

**SUBJECT: EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE (EAS) BUSINESS PLAN (2017-2020)****MEETING:****DATE:****DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:****1. PURPOSE:**

1.1. This report presents the South East Wales Education Achievement Service (EAS) Business Plan 2017-2020. The plan sets out the priorities, programmes and outcomes to be achieved by the EAS on behalf of the South East Wales Consortium. The report also focuses upon the expected outcomes in Monmouthshire, these are contained in the Local Authority (LA) Annex.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

2.1. It is recommended that Cabinet endorse the EAS Business Plan and the LA Annex.

**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 fourth iteration of the plan first submitted in 2013. This plan covers the period 2017-2020. The LA Annex covers 2017-2018 and is focused upon the specific areas that require improvement within Monmouthshire schools.

3.2. Although this is a regional plan the EAS has continued to strengthen systems and processes to continue to improve pupil outcomes as a result of ongoing evaluation. For example: Strengthening quality assurance processes around progress towards target submissions, the realignment of the work of secondary subject specialist for English, Welsh and Maths in the delivery of bespoke support packages to schools based upon need and the introduction of a strategy for raising aspiration for more able learners.

**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 2017-18 and will be reviewed for future years. The targets for schools in Monmouthshire are contained within the LA Annex.

4.2. The Business Plan sets out the overall priorities for the South East region and in addition an Annex that focuses in particular on the priorities and programmes for Monmouthshire. All Amber

and Red schools are noted in the Annex and are subject to regular scrutiny of progress at Intervention and Education Improvement Board (EIB) meetings. In addition, all schools in Monmouthshire are in receipt of bespoke support packages based on school needs. These have been discussed with senior LA Officers and the Cabinet Member for Education prior to submission. A half yearly review of progress towards the Monmouthshire Annex will be provided in November 2017.

4.3. The South East Wales EAS Business Plan sets out the following priorities:

- To raise aspiration, to improve pupil outcomes and reduce variance across schools and LAs, to improve the quality of teaching and leadership and accelerate the progress of those schools in amber and red support categories;
- To implement a regional strategy and Professional Learning Offer that is focused on improving the wellbeing and accelerating outcomes for learners, particularly those facing the challenges of poverty;
- To implement a regional strategy and Professional Learning Offer (including Governor Development) that covers all the required milestones to improve the capacity and quality of teaching and leadership across the region;
- To refine the Regional Strategy for Literacy (English and Welsh) and Numeracy in collaboration with key partners to accelerate outcomes at all key stages;
- To lead, support and appropriately challenge schools to implement the Successful Futures agenda and changes to non-core GCSE specifications; and
- To rationalise the Regional Model for the delivery of the Self-Improving System.

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. Financial arrangements for the indicative core funding to the EAS from Monmouthshire County Borough Council for 2017-2018 is £438,163 (this represents a 3% efficiency saving on the previous contribution in 2016-2017).

The exact detail of this is noted below:

EAS 'As Is' Model Aug 2012 *	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 (funding levels set by WG, based on RSG formula to LA)	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 3% Cut to Core	% Movement since 11/12 to 17/18
-----All % reduction to core are based on the previous year's contribution-----							
				-3.4%	-3%	-3%	
591,619	468,403	468,403	481,642	465,266	451,308	438,163	-26%

## 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 EAS Business Plan has been developed in consultation with a wide range of key stakeholders, feedback has informed the final version of the plan:

- Education Achievement Service staff
- South East Wales Directors / Chief Education Officers and Diocesan Directors
- Joint Executive Group
- Education Achievement Service Company Board
- Education Achievement Service Audit and Risk Assurance Committee
- Circulated to individual Local Authority Education Scrutiny Committees
- Regional Headteacher Strategy Group
- Regional Governor Strategy Group
- Regional Youth Forum

## 8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

8.1. EAS Business Plan 2017-2020

8.2. Local Authority Annex 2017-2018

## 9. AUTHOR:

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