

Report of Head of Democratic Services

Report to Scrutiny Board (Children and Families)

Date: 22nd January 2020

Subject: An update on the Scrutiny Board's consideration of the Post-16 Meadows Park Partnership linked to the wider strategic review of Post-16 education in Leeds.

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Has consultation been carried out?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1. Purpose of this report

1.1 During today's meeting, Members will receive feedback following the Scrutiny Board's working group meeting on 14th January 2020 regarding the Post-16 Meadows Park Partnership provision. As agreed, this will link into the forthcoming strategic review of Post-16 education in Leeds. The Board will therefore also be updated on the arrangements linked to this broader piece of work.

2. Background information

2.1 The North West SILC has partnerships with four mainstream schools across the north west of Leeds (Brudenell Primary; Rawdon St Peters Primary; Allerton High School; and Benton Park High School). Pupils in these settings are on the roll of the North West SILC and work with specialist teaching and support staff who are also part of the SILC.

2.2 The North West SILC partnership with Benton Park High School – Meadows Park – was the first secondary school inclusive partnership to be developed in Leeds. It was established to give those children based at the Rawdon St Peter's Primary School partnership the opportunity to transition into a secondary school so that they could continue and enjoy mainstream opportunities.

2.3 During its September 2019 meeting, the Scrutiny Board received a briefing from the Children and Families Directorate on its understanding and position in relation to a

decision made by the North West SILC and Benton Park High School to cease the Post-16 Meadows Park partnership arrangement. The Board resolved to undertake further scrutiny to better understand the rationale associated with the decision to cease this particular Post-16 provision as it felt there may be broader implications. It therefore agreed to consider this matter within the context of reviewing the city's Post-16 education offer for individuals with SEND.

- 2.4 Linked to this, the Board acknowledged the intention of the Children and Families Directorate to hold Outcome Based Accountability (OBA) sessions with a range of key stakeholders on the provision of Post-16 education in Leeds, which would include a focus on vulnerable learners and young people with SEND. It was therefore agreed that the Board would feed into and closely monitor this particular strategic review.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 Arrangements were made for members of the Scrutiny Board to meet as a working group with representatives of the Post-16 Meadows Park Partnership and the Children and Families Directorate to discuss the rationale associated with the decision to cease this particular Post-16 provision and to also consider any broader implications surrounding this decision. Feedback from this meeting will be shared with the full Scrutiny Board during today's meeting.
- 3.2 During today's meeting, the Board will also receive an update on the forthcoming arrangements linked to the broader OBA work and strategic review of Post-16 education in Leeds.

4.1 Consultation and engagement

- 4.1.1 The Scrutiny Board will be asked to consider the feedback provided by members of the working group meeting held on 14th January 2020.
- 4.1.2 The Scrutiny Board will also be briefed on the forthcoming arrangements linked to the broader OBA work and strategic review of Post-16 education in Leeds.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

- 4.2.1 Improving learning outcomes is a key priority in the Children and Young People's plan, raising attendance, achievement and attainment for all while closing the gaps that exist.

4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

- 4.3.1 Learning is central to improving future outcomes for citizens and the city and is a priority reflected in all city strategies, including the Best Council Plan 2018/19 – 2020/21, in terms of contributing to a strong economy and compassionate city.

Climate Emergency

- 4.3.2 There are no specific climate change implications arising from this report.

4.4 Resources, procurement and value for money

4.4.1 This report has no specific resource implications.

4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

4.5.1 This report has no specific legal implications.

4.6 Risk management

4.6.1 This report has no specific risk management implications.

5 Conclusions

5.1 During today's meeting, Members will receive feedback following the Scrutiny Board's working group meeting on 14th January 2020 regarding the Post-16 Meadows Park Partnership provision. As agreed, this will link into the forthcoming strategic review of Post-16 education in Leeds and therefore the Board will also be updated on the arrangements linked to this broader piece of work.

6 Recommendations

6.1 In consideration of the feedback and update provided during today's meeting, the Board will be asked to formally agree its next steps.

7 Background documents¹

7.1 None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.