

# Education Leeds



Originator: Chris Edwards

Tel: 2475575

---

## Report of the Director of Children's Services and the Chief Executive of Education Leeds

Executive Board

Date: 17 October 2007

Subject: Transforming Secondary and Post-16 Provision in Leeds

---

### Electoral Wards Affected: All

Ward Members consulted  
(referred to in report)

### Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call In

Not Eligible for Call In

(Details contained in the report)

---

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Bringing coherence to **the transformation of secondary and post-16 provision in Leeds** is a clear priority from the city-wide Children and Young people's Plan and the children's trust arrangements have been established as the partnership route for successful delivery of these important changes which are being led for Children's Services by Education Leeds.

The Education and Inspection Act 2006 gives the local authority the strategic lead for school provision and for securing the 14-19 entitlement for young people, with the essential role of making sure that schools and colleges between them make the full range of opportunities available in Leeds. Because the statutory responsibilities for 14-19 learning are shared by the Local Authority and the Learning and Skills Council, both parties have been working closely together to develop a shared strategy.

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to consult widely on an approach to the transformation of secondary and post-16 provision in Leeds that will provide the foundations for continued improvements in standards and outcomes for young people at age 16 and age 19 in our schools and colleges.

## **Purpose Of This Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to consult widely on an approach to the transformation of secondary and post-16 provision in Leeds that will provide the foundations for continued improvements in standards and outcomes for young people at age 16 and age 19 in our schools and colleges. It aims to develop an infrastructure to ensure that we deliver the local vision, values and targets as set out in the Exec Board report on 14-19 in June.
- 1.2 The approach is set out in the three appendices which accompany this report:
- Transforming Secondary and Post-16 Provision in Leeds;
  - The Central Leeds School Improvement and Learning Alliance prospectus;
  - Academies in Leeds;
- 1.2 The Children and Young People's Plan sets out the priorities and approach for us to address these issues and ensure we can respond to the national agenda. The recommendations contained in this report will help shape the future delivery of secondary and post-16 learning in the city and as such will have a major impact on the lives of thousands of young people accessing learning in schools, colleges and with other providers here in Leeds.

## **2.0 Background Information**

- 2.1 There are significant national pressures that will play a role in shaping the future of secondary learning in Leeds:
- The 'Every Child Matters' agenda;
  - The new commissioning role of the local authority;
  - the revised Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 programmes;
  - the current national 14-19 curriculum reform programme;
  - Developing the Youth Offer in Leeds;
  - the Leitch Review focusing on the steps we need to take to raise the skills levels of the workforce;
  - the Building Schools for the Future programme;
  - Trusts, federations and partnerships;
  - the 400 Academies programme;
  - the recent Green paper on compulsory participation in learning until 18;
  - the recent DfES consultation on a demand-led 14-19 funding system that is based around minimum performance standards that will eliminate poor quality and inefficient provision.
- 2.2 The Building Schools for the Future programme, 14-19 curriculum reform programme and the emerging skills agenda present real opportunities for Leeds. We have rebuilt eight secondary schools through PFI schemes. Building Schools for the Future is currently providing over £225 million to rebuild and remodel fourteen of our secondary schools and a further twelve schools will be rebuilt and remodeled in Wave 13 of the national programme. In addition the Learning and Skills Council has made it clear that, provided an appropriate model can be agreed, the Further Education estate will attract a capital investment in the region of £200 million.

## **3.0 Main Issues**

- 3.1 The model as it develops must align the following:
- The Every Child Matters outcomes and the priorities and approaches in the Children and Young People's Plan;

- The personalization, participation, partnership and prevention agendas;
- The Youth Offer in Leeds;
- Planning for the raising of the participation age;
- Delivery of the new diplomas and the wider 14 – 19 curriculum changes;
- The closing the gap and going up a league priorities within the Strategic Plan and the emerging improvement priorities across all eight themes in the new Local Area Agreement;
- The priorities within the Local Area Agreement across all eight themes and the associated priorities;
- The skills required to support the continued economic development and regeneration of Leeds.

### 3.2 The agenda can be summarised as follows:

- Maximising and aligning the FE investment, PFI, BSF, Academies and 14-19 funding streams to create a city wide investment programme to transform the learning landscape
- Re-affirming, refreshing and delivering the Leeds Learner Entitlement and seeking feedback from young people on their experiences so we can be more sure that provision is raising aspirations, securing engagement and meeting their needs and expectations
- Providing choice and diversity for all learners through relevant, accessible and inclusive pathways that lead to further learning and employment opportunities
- More systematically nurturing the skills needed for all our people to meet the five outcomes of Every Child Matters and to better provide for those learners with additional and/or special educational needs
- Developing stronger partnerships across the city, addressing underachievement by focusing on the areas of greatest need, to drive the standards agenda and achieve the following outcomes by 2015:
  - 80% of 16 year olds achieving level 2 qualifications
  - 95% of our young people progressing to further learning beyond 16
  - 60% of 19 year olds achieving level 3 qualifications
- Developing leadership and governance models to deliver these ambitions by focusing the combined expertise of partners and achieving a more collective ownership of the outcomes achieved by all young people in the city.

