
QUARTER THREE CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT and LONG TERM STRATEGY FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT “CARDIFF 2020 – AIMING FOR EXCELLENCE”

Purpose of the Report

1. The Committee receives regular Education Corporate Performance reports as part of the Committee’s performance management role. This report provides The Director of Education and Lifelong Learning with the opportunity to present the Education Directorate Corporate Performance report for Quarter 3 2015/16, attached at **Appendix A**.
2. As part of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee 2015-16 Work Programme, agreed in September 2015, the Committee requested a report on the Long Term Strategy for School Improvement. This report provides the Committee with a verbal update on the progress being made in developing the Education Department’s Long Term Strategy for School Improvement (Cardiff 2020 – Aiming for Excellence), which is being developed through the Citywide Head Teachers Group.

Corporate Performance Quarter 3

3. The Council’s Performance Management Framework includes the regular reporting of Quarterly Performance by Directorate. The Quarter 3 Education Performance reports, attached at **Appendix A**, cover:
 - Progress against Corporate Plan commitments
 - Progress against Directorate Plan Actions
 - Progress on challenges previously identified

- Service delivery issues
 - Key Performance Indicator data
 - Corporate risks.
4. The report provides the Committee with information about the context that these services are operating in, performance information and the management actions that are being taken to address performance issues. The report also provides an explanation of the progress being made in addressing the challenges identified in each quarter.

Scope of the Scrutiny for the Quarter 3 Corporate Performance Report

5. This performance monitoring report will enable Committee to review, assess and challenge the implementation of actions to improve education for Cardiff's pupils. Members may also wish to pass any comments, concerns or recommendations to the Cabinet Member and or Director of Education and Lifelong Learning. At this meeting Committee can review and question:
- (i) the progress being made in achieving the Performance indicator targets for 2015/16;
 - (ii) the resources available to deliver the corporate plan actions and core business priorities;
 - (iii) any identified project risks (red status) and the appropriateness of the proposed countermeasure; and
 - (iv) the quality and analysis of the performance information presented to Committee.

Long Term Strategy for School Improvement

Background

6. The Committee, agreed to include the long term strategy as at its meeting in May 2015, Members received a briefing and letter from the Assistant Director of Estyn following their Estyn Monitoring visit in March. The Assistant Director highlighted that there was not a clear enough shared understanding of the Long Term Strategy for school improvement. Following the consideration of these

comments the Members agreed to write to the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning informing him of the concerns expressed by the Inspector.

7. The Committee scrutinised the Education and Lifelong Learning Delivery Plan 2015/16, in June 2015, and expressed their concern that the Delivery Plan did not clearly detail the development of a long term strategy for school improvement. Members noted the Directors comments that schools were taking on more responsibilities for the improvement agenda, however Members agreed to include the consideration of the Strategy in its work Programme
8. The Director of Education and Lifelong Learning agreed to provide the Committee with a verbal update on the development of the Long Term Strategy for School Improvement, which has been produced in co-operation with Head Teachers across Cardiff's Schools.

Way Forward

9. Councillor Sarah Merry (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills), Nick Batchelar, Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, will comment on both areas, and will be available to answer any questions Members may have.
10. This report will also enable Members to provide any comments, concerns or recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Education and Director of Education and Lifelong Learning.

Legal Implications

11. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b)

comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

12. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

That Committee reviews the information attached at **Appendix A**, together with information provided at the meeting and provide any recommendations, comments or advice to the Cabinet Member and / or Director of Education and Lifelong Learning.

DAVID MARR

Interim Monitoring Officer

NICK BATCHELAR

**Director of Education and
Lifelong Learning**

8 March 2016