
EDUCATION – DIRECTORATE DELIVERY PLAN 2017-2019

Reason for the Report

1. To enable Members to gain an overview of the Education Service (which falls within the responsibilities of this Committee) and its contributions to the Council's Corporate Plan, its key achievements during the previous year and an outline of the future challenges facing the directorate.

Establishing a New Policy Framework

2. The Cabinet at its meeting on 6 July 2017 approved a report "Capital Ambitions" setting out the administrations ambitions for Cardiff as well as establishing the Cabinet's key priorities for the coming municipal year, together with how the Council's corporate and partnership planning framework will be reshaped to deliver the new vision. The relevant section for Education, Employment and Skills is detailed below:

Education, Employment & Skills: Councillor Sarah Merry

We know that a great education will help everyone in Cardiff to achieve their full potential. This Administration will continue to invest in and improve our schools and to make sure that every child has the best possible start in life.

Education is one of the surest routes out of poverty, and so we will double our efforts to make sure that no child is left behind. We will focus on closing the gap in attainment of pupils from low-income families, looked after children, pupils educated other than at school and pupils with English as an additional language.

As Cardiff grows over the next 20 years, we will ensure that we meet the demand for more places in both English and Welsh medium schools by providing more schools and doing all that we can to attract, retain and develop the best teaching

talent. In doing so, we will open our schools up for more community use, strengthening the important role that every school plays at the heart of their community.

Education doesn't end at the school gate. If everyone in the city is to benefit from the jobs and opportunities being created in our growing economy, every school leaver must be able to move into further education, employment or training. We know too that education is one of the main drivers of economic success, and so we are committed to working with Cardiff's business community to make sure that the city's skills system for both children and adults meets the needs of business, now and in the future.

We will:

- Make sure every child in Cardiff goes to a good or excellent schools
- Close the attainment gap in schools so that no child is left behind.
- Invest in improving and expanding our schools to meet the needs of a rapidly-growing population and take clear steps to address the historic maintenance backlog in school buildings.
- Support the development of the new curriculum for Wales, with a focus on key skills such as digital literacy.
- Ensure that the support services we offer schools are of high quality and good value.
- Deliver the 'Cardiff Commitment' and promote junior apprenticeships, ensuring that every child has access to training, employment, or further education opportunities when leaving school.
- Put schools at the heart of our communities, strengthening links between schools and their local areas.
- Work towards becoming a UNICEF 'Child Friendly City' as part of a partnership programme focussed on child rights.
- Ensure that education is everyone's business by working with all partners across the city- including businesses, parents, school governors- to get the best for Cardiff schools.
- Support the Credit Union to deliver "savers projects" within Cardiff schools that encourage saving and promote financial literacy.

Delivery Plan 2017 - 2019

3. To assist Members to gain an overview of the Education Service responsibilities, a copy of the delivery plan 2017-2019 is attached at **Appendix A**. The plan highlights the directorate's contribution to the Council's Corporate Plan, a self-assessment and strategic priorities during the forthcoming year. The delivery plan includes:

- Corporate Introduction– Page 2;
- Directorate Profile – Pages 4 & 5;
- Directorate Self-Assessment of performance during 2016/17 – Pages 6 to 8;
- Moving Forward: Context, Opportunities and Challenges – Page 9 & 10;
- Contribution to Cardiff's Well-being Objectives – Page 11
- Delivering the Welsh Language Standards – Page 12
- Strategic Directorate priorities – Page 13

These are:

- a. Improve educational outcomes for children and young people, particularly at Key Stage 4, through improved school leadership, teaching and learning and curriculum development.(page 15)
- b. Close the attainment gap for pupils from low-income families, children who are looked after, pupils educated other than at school, and pupils entering Cardiff with English as an additional language.(page 22)
- c. Improve provision for children and young people with additional learning needs, through implementation of the new statutory framework for Additional Learning Needs.(page 29)
- d. Ensure there are sufficient and high quality school places to meet the population growth in the city, through planned expansion and the upgrade of the existing school estate via the School Organisation Programme (page 34)
- e. Recruit, retain and develop the best people to lead and work in our schools and education settings to secure a high quality workforce at all levels (Page 40)
- f. Work with the Central South Consortium to further develop the capacity of the school system to be self-improving (page 44)

- g. Build effective partnerships between schools, business, the voluntary sector and wider public services and communities to enrich the school curriculum and strengthen school governance (page 49)
 - h. Improve the range and quality of services provided to schools by the Education directorate (page 54)
- Directorate Profile – Page 59;
4. Each Strategic Directorate Priority is further analysed to identify the Key Performance indicators used to monitor performance, Commitments to Action to active the improvement priority highlighting milestones during the year, and operational risks together with the mitigating actions to reduce the identified risk (pages 15 to 57).
 5. At the meeting, Nick Batchelar Director of Education and Lifelong Learning will be in attendance to explain the Delivery Plan, and provide further details of the key challenges facing the directorate area during the coming year.

Scope of Scrutiny

6. This report will provide the Committee with an opportunity to gain an understanding of the operation of the Education Service and its key priorities for this year. It will also enable Members to enquire as to:
 - i. How these key priorities were identified and what criteria were used?
 - ii. How was it judged that the associated key tasks will help either improve or make, services for pupils more effective?
 - iii. Identify the key challenges for the next year

Way Forward

7. At the meeting, Councillor Sarah Merry (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education, Employment and Skills) may wish to make a statement. Nick Batchelar (Director of Education and Lifelong Learning) will be in attendance to brief the

Committee on the work undertaken by the service and the key challenges facing Education during the coming year.

8. Members are invited to note the information set out in the report, extracts from the Directorate business plan, and presentations from the officers, and identify any issues for the Committee's work programme for 2017/18.

Legal Implications

9. 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/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf 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 of 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

10. 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/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) review the information contained in this report; and
- (ii) Identify any issues which should be considered for inclusion on the Committee's 2017/18 work programme.

Davina Fiore

Director of Governance and Legal Services and Monitoring Officer

13 July 2017