## 4 Coherent infrastructure development and city-wide planning

- 4.1 We plan to ensure the coherent development of the learning infrastructure in Leeds to create learning environments that would better meet the needs of all our young people and establish greater connectivity between education, skills, employment and regeneration.
- 4.2 We will ensure that all young people and adults are able to achieve their full potential through personalised learning pathways built on access to the widest possible range of high quality learning opportunities. Collaboration between the City Council, Education Leeds and the Learning and Skills Council will ensure the investment in the Building Schools for the Future programme and the capital investment in the Further Education sector will result in a world class environment for the delivery of inclusive learning in Leeds.
- 4.3 We will continue to work with primary schools to ensure that more young people leave primary education at eleven with good literacy, numeracy and ICT skills so

that they can better access and take advantage of the secondary and post-16 curriculum offer.

- 4.4 We will continue to develop the Key Stage 3 curriculum to develop strong personal and social skills and those functional skills necessary to access and take advantage of the learning pathways we are building at Key Stage 4.
- 4.5 Work is currently underway on the development of a Leeds Curriculum Framework that will ensure that Leeds is able to meet the statutory requirement to ensure that all young people can access all 14 specialised Diploma lines by 2013 and deliver the Leeds Learner Entitlement (see Appendix 3). This framework will ensure an agreed 14-19 curriculum offer for the city where all programmes have clear progression routes.
- 4.6 The foundations of city-wide planning of the 14-19 curriculum are currently being supported through a number of other developments including:
- The Leeds on-line Area Prospectus that is now available and include details of all programmes delivered by schools, colleges and other providers in the city together with extensive impartial information and advice that will support learner choice.
  - A Common Application System for Post 16 courses that is being piloted during the 2007-8 academic year and will be available to all learners from September 2008. This will simplify the application process for the learner and provide valuable management information for the tracking of learners and the planning of the curriculum.
  - Work is about to start on the development of a city-wide electronic Individual Learning Plan that will be use by all learners aged 9 to 19 to support personalised learning.
  - Further development of the central co-ordination and quality assurance of the 14-16 vocational learning offer to include minimum performance standards to ensure that poor quality provision is eliminated.
  - The development of a cross sector city-wide e-learning strategy to enable learners to access learning resources from a number of different locations;
  - The Inclusion Strategy, ensuring that high quality provision is available in localities, areas and across the city;
  - The development of the Integrated Youth Offer so that all young people have somewhere to go, something to do and someone to talk to.

## **5 Transforming Secondary and Post-16 Provision in Leeds**

- 5.1 This appendix starts to set out a coherent framework for developing secondary and post-16 provision here in Leeds by pulling together the elements which at the moment sit unconnected and separate. We need to bring these together powerfully in a Leeds context, wrapping all our services around young people, their families and communities to connect with our work in tackling worklessness, the skills gap employers are facing and to tackle inequalities and secure the future for the most vulnerable young people, their families and communities.

### **6.0 The Central Leeds School Improvement and Learning Alliance prospectus.**

- 6.1 This appendix aims to recruit Leeds partners to help us with this agenda and help drive up standards in the schools facing the greatest challenges here in Leeds. We already have secured the support of the two universities and we are working with other key stakeholders in the city to gain their support and expertise.

## **7.0 Academies in Leeds**

- 7.1** This appendix, exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rules 10.4 (1) and (2), aims to set the development of any new Academies here in Leeds into an overall strategic framework which will allow them to work in partnership within a commissioning framework established by the Director of Children's Services and in partnership with other local provision while maintaining their ability to innovate and act as catalysts for change.
- 7.2** The public interest in maintaining this appendix as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because it refers to matters at a preliminary stage which may at some future point have a significant impact on certain schools. Disclosure of the information at this time could lead to speculation prejudicial to the duty of Education Leeds to secure improvement and increased confidence in schools which would be prejudicial to the public interest.

## **8.0 LSC Leeds Review**

- 8.1** This appendix is the paper tabled by the Learning and Skills Council at its recent Council Meeting detailing the feedback the LSC has received on its proposals and will be followed by the publication of a preferred model for the college infrastructure here in Leeds. A paper will be tabled in November containing the local authority response to the formal consultation on the model.

## **9.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance**

- 9.1** The issues addressed in this report will impact on the 'Narrowing the Gap' and 'Going up a League' agendas. The strategy aims to secure agreement to ambitious targets to meet key priorities within the Children and Young People's Plan and the work on the Local Area Agreement.
- 9.2** The development of new models of provision, such as Federations, Trusts and Academies will have significant implications for Council policy and governance which will be addressed in any proposals that are developed for further consideration by Executive Board.

