
Report to Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Committee

18 January 2023

Education and Learning Strategy – Focus for Scrutiny

Report by Director of Law and Assurance

Summary

The proposed Education and Learning Strategy sets out the key priorities to support education and learning in West Sussex. This will be the first time that a comprehensive strategy for the breadth of the local authority's responsibilities in Education and Learning has been developed.

The Cabinet Member for Learning and Skills proposes to take a decision to implement the Education and Learning Strategy in January 2023 as set out in the attached draft decision report.

The Committee considered early plans for this new Strategy in July 2022 and set up a Task and Finish Group which met in October 2022 to input into the drafting of the Strategy, including the proposed workstreams.

Focus for scrutiny

The Committee is asked to carry out pre-decision scrutiny of the proposed Education and Learning Strategy and provide comments to the Cabinet Member for Learning and Skills for consideration as part of the decision-making.

Key lines of enquiry include:

- 1) The overall aims and objectives of the Strategy and the benefits of this approach.
- 2) Assessment of the individual workstreams and proposed implementation.
- 3) The comments and conclusions from the CYPSSC Task and Finish Group and how these have been addressed.
- 4) How the implementation and impact of the Strategy will be monitored, to include any added value scrutiny could bring to this process.

The Chairman will summarise the output of the debate for consideration by the Committee.

1. Background and context

- 1.1 The Cabinet Member for Learning and Skills plans to make a decision in January 2023, following consideration of the Committee's feedback.

- 1.2 The Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Committee considered the development plans for the Strategy at its Committee meeting on 12 July 2022 and made a number of conclusions for consideration in the drafting of the Strategy. One of the outcomes was to ensure that the Committee was able to input and consider the draft Strategy prior to its finalisation.
- 1.3 A CYPSSC Task and Finish Group therefore convened on 6 October 2022 to consider the draft strategy, including the proposed workstreams. The conclusions of the task and finish group are set out in Appendix B, along with the responses from the Cabinet Member (Appendix C).
- 1.4 The background and context to this item for scrutiny are set out in the attached draft decision report (listed below), including resource and risk implications, Equality, Human Rights, Social Value, Sustainability and Crime and Disorder Reduction Assessments.

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Appendices:

Appendix A: Draft Key Decision Report - Education and Learning Strategy

Annex 1: Education and Learning Strategy

Annex 2: Education and Learning Strategy Themes and Workstreams

Appendix B: CYPSSC Draft Education and Learning Strategy Task and Finish Group Outcomes Report

Appendix C: Responses to the TFG conclusions

Background Papers: None