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To: Customer and Communities POSC

Date: 8 July 2011

Subject: **EXTENDED SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE – ACTION PLAN**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report provides Members with consideration of the recommendations of the Extended Services Select Committee and a proposed action plan

Introduction

1. (1) Following the work undertaken by Members of the Extended Services Select Committee, a report with recommendations was presented to Full Council on 16th December 2010. At this meeting it was resolved that:

“the Select Committee report be endorsed by the County Council and in view of the current budgetary and restructuring proposals, its recommendations be noted for further consideration”.

(2) This report therefore seeks to give due consideration of the recommendations made, and presents a proposed action plan of what it is suggested can be achieved in the context of the evolving policy and financial environment.

Current Situation

2. (1) Members will be aware of the challenging financial environment that the County Council faces, as well as the evolving changes in the relationship and role of the County Council has with schools in light of national policy decisions. The pace of change in the education sector means that the context in which a number of the Select Committee’s recommendations were made have changed since the report was finalised in October 2010. The attached action plan therefore seeks to propose actions that do not lose the spirit of what was intended when the recommendations were originally set out, but which can be achieved in the different environment we are now in.

(2) Responsibility for the delivery of the majority of the Select Committee's recommendations sit primarily with the Extended Learning Team within Education, Learning and Skills, although a few impact on other teams such as the Youth Service. The Youth Service is itself currently subject to a review and consultation process, and the Extended Learning Team is implementing a new structure following a formal consultation process. This latter review, in light of changes to funding arrangements will see a reduction in capacity as a team to a small strategic team, with discussions on-going with schools about pooling resources to continue the employment locally of operationally focussed Extended Services Co-ordinators, with professional support available from the strategic team. In light of the Select Committee's work and recommendations this strategic team will from 1st September 2011, focus on:

- Work with schools and groups of schools to identify their local needs using school and local data in order to develop and implement with partner organisations a range of activities and services to meet the identified needs. Tools used would include the TDA School Improvement Planning Framework, the Healthy Schools enhancement model, and the Quality in Study Support/ Quality in Extended Services frameworks.
- Further develop the External Providers training and the external providers' database to ensure that providers working with schools have the appropriate level of insurance, safeguarding, etc as well as a full understanding of how the work that they offer fits within school priorities and current education agenda.
- Work closely with colleagues in Health to enable schools to provide health and wellbeing support to their pupils in order to support their pupils learning. This would include healthy eating, physical activity, emotional health and wellbeing and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE).
- Further develop the Learning Destinations scheme in Kent (as part of the Children's University) to accredit and recognise learning taking place outside of the school day and in local tourist attractions and places of interest. This will also encourage families to undertake learning activities together that could have little or no cost to themselves.
- Be the advisors to schools on how to engage and support parents in their children's learning, working closely with colleagues in other teams and divisions.

(3) The actions proposed in the attached table reflect this focus that will also work in a targeted way with the District Heads of School Improvement to support schools to improve attainment, attendance, behaviour, aspirations and wellbeing.

Recommendations

3. Members are asked to endorse this report and the accompanying action plan, in response to the Extended Services Select Committee

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Background Information:

Extended Services Select Committee Report to Full Council on 16/12/10
Minutes of Full Council on 16/12/10