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Report of the Environment and Neighbourhoods Directorate

South Leeds (Outer) Area Committee

Date: Monday 29th November 2010

Subject: Proposed Merger for Joseph Priestley College

Electoral Wards Affected:	Specific Implications For:
All Wards	Equality and Diversity x
Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)	Community Cohesion x Narrowing the Gap x
Council X Delegated Executive Function Function available for Call In	Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report

Executive Summary

Sally Blunt, the principal of Joseph Priestley College has provided a report for the Area Committee as attached and intends to be at the meeting in order to present he report.

1.0 Purpose of This Report

To update and inform this Area Committee on the merger process to date and future plans.

2.0 Background Information

The background to the merger proposals are outlined in the attached report and covers key driving factors behind the proposal to merge with another partner, the history to the selection process to date, the advice and guidance received and the key criteria being used for selection.

3.0 Main points

The attached report covers main points of: The next stages of the merger process, a communication strategy, the main mantra adopted of 'business as usual', the future benefits to students in South Leeds, the three key criteria for assessing the business plan.

4.0 Implications For Council Policy and Governance

The attached report refers to the benefits to Leeds City Region as well as South Leeds particularly for 13 to 19 age group, NEETs (those not in education, employment or training) as well as those aged 19 to 25 who have learning difficulties and disabilities.

5.0 Legal and Resource Implications

The attached refers to the Local Authorities responsibilities for the provision of education.

6.0 Specific implications for equality and diversity, cohesion and narrowing the gap agenda.

The attached refers to Community cohesion and equality and diversity as being part of the criteria to assess bids.

7.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

- 7.1 The Area Committee is asked to:
 - a) note the contents of the attached report and agree to support the merger.

8.0 Background Papers

None