. above;

(3) Togetherness being the theme, the togetherness of the Vision and Mission of the Education Department in Peterborough should be exactly the same as the functional requirements of the Regional Schools Commissioner and his/her Officers.

3. Covered in 1. above;

(4) A high profile media campaign should be carried out to raise public awareness of the successes of – and the challenges for – education in Peterborough.

4. Work on this has begun, and further discussions with the Communications Team are planned;

(5) Consideration should be given to having a ‘leading headteacher’ for each phase of education who would work with local authority officers and the RSC to champion the Peterborough locally maintained schools.

5. This is progressing through the Lead Headteacher group;
- (6) Consideration should be given to establishing a Strategic Board for Education, Further Education and Skills to ensure a bold educational strategy across the whole Authority.
6. Plans are being developed for this to commence in the Spring Term 2018;
- (7) The local authority continues to have a statutory responsibility for monitoring, challenge and support in relation to schools causing concern. Local authority officers should work with schools to ensure that the associated processes are clear, transparent and consistently applied.
7. Actions taken and Schools Causing Concern are being monitored, supported and challenged on a regular basis;
- (8) The local authority should provide more systematic arrangements for collecting, analysing and using data to support school improvement.
8. Improvements have already been made, data is available in greater depth and breadth and this is being used to target those in greatest need of support;
- (9) Schools demonstrate a strong commitment to the PSISN working with the Lead Headteachers and local authority officers to remodel aspects of the PSISN
9. Work is underway to progress this. Actions taken to date have involved discussions with lead headteachers and agreement in principle on a forward plan to revise and reshape the self-improving schools network;
- (10) Review the composition of the School Improvement Board, e.g. the Assistant Director of Education at Peterborough should have a permanent seat on the Board and not be a mere invitee
10. Covered in 6. above;
- (11) More teaching Schools are required and this will mean the best schools putting themselves forward to attain this standard
11. Existing Teaching Schools are working more effectively and we have applications from more schools to achieve Teaching School status;
- (12) As part of the drive to improve educational outcomes in Peterborough, the local authority should work with schools to develop a strategic approach to improving the attainment of vulnerable learners
12. Covered in 1. above;
- (13) The local authority should adopt a more strategic approach to the issue of mobility in schools, examining pupil mobility in its schools against the wider national and local context.
13. Covered in 1. above;
- (14) The Corporate Director and senior leaders need to ensure that there is a strategic approach to succession planning and capacity building within the service to ensure the sustainability of the local authority's Education functions.
14. Now that the Strategic Service Director for Education (Peterborough and Cambs) has been appointed, discussions regarding future structures will commence in the spring term 2018;

(15) Teacher recruitment is absolutely vital and obtaining this in Peterborough is not easy. Schools should be involved in the Teach East Programme, or another programme of the same ilk as training locally is obviously very effective to obtain newly qualified trained teachers

15. Covered in 1. above. In addition, Teach East continues to thrive with plans for expansion. ITT students graduating through Teach East have obtained permanent employment in Peterborough schools, having been trained in Peterborough schools. Teach East is a genuine success story.

4.6 In respect of the above, an action plan has been developed by the Executive Director (People and Communities) and Service Director (Education), with the support of the Assistant Director (Education) and approved by the Cabinet Member for Education. Please see Appendix 1.

4.7 This action plan will be monitored and evaluated at regular intervals, and updates will be provided to the Committee at regular intervals should they be requested.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 All schools, Elected Members and relevant Officers have been consulted, and details of the Review outcomes have been published.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

6.1 That the Committee continues to support Officers and others to continue the work which has begun, noting that this is long term and will not necessarily have immediate impact upon outcomes.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 To raise awareness amongst Committee Members and ask for their support for future actions to be taken as appropriate.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 None

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

9.1 None

Legal Implications

9.2 None

Equalities Implications

9.3 None

Rural Implications

9.4 None

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 "Peterborough City Council Education Review" by Cllr Lynne Ayres, August 2017.

11. APPENDICES

11.1 180108 Appendix 1 - Education Review Action Plan