

Public Document Pack

Additional Information for 16th October 2008 Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF EDUCATION LEEDS

REPORT TO SCRUTINY BOARD

DATE: October 2008

SUBJECT: Leeds Inclusive Learning Strategy

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of the paper is to update Scrutiny on progress to date regarding the Leeds Inclusive Learning Strategy.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The LILS programme comprises four strategic over-arching objectives:
- the promotion and further development of inclusive practice and inclusive schools:
 - the further development of the role of the specialist provision, including the role of the SILCs
 - the development of the behaviour continuum and provision, including the role of the PRUs
 - the further development of integrated locality working
- 2.2 The activity strands for the four strategic objectives within Phase 2 have been delayed. Phase 1 was due to end in January 2008 and was not concluded until the end of March 2008. This two month overrun has had an impact on the completion of Phase 2 and the start of Phase 3.
- 2.3 New arrangements for project management have been agreed from the beginning of September 2008. John Fryett (Project Director, NW AMB) and Michael Purches (Principal, NW SILC) have been appointed as joint programme managers. In Phase 3, during the autumn term, further focused discussion with stakeholders will take place on models for specialist provision, the behaviour continuum and locality working. This will be followed by formal consultation on preferred models over the spring and summer terms 2009.
- 2.4 Phase 2 was designed to arrive at preferred models for specialist provision, the behaviour continuum and locality working. This was to be achieved through dialogue with the main stakeholders. The purpose of this dialogue was to test and refine the thinking behind the four interrelated strategic objectives. Whilst significant work was undertaken in Phase 2 to engage key stakeholders in active discussion regarding preferred models, further intensive work during Phase 3 is required, particularly with parents/carers representatives of children and young people and partners across Children Leeds.

- 2.5** As discussed previously with Scrutiny Board, the proposed framework for the behaviour continuum is based on a “hub-spoke” model with a local learning centre in each of the five wedge areas and a small central provision. Further work has been undertaken over the summer to analyse need and locations and fit identified need on to the preferred delivery framework. The location of suitable sites for the locality provision has reinforced the need to consider the delivery of behaviour provision alongside that of specialist provision. This has contributed to the delay in reaching a preferred model for formal consultation.
- 2.6** A range of options for the future delivery of specialist provision has been developed and shared with SILC principals. Further work was carried out over the summer to analyse need, identify gaps and fit this analysis of need against the preferred models. These are now ready to go back to the programme board for final sign off in November prior to sharing further with partners and stakeholders.
- 2.7** Significant work has been carried out over Phase 2 to develop locality governance that will support the development of local partnership trust arrangements and identify models for future service delivery. Formalising these arrangements further is a key focus of Phase 3 from now until April 2009.
- 3.0 NEXT STEPS**
- 3.1** The Programme Board has been re-constituted and has met three times this term. The main outcomes from these meetings have been:
- Refining the models for specialist and behaviour provision prior to further focused discussion with stakeholders.
 - Agreement about a communication and consultation strategy that strengthens engagement with parents / carers and young people and partners across Children Leeds.
 - Receiving and signing off ‘end of phase 2’ progress reports for each of the four overarching objectives.
 - Agreeing the intended outcomes for Phase 3 of the programme.
- 3.2** The following groups meet regularly to contribute to programme development:
- Strategic Partnership Consultative Forum (termly multi-agency reference group)
 - Project Group (monthly for key officers and strand leads)
 - Area Management Board chairs (monthly focusing on strands 3 and 4)
 - Specialist Inclusive Provision Group (monthly focusing on strand 2)
 - Joint School Improvement and Integrated Service Heads focussing on service delivery (strand 1) and synergy across programmes.
- 3.3** The next (November) meeting of the Programme Board in November 2008 will consider draft activity plans for each of the overarching objectives to take forward the programme into Phase 3.
- 3.4** The Project Group will facilitate wider involvement from a wider circle of Education Leeds officers to ensure that issues are addressed with relation to the themes of:
- Communication
 - Resources (Revenue and capital, including accommodation)
 - Monitoring and evaluation
 - Human resources

- School organization

- 3.5** A major focus of Phase 3 is greater engagement with key partners across Children Leeds, with parents/carers and young people. Regular meetings will take place between the programme managers and key officers involved with other major developments, particularly the 14+ review, the learning environments strategy and the disability strategy.
- 3.6** Regular updates will be provided to Members, Governors, Headteachers and key stakeholders. Reports, once signed off by the Board, will be available on the LILS site of Infobase.

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