## **10.0 Legal And Resource Implications**

- 10.1** The funding of secondary and post-16 provision in Leeds is a significant part of the Children's Services overall budget and part of the Learning and Skills Council budget.
- 10.2** The issues addressed will have major financial implications for Leeds City Council as it increasingly takes total responsibility for all 14 – 19 provision here in Leeds. A detailed financial plan will be developed alongside the strategy for change associated with this work and any expressions of interest regarding Academy developments here in Leeds.

## **11.0 Conclusions**

- 11.1** This paper and the attached appendices set out to establish the mechanisms to secure the following:
- A timeline showing key milestones for decisions;

- How we will secure sign-up and commitment of key agencies and other partners
- The linkages between the key elements of provision delivered by schools, colleges and the Integrated Youth Support Service.

**11.2** We will consult with ward councillors, communities and schools on these papers and any associated proposals to establish understanding of the issues and to build consensus around the way forward.

## **12.0 Recommendations**

**12.1** Executive Board is asked to agree to consultation on the following:

- The Transforming Secondary and Post-16 Provision in Leeds paper;
- The Academies in Leeds paper.

**12.2** Executive Board is asked to agree to the publication of The Central Leeds School Improvement and Learning Alliance prospectus.

**12.3** Executive Board is asked to note the progress being made with the LSC Review and agree to a further report being brought to the Board in November commenting as part of the formal consultation on the LSC preferred way forward.

**12.4** Executive Board is asked to request that further reports be brought to the Board outlining the outcome of consultation and expressions of interest in joining the Alliance and sponsoring any Academies in Leeds.

# TRANSFORMING SECONDARY AND POST-16 PROVISION IN LEEDS

...making a real difference to young people ...  
...whatever it takes!

## TIMELINE

### Key Milestones

Timeline	Event	Outcome
12 September 07	14-19 Consultation Conference, Weetwood Hall	Views secured of Secondary Head teachers and FE Principals on development of 14-19
14 September 07	Informal consultation on FE Strategic Option ends	
28 September 07	14-19 Conference at David Young Academy	Senior and middle managers in schools, colleges and other providers/agencies better informed of 14-19 developments.
1 October 07	Joint EL/LSC letter to Head teachers and Principals	Head teachers and Principals aware of next stages of development and opportunity to contribute to work streams
3 October	LSC FE Review submitted to LSC Council	LSC Council agree proposals for public consultation
9 October	Leeds 14-19 Progress Check meeting with Government Office	Report to DCSF on progress by Leeds in implementing the 14-19 Reform Programme.
12 October	Learning Partnership Board/14-19 Strategy Group	Discussion on Remit and membership of 14-19 Partnership Strategic Group and all other 14-19 sub groups
16 October	Joint Secondary Heads and FE Principals on 14-19 proposals at joint meeting	Consultation on 14-19 developments
Mid October	Applications from schools and FE college staff for secondments to work streams closes	Final membership work streams groups agreed
17 October 07	Leeds City Council Executive Board	Executive Boards approval gained for the next stage of planning for the transformation of secondary and post-16 provision in Leeds.
November 07	Consultation begins with ward councillors, schools, Governing Bodies, young people and communities.	Agreement and views on the way ahead
November 07	Publication of the Learning Alliance Prospectus	
November 07	Formal 28 day consultation	Secure views of FE Colleges, schools, WBL

	on FE proposals commences	providers, VCFS, community groups, Councillors, governors, young people, parents/carers and other stakeholders
Nov/Dec 07	Post 16 funding discussions	LSC and LA/EL meet with all schools, colleges and WBL providers on an individual basis to discuss 2008/9 16-18 funding plans
7 November 07	Education Leeds Board	Progress Report to Education Leeds Board
14 November 07	Leeds City Council Executive Board	Progress Report to Executive Board
14-16 November	Joint Area Review pre Inspection Visit	Initial analysis by OFSTED
15 Nov 07	Learning Partnership Board	Views secured on FE and 14-19 proposals. Discussion of remit and membership of 14-19 Partnership Strategic Group and all other 14-19 sub groups
3-14 December 07	Joint Area Review	JAR Inspection, very likely to specifically include 14-19 as one of the additional areas for detailed inspection.
12 December 07	Education Leeds Board	Progress Report to Education Leeds Board
14 December 07	14-19 Strategy Group	Agreement of 14-19 sub-groups/meeting structure. Views of group secured on Draft 14-19 Plan (2007-13)
19 December 07	Leeds City Council Executive Board	Progress Report to Executive Board
By end of December		Agreement on membership and remit of 14-19 Partnership Strategic Group responsible for planning, management and commissioning of provision.
By the end of December	Transformation of Secondary and Post-16 Provision in Leeds paper produced identifying options and proposals.	
Spring Term 08	Consultation with ward councillors, schools, Governing Bodies, young people and communities regarding <u>any</u> proposals.	Agreement secured for next steps
16 January 08	<i>Education Leeds Board</i>	Progress report to Education Leeds Board
23 January 08	Leeds City Council Executive Board	Progress report to Executive Board
By the end of the Spring Term 08		Development of <u>any</u> Academy Expressions of Interest and Memorandums of Understanding