

## APPENDIX 1

### **Extract of Executive Board and Executive Board Sub Committee Minutes Relevant to the Children and Young People's Policy and Performance Board**

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008**

##### EXB36 SUMMARY OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT 2008

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Children and Young People outlining the 2008 performance data for Foundation Stage Profile and Key Stages 1 to 4. This was an initial report referring to currently available data reporting attainment only, not indicating the effectiveness of service delivery. A more detailed report covering locality, comparator and school interventions would be produced when reliable pupil level data was available.

It was advised that there had been a number of problems with the marking of Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 papers. This had led to delays in the release of the results and, at the current stage, data was still incomplete for Key Stage 3 and so could not be reported. However, a detailed data report for Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2, The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Children and Young People outlining the 2008 performance data for Foundation Stage Profile and Key Stages 1 to 4. This was an initial report referring to currently available data reporting attainment only, not indicating the effectiveness of service delivery. A more detailed report covering locality, comparator and school interventions would be produced when reliable pupil level data was available.

It was advised that there had been a number of problems with the marking of Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 papers. This had led to delays in the release of the results and, at the current stage, data was still incomplete for Key Stage 3 and so could not be reported. However, a detailed data report for Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2, GCSE and A-Level was included in Appendix 1 to the report. The Board noted that there had been tremendous progress again at both Key Stage 2 and GCSE, which were the key results in terms of an indicator of future outcomes for children and young people in Halton.

In receiving the report, the Board noted the following:

- there had been an improvement in relation to Children In Care (CIC) although further work was still required. Results for CIC were also dependent upon the particular cohort as each child had unique circumstances. However, in order to try and address this, a Personal Education Plan was produced for each child;
- it was considered that work carried out in relation to attendance figures had had a direct impact on improvement, and the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) was very much a part of this;
- results in respect of Key Stage 3 and some for Key Stage 2 were still awaited which could have a further positive impact on the level of attainment;
- a second joint meeting had taken place at Cronton that morning to address the issue of children aged 16 – 19 going outside the Borough for further education. This had been attended by all of Halton's Head Teachers and positive steps had been made.

RESOLVED: That the attainment of children in Halton's schools for the 2007-08 academic year be noted.

#### EXB37 JOINT AREA REVIEW

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Children and Young People summarising the key findings of the recent Joint Area Review (JAR) in Halton.

Halton's JAR was undertaken against a change of methodology from April 2007. This change had resulted in a "harder test" in which the emphasis was upon vulnerable groups. The result of the investigations in Halton were outlined for the Board's consideration. Overall, it was noted that:

- the combined score of the "core" investigation made Halton the most successful JAR in the North West to date (only Lancashire, Tameside and Blackburn were left to report);
- Halton was the only North West authority to secure a score of "outstanding" for safeguarding (one of only six nationally); and
- Halton's successful JAR put it in the top 4 nationally.

In addition, a number of key improvements had been highlighted, which could be categorised under the two sections of improvement

in outcomes and improvement in processes. These were outlined for the Board's information. In light of the recommendations for improvement a multi-agency improvement plan had been established and was attached as Appendix 2 to the report.

In presenting the report, the Portfolio Holder thanked all those across the children's partnership that had contributed to the JAR.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) the improvement plan be endorsed.

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2008**

### **EXB56 STATUTORY CONSULTATION FOR ST CHAD'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL - KEY DECISION**

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which provided the response to the statutory consultation on the closure of St Chad's Catholic High school and the establishment of a new joint faith Catholic and Church of England Voluntary Aided High School.

It was noted that formal consultation with stakeholders commenced in June 2007 as part of the secondary reorganisation process. A further round of consultation was then undertaken in November 2007. Permission was then sought from the Secretary of State to publish the proposal without holding a competition. On 9<sup>th</sup> June 2008, the Secretary of State exercised the powers conferred on him by Section 10 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and decided to grant consent to the publication of a proposal for a new 11-19 joint Catholic/Church of England Voluntary Aided Secondary School.

The statutory proposal was published by the governing body on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2008. The statutory proposal was a joint agreement with the Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury and the Church of England Diocese of Chester. The notice outlined the intention to close St Chad's High in order that a joint faith Catholic and Church of England (11-19) school could be established on the current site. It was proposed that St Chad's Catholic High School close on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009 and the new joint faith school commence on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009. All the pupils from St Chad's would transfer to the new joint faith school from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009. The published admission number would increase to 190 from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009 and from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013 it would increase to 240 with 100 sixth

form places.

Members were further advised of the consultation process undertaken and that those people wishing to respond to the consultation were advised to put their views in writing to Operational Director, Legal, Organisational Development and Human Resources. No responses had been received within the representation period of 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2008 to 14<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

It was further noted that approval to the proposal had to be agreed within two months of the end of the representation period otherwise the decision would be referred to the Adjudicator for a decision. The Board was advised of what this would mean along with the issues the decision maker needed to consider.

