

CREATIVE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND LIFELONG
LEARNING**

AGENDA ITEM: 4

PORTFOLIO: EDUCATION (COUNCILLOR SARAH MERRY)

Reason for this Report

1. To update Cabinet about the development of partnership between Cardiff Council, schools and the creative industries in Cardiff

Background

2. Cardiff is well placed to develop innovative partnerships between schools, businesses, universities and other bodies in the city. Such partnerships are already strengthening and there is considerable potential for further impact. In particular, the 'creative economy' is a priority area for the Welsh Government and is now one of Wales' fastest growing sectors. Recent statistics show the number of people working in this industry in Wales increased by 52% between 2005 and 2014, with nearly 50,000 people now employed by the sector; with much of the sector based in and around Cardiff.
2. The rationale for a partnership between education and the creative economy in Cardiff assumes:
 - Some of our communities need support to raise aspirations and create a culture of achievement and success, underpinned by a high quality education.
 - There is a need to develop the relationship between business and education so that young people leave education with the skills and competences to be work ready.
 - The growth in the creative economy in Cardiff presents an exciting opportunity to connect young people and their communities to a vibrant, dynamic and innovative sector.
3. Initial meetings have taken place between Cardiff Council and potential partners. The partnership is not exclusive. Other bodies will be encouraged to join as members. The partnership is first and foremost about partnering between any school in Cardiff and the sector. The

proposed "Founding Partners" are listed below and would commit to the Partnership Agreement. (see App 1) subject to Cabinet agreement to progress:

- BBC Wales
- Cardiff Council - Education and Economic Development
- Cardiff and Vale College
- Creative & Cultural Skills UK
- Amgueddfa Cymru / National Museum Wales
- Wales Millennium Centre
- University of South Wales

Issues

4. One 'pathfinder school' will be identified to promote and pilot the partnership model. It is proposed this will be the new High School in the West, scheduled to open in September 2017 and moving to new purpose built premises in 2018.
5. This way of working is by no way exclusive to the pathfinder school, and is a model of partnership which could be replicated if successful, with other sectors in the regional economy eg Science, technology engineering.

Reasons for Recommendations

6. To create a partnership between Cardiff schools and the creative and cultural sector in the city that will enrich the curriculum and learning.
7. The partnership seeks to:
 - Put creativity at the heart of learning, developing problem solving, tenacity, resilience and innovation, and promoting creativity through links between schools and the creative economy.
 - Broaden horizons so all young people have the opportunity to fully engage in the cultural, social and economic life of Cardiff.
 - Ensure business and cultural activity fully reflects the changing face of Wales.
8. **Young People** will be inspired by opportunities designed to foster their creativity and develop their skills to be resilient, innovative and problem solving learners.
9. **Communities** will be empowered through meaningful projects and activities with employers and partners in the creative sector.
10. **The city** will be enhanced by a dynamic, creative economy underpinned by a vibrant education system.

11. Partners seek to develop a model which could be extended beyond Cardiff to the city region and wider across Wales.
12. The partnership will coordinate and promote a programme of education links available to schools in all phases across Cardiff. Employers from across the creative and cultural sector will be encouraged to become associate partners contributing to the education-creative economy programme and benefitting from the alignment and profile that the partnership will bring.
13. Learners in Cardiff will benefit from a rich curriculum which delivers 'real world' learning opportunities. There will be a strong focus on competencies which will ensure young people are work ready, e.g. focus on communication; team working; flexibility; adaptability; and entrepreneurialism. Students will benefit from an improved understanding of the careers available within the sector to make more informed choices. There will be a bias towards innovation and problem solving, encouraging students to take managed risks and developing their confidence to enter a fast changing employment market. Partnership will promote awareness of the distinctiveness of Welsh identity, including the Welsh language, linked to Cardiff's past, current and future role as an international city.

Financial Implications

14. The Cultural Broker post will be funded via the Schools Organisation Financial Model, revenue stream. This will be temporary for two years and there will be no impact on the school's delegated budget.

Legal Implications

15. Chapter 1 of the Education Act 2002 facilitates the implementation by local authorities of innovative projects, such as this, that may contribute to the raising of standards in schools in Wales. This enables local authorities to apply for an exemption for any requirements of education legislation if necessary. No such application has been made for the purposes of the pilot as this project does not require it.
16. The report sets out proposals to set up a partnership with other bodies for the reasons set out in the report. Legal services are instructed that the partnership body is not intended to be a legal entity in its own right and is intended to be an informal partnership group and other members can join.
17. It is also understood that this is not a contract for services and apart from officer time, there will be no direct financial commitment associated with the partnership arrangements.
18. As part of those partnership arrangements the parties intend to enter into an informal agreement setting out how the arrangements will operate. In line with the recommendation this will be agreed with the Director under delegated authority set out in this report.

19. In respect of the power to enter into the partnership agreement the client department should satisfy itself that it has the necessary powers to do so.
20. In respect of the West pilot scheme, legal services have been instructed that any further specific requirements will be subject to a separate decision report.

HR Implications

21. This report recommends the recruitment of a 'cultural broker', who will be appointed to broker links between the pathfinder school and the businesses on the creative sector as part of the development programme for the new school within the Council's Schools Organisation team.
22. In line with Cardiff Council policies and procedures there will be a requirement for Trade Union consultation on the establishment of this post, for this post to be job evaluated and advertised internally in the first instance, in line with normal Council procedures.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet is recommended to;

1. approve in principle the setting up of partnership arrangements as detailed in this report.
2. Authorise the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning in consultation with the Interim Monitoring Officer to finalise the partnership arrangements including agreement of any terms of such partnership, members of the partnership and all ancillary matters.

Nick Batchelar

Director

15 March 2016

The following appendix is attached:

Appendix 1 - Draft Partnership Agreement

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CREATIVE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP: CARDIFF

Partnership Agreement

The Partnership aims to enthuse and inspire young people, supporting their educational achievement through rich and meaningful engagement with the creative economy.

It will:

- Put creativity at the heart of learning, developing problem solving, tenacity, resilience and innovation. Promoting creativity through links with the school and creative economy.
- Broaden horizons so all young people have the opportunity to fully engage in the cultural, social and economic life of Cardiff.
- Ensure business and cultural activity fully reflects the changing face of Wales.

Young People will be inspired by opportunities designed to foster their creativity and develop their skills to be resilient, innovative and problem solving learners. Communities will be empowered through meaningful projects and activities with employers and partners in the creative sector.

The City will be enhanced by a dynamic, creative economy underpinned by a vibrant education system.

Partners seek to develop a model which could be extended beyond Cardiff to the city region and wider across Wales.

[Signed/Organisational Logos]