



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the Education & Skills Service Transformation Committee

Multi-Location Meeting - Gloucester Room, Guildhall / MS Teams

Wednesday, 24 January 2024 at 4.00 pm

Present: Councillor M Durke (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

B Hopkins
S Pritchard

Councillor(s)

L R Jones
T M White

Councillor(s)

S Joy

Officer(s)

Gareth Borsden
Sarah Hughes
Helen Morgan-Rees
Melissa Perry
Kelly Small

Democratic Services Officer
Team Manager for Education Strategy
Director of Education
Solicitor
Head of Education Planning & Resources Service

Also present

Councillor R V Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Learning

Apologies for Absence

None

26 Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interests.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City & County of Swansea, the following interests were declared:

Councillor L R Jones – Minute No 28 – Personal as Governor at Bishopston Primary.

27 Minutes.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Education and Skills Service Transformation Committee held on 13 December be approved and signed as a correct record.

28 Right Schools in Right Places.

The Head of Education Planning and Resources presented a “for information” report regarding Right Schools in the Right Places.

The report which followed on from previous reports to the committee outlined both the current position and potential future developments.

A draft version of the Strategic School Provision Plan (SSPP) was attached as an appendix to the circulated report. The context and background to the draft plan and its potential as a key reference document for schools across Swansea going forward was detailed and outlined in the report.

Much more detailed statistics and data would be added to the draft plan and its appendices once the January 2024 Pupil Level Annual Level School Census (PLALSC) information was published and available to officers.

The aim was that the plan would run in conjunction with the Sustainable Communities for Learning Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) and would cover a nine year period with three yearly reviews.

The areas covered by the draft plan were detailed and if agreed by the STC, the plan could then be shared with relevant officers to review and enhance relevant sections.

Widespread consultation on the draft plan would be key to its future success and a revised draft could then be refined through the council's QEd (Quality in Education) Programme Board – a cross-cutting group with representation from the Education Directorate and Corporate Building Services, before further refinement can then also take place through headteacher consultative groups and learner voice opportunities.

Further to the circulated report, she verbally updated members on the contents of the draft plan, the outside factors and influences that will affect it going forward and the additions that would be made to it, once the appropriate data and statistics were available.

A final draft of the plan would be brought back to a future STC for endorsement before being presented to Cabinet for approval and implementation.

Members discussed the report and the verbal update and asked various questions around the issues and topics detailed in the report and the officer's presentation, and suggested potential additions and revisions including use of visuals/graphs, info on breakfast/after school clubs, potential impact of LDP and housing developments, consultation process and stakeholder involvement etc. The officer responded accordingly.

The Director of Education welcomed the report and comments from members and indicated that officers would now go away and develop and refine the plan and start the consultation process as outlined in the report and in the discussions that committee had just undertaken. Following the updates, addition of information and data etc and the consultation process outlined, a revised version of the plan would be brought back to a future STC for comment and approval.

The Chair thanked the Head of Education Planning and Resources for her report and update.

29 Work Plan.

The Chair outlined the workplan for the committee for the remainder of 2023/2024.

He outlined that following discussion with the Director, he indicated that the meeting on 6 March would be cancelled and the report due to be presented would be deferred to the 17 April meeting.

Agreed that the updated workplan be noted

The meeting ended at 4.48 pm

Chair