**RESOLVED:** That

Having had regard to the statutory guidance and in pursuance of the powers set out in Section 10 of the Education and Inspection Act 2006 and the related Regulations and the permission that was granted by the Secretary of State IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the following related proposals be approved:-

- (a) With effect from 31 August 2009 St Chad's High be discontinued.
- (b) With effect from 1 September 2009 the new St Chad's Catholic/Church of England Voluntary Aided Secondary School be established on the current St Chad's Catholic High; and
- (c) With effect from 1 September 2009 the St Chad's Catholic/Church of England Voluntary Aided Secondary School published admission number be 190 per year group. In addition, the school will continue to provide a sixth form for 100. The expansion of this admission number of the closing Catholic High School is to give effect to the joint faith dimension of the new school. The Published Admission number will increase to 240 per year group on completion of the BSF investment at St Chad's.

**EXB57 PLAY BUILDER PROJECT - KEY DECISION**

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which updated Members on the progress made in developing the Playbuilder programme and which sought consideration of the proposals for its delivery. In addition it sought to give Members the chance to consider the opportunity and implications of a bid for Wave 2 Play Pathfinder Status.

Members received a report on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2008 informing them of the success of the authority in achieving Playbuilder status. Halton had received formal confirmation of this status on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2008 and confirmation of the funding awarded, as detailed within the report.

From the guidance received, it had been identified that Halton must deliver a minimum of 6 new/transformed playgrounds in 2008/09 and a further 18 in 2009/10 and 2010/11 making a total of 24 over the 3 years.

It was noted that that Halton Play Partnership had been asked to consider appropriate models for the consideration, commissioning and management of play area development proposals. At its meeting in May the Play Partnership agreed the formation of a Playbuilder Implementation Project team and the Membership details were outlined in the report.

The Project Team had met twice to date and progress had been made to develop a 'Playbuilder Project Plan' and a 'draft Plan'. The draft plan would include proposals for the identification of and timetable for year 1 2008/09 projects.

As a result of the challenging timeframe (all yr1 capital allocation must be spent by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009) the project team had, based on the consultation carried out to develop the Halton Play Plan 2007-2011 and the Big Lottery Funded Children's Play Initiative, identified a number of projects which could meet the challenge of delivering within this the timeframe and that met the criteria proposed for yr 1 projects.

The Board was advised that only £15,000 of the year one allocation could be carried over into the following year. Year one projects must therefore be deliverable by March 31<sup>st</sup> 2009.

It was noted that projects in years two and three would be invited for submission to the Council. This would afford time for a formal application process to be developed where projects would be subject to strict eligibility criteria developed by the Play Partnership.

Members were advised on the Wave 2 Play Pathfinder Status. Existing Playbuilders had been asked if they would like to be considered for play pathfinder status in Wave two and were given until 19<sup>th</sup> September to advise DCSF that they wished to be considered.

The final date for the submission of full pathfinder bids was 12noon on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October and there would be 10 Play Pathfinders awarded funding from all applications.

In addition to the £1.1 million capital already approved for playbuilder the 10 Pathfinders would each deliver at least one large adventure playground or play park, costing around £800k.

Pathfinders would also receive revenue funding to cover activity such as generating learning on innovative ways of improving local play offers; appointing a senior project manager to link to high-level decision-making; and any other required infrastructure to ensure the Pathfinder programme runs effectively.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) progress to date be noted and the schemes identified in Appendix 5 to the report be agreed; and
- (2) Wave 2 Pathfinder status application be progressed.

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2008**

### **ES23 THE SETTING UP OF SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS WITH KEY STAGE 4 PUPIL REFERRAL UNIT PROVIDERS KID'S FIRST AND RIVERSIDE COLLEGE**

There was a statutory duty on local authorities to provide education for pupils who were permanently excluded from school. This was undertaken in most Councils through the provision of pupil referral units. The key stage 4 pupil referral unit in Halton employed a model of service delivery whereby the provision for pupils was made via external providers, who were co-ordinated, supported and quality assured by the Council.

At the end of the last academic year, tenders were invited for provision in the following areas:

- support and emotional literacy;
- academic – GCSE

Specifications for these tenders were widely distributed to organisations in the region that provided in these areas and expressions of interest were requested. However, this year only single tenders were received in each of these areas of provision. This reflected the limited number of

organisations who were willing and equipped to work with some of the most demanding and challenging young people within the Borough. Both tenders received were from existing providers who were part of the successful OFSTED inspection and who had met the quality assurance processes administered by the Head of Key Stage 4 Pupil Referral Unit.

RESOLVED: That the Strategic Director – Children and Young People be authorised to enter into Service Level Agreements with Key Stage 4 Pupil Referral Unit providers Kid's First and Riverside College.