



Report of the Interim Director of Children's Services

Member Management Committee

Date: 23 November 2010

Subject: 11-19(25) Learning and Support Partnership

Electoral Wards Affected:

All



Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The report asks the Committee to agree Elected Member representation on the recently formed 11-19 (25) Learning and Support Partnership; a key sub group of the Children's Trust Board. The proposal is that both Executive Members with a responsibility for Children's Services are on the Partnership, alongside representatives from each of the two other main political groups.

2.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 2.1 To ask the Committee to agree Elected Member representation on the recently formed 11-19 (25) Learning and Support Partnership.

3.0 Background Information

- 3.1 The new 11-19(25) Learning and Support Partnership is based on the merger of the Children Leeds Learning Partnership, 14-19 Strategy Group and Integrated Youth Support Service Strategic Board. The decision to merge the three existing groups was taken after extensive consultation with all key stakeholders. These new arrangements will avoid duplication of effort, ensure clear lines of accountability, and ensure coherence in dealing with complex issues such as young people not engaged in education, employment or training. Work is also underway on the development of a similar group to cover the 0-11 age range.
- 3.2 The 11-19 (25) Learning and Support Partnership brings together agencies involved in the provision of learning and support to children and young people in Leeds. It seeks to bring together all aspects of the learning and support agenda and make a

significant contribution to improved outcomes for young people aged 11-19 and people up to the age of 25 with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

- 3.3 The key functions of the Partnership include overseeing the development and implementation of the 13-19 (25) Learning and Support Plan, together with the monitoring and where appropriate approval of funding to support identified priorities. The Partnership will also have a key role in providing challenge to all partners to ensure high quality learning and support services are delivered to all young people aged 11-19 (25) across Leeds

4.0 Main Issues

- 4.1 The membership of the Partnership includes senior representatives of schools, FE Colleges and other key providers and agencies involved in the planning and delivery of learning and support services for young people aged 11-19 (25). The membership includes provision for Elected Member representation to be agreed by Member Management Committee.
- 4.2 The consultation undertaken as part of the development of the new Partnership highlighted the need for a strong Elected Member presence on the group. The proposal is that both Executive Members with a responsibility for Children's Services are on the Partnership, alongside two representatives from the other political groups. This would reflect the arrangements for the Children's Trust Board and ensure the necessary linkage between the two groups.

5.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

- 5.1 The 11-19(25) Learning and Support Partnership comes under the Strategic and Key Partnerships category and Elected Member appointments to it are therefore part of the remit of the Member Management Committee.

6.0 Legal And Resource Implications

- 6.1 The legislative basis for the Partnership is contained in the Children Act 2004, as amended by the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009. In his recent letter to the Association of Directors of Children's Services, the Secretary of State for Education, Michael Gove stressed the need for highly effective Partnerships between local authorities and providers to enable local authorities to fulfill their strategic commissioning and influencing roles.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 Member Management Committee is asked to agree the following Elected Member representation on the 11-19(25) Learning and Support Partnership:
- The two Executive Members with a responsibility for Children's Services
 - Two representatives from the other political groups

Background Papers

Terms of Reference: 11-19 (25) Learning and Support Partnership

Structure Diagram: 11-19 (25) Learning and Support Partnership

Draft Business Cycle: 11-19(25) Learning and Support Partnership