

SUBJECT: EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE (EAS) BUSINESS PLAN 2016-2019

MEETING: CABINET

DATE: 13th APRIL 2016

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 This report presents the South East Wales Education Achievement Service (EAS) Business Plan 2016-2019. The plan sets out the priorities, programmes and outcomes to be achieved by the EAS on behalf of the South East Wales Consortium.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 It is recommended that Cabinet endorse the content of the EAS Business Plan.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 The South East Wales Consortium is required to submit to the Welsh Government a three-year Business Plan that will be updated annually. This is the third iteration of the plan first submitted in 2013. This plan covers the period 2016-2019. The requirement for a 3-year Business Plan is set out in the Welsh Government's National Model for Regional Working.

4. REASONS:

- 4.1 This Business Plan sets out the overall targets to be achieved by the EAS working in partnership with the five local authorities. These outcomes are based on an analysis of pupil level data and a sound judgement of what should be achieved over the lifetime of the plan. The programmes of work to achieve these outcomes are set out in detail for 2016-17 and will be reviewed for future years.
- 4.2 The South East Wales EAS Business Plan sets out four priorities: Improving attainment overall but narrowing the gap between FSM and non FSM pupils; raising attainment in English; Welsh and Mathematics. These are the core priorities for the service and all other activities and programmes are now supporting the achievement of these outcomes.
- 4.3 The Business Plan contains an Annex which is specific to Monmouthshire Country Council. This section details the high level targets for the next three years for pupil outcomes and pupil attendance, specific support that will be provided to schools requiring enhanced support and any bespoke Local Authority intervention programmes. Progress towards the Annex will be provided bi-annually.
- 4.4 The Business Plan has been aligned to the following policies;
- Qualified for Life - the national Education Improvement Strategy (2014)
 - Successful Futures - the review of curriculum and assessment (2015)
 - Teaching tomorrow's teachers - Options for the future of initial teacher education in Wales (2015)
 - Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010
 - Child Poverty Strategy for Wales
 - Welsh Government's Welsh-medium Education Strategy

4.5 This plan must be endorsed by Cabinet and annual updates on progress will be provided for Members.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 The financial implications are included in the relevant section of the Business Plan .

5.2 Financial arrangements for the indicative core funding to the EAS from Monmouthshire County Borough Council for 2016-2017 is £451,308 (this represents a 3% efficiency saving on the previous contribution in 2015-2016).

6. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING)

6.1 The EAS have their own Equalities and Welsh Language plans in place. Monmouthshire County Council has therefore not undertaken any specific impact assessment on the EAS Business Plan.

7. CONSULTEES:

7.1 The South East Wales EAS Business Plan has been developed in consultation with a wide range of key stakeholders. The consultation framework is set out in the Appendices section of the plan.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

8.1 EAS Business Plan 2016-2019

8.2 Local Authority Annex 2016-2017

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