

Brighton & Hove City Council

For general release

Meeting: Children Families & Schools Sub-Committee

Date: Monday 18th October 2004

Report of: Director of Children, Families and Schools

Subject: Report on the Action Plan to address the recommendations/areas for development from the 14-19 Area Inspection of Brighton and Hove and East Sussex

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 This report presents the final version of the action plan in response to the recommendations from the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) Area 14-19 Inspection Report.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Action Plan (appendix 1) be approved.

3. Background

- 3.1 The 14-19 Area Inspection took place in February and March 2004 and the report was published in June 2004 and presented to Committee. The report provides comment on the partners in planning 14-19 education and training: Sussex Learning and Skills Council, Brighton and Hove, East Sussex County Council and Connexions and the post inspection action plan is therefore a joint one.

- 3.2 It is a requirement of the inspection frameworks that a joint action plan is presented and discussions have been taking place across the partners to agree the action plan. A copy of the post inspection action plan (appendix 1) has been submitted subject to approval by this Committee.

4. Further information

- 4.1 The action plan that has been produced has been integrated within our Education Development Plan and Directorate Development Plan. Monitoring will be through progress reports on the Education Development Plan and the Directorate Development Plan. The 14-19 Working Group under the Chair John Evans of City College will be responsible for overseeing and ensuring that the joint action plan is delivered.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 A separate resource plan has been prepared to meet the action plan, and this is being coordinated by the Sussex Learning and Skills Council. Preliminary discussions have indicated that Brighton and Hove will receive funds to implement the action plan.

6. Consultation

- 6.1 In preparing the action plan consultation has been carried out with stakeholders and CFS Officers named in the action plan as well as with representatives from each of the partner organisations. The final meeting before submission of the plan was on the 5th October 2004.
- 6.2 The action plan has been prepared with regard to the information and comments received from the consultation.

7. Reporting Arrangements

- 7.1 Progress with the action plan will be monitored termly and reported to CFS Committee at six monthly points (March and September).

8. Conclusion

The 14-19 Report has confirmed that we are a good LEA. We welcome the opportunity to develop the areas that have been identified through the recommendations as this will help us to improve further.

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Financial implications

There are no additional financial implications for the Brighton/Hove elements of the action plan as the authority will receive additional funds from the Learning Skills Council.

Finance Officer consulted: Paul Brinkhurst
September 2004

Date 30

Legal implications

There are no particular legal implications to draw to Members' attention at this stage.

Lawyer consulted: John Heys
2004

Date: 6 October

Corporate/Citywide implications

Brighton and Hove have embarked on an ambitious change process in the delivery of services for children and families. The action plan will have important implications for improving services to users.

Risk assessment

The risks highlighted in the inspection reports will be picked up in our DDP process.

Sustainability implications

There are implications for the financial sustainability of services, particularly developments funded by short term grants.

Equalities implications

The services inspected have equalities implications for example racial equality, and access. The action plan includes specific recommendations for students with special educational needs.

Implications for the prevention of crime and disorder

The services included in the inspections have implications for crime and disorder, in terms of improving the life chances of students through better vocational offers and job prospects.

Background papers *[Part 1 reports only]*

1. Ofsted 14-19 Area Inspection Report 2004

Contact Officer

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