



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMISSION 18 OCTOBER 2004

Report of the Director of Education

Education Service - Work Programme

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To consider the implications of Education Service objectives and activity for the Commission's work programme.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 In discussion at the pre-agenda meeting, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission have asked for a list of current key issues in the Education Service, that the Commission may wish to consider in relation to its future work programme.
- 2.2 At the last meeting the Commission heard a presentation on the Education Service Strategic Plan (ESSP), which includes the major priorities and objectives for the current planning year and, in some cases, subsequent two years. Objectives set out in the plan will, in many cases, determine the issues which require decision making through the political management system, and could impact on the Commission's programme. Those objectives are listed again at appendix 2.
- 2.3 The objectives as set out in the ESSP are not necessarily explicit about specific actions and decisions. In addition, issues arise over the year which can lead to reports to Cabinet or decisions taken by the Director under delegated powers. Key decisions are listed in the Forward Plan, but some specific areas which might be noted, some of which the Commission has previously expressed interest in, are noted below.
 - Government strategies and consultation, e.g. 14-19 developments, the five-year strategy, integrated children's services.
 - The work arising from the Children Bill
 - Capital programming
 - Work on post inspection action plans – eg. 14-19 area inspection and Adult Learning inspection
 - Work with schools in Ofsted categories
 - Implementation of the Creative Partnership in Derby
 - The development of extended schools and children's centres.
 - Building Schools for the Future
 - SENSS and PRU review

- The LSC's Strategic Area Review
- EDP and other performance monitoring
- Specific issues in schools and other education services.

2.4 All of the above need to be seen alongside the objectives listed in appendix 2.

2.5 The Commission will need to consider these areas of focus in the context of its roles of overview and scrutiny and the respective responsibilities of the Council, schools, partner agencies and government departments.

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

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IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None arising directly from this report.

Legal

2. None arising directly from this report. The development of the Government's Five-Year strategy and the enactment of the Children Bill will introduce new or changed duties.

Personnel

3. None arising directly from this report

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 An important aspect of objectives in the service and the implementation of decisions relating to them is the impact on equalities issues, particularly in relation to spreading opportunities and inclusion, and thereby raising achievement in the city.

Corporate Objectives and Priorities for Change

5. None arising directly from this report

Education Service Strategic Plan

The objectives listed in the ESSP for 2004/05 are as follows

- improving Key Stage attainments
- working with all schools to ensure that they offer a satisfactory or better standard of education
- improving school attendance
- maintaining the number of adult learners accessing lifelong learning through the Adult Learning Service
- improving provision for gifted and talented pupils
- encouraging creativity, innovation and enjoyment for learners and teachers
- implement 14-19 strategy in partnership with the LSC, schools, Derby College and work-based learning providers
- narrow the achievement gap for identified under-achieving groups
- improving the range of support and provision for pupils with significant behaviour difficulties
- develop partnership and integrated working and systems in the context of children's services legislation
- support schools in dealing with the consequences of pupil turnover
- developing and extending the role of schools in the community
- determining strategies for the provision of primary and secondary school places
- support schools to implement the remodelling the workforce agenda
- implementing a revised structure in the school improvement and inclusion group for the Excellence Cluster extension and other strategies and initiatives
- improving infrastructure and support for information management systems
- improving the support and challenge to school governance
- improving the guidance and monitoring of health and safety within the Education Service
- supporting and developing our staff.

These are the objectives that are covered by the terms of reference of the Education Commission.