

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....8th March 2012

1. Title of Item/Report

Support for North Shore Health Academy

2. Record of the Decision

The Chairman explained that he had agreed to this matter being discussed as an urgent item as it was important that the support package referred to in the report was put in place as soon as possible.

It was explained that, in February 2012, following an Ofsted inspection, the North Shore Health Academy was placed in Special Measures.

Members noted that, where an Academy was placed in Special Measures, it was required, by the Secretary of State (through liaison with the Department for Education), to identify a suitable School improvement Partner with the capacity and expertise to produce and resource a plan that was deemed able to remove the Academy from a category and ensure it had the 'capacity to improve'. Members were reminded of the transformation at Thornaby Community School (TCS), which followed the involvement of a third party organisation and enabled Thornaby Academy to move forward in such a positive way.

NHS Stockton-on-Tees, as Lead Sponsor of North Shore Health Academy had identified Northern Education as the School improvement Partner best able to make these necessary interventions. This proposal was submitted to Department for Education. 'Northern Education' was a regional organisation with a strong national reputation that was keen to work alongside local authorities so that they could fit with existing local ethos and philosophy. Northern Education offered a wide range of expertise and significant capacity in education sector leadership and improvement through an Associate Membership structure.

As co-sponsor the Council was in a position to offer support and capacity to the Academy, which would, in turn, support Northern Education in delivering the improvement plan. The Council was committed to ensuring that the young people who attend the Academy got the best possible educational opportunities and through making support available it could play an active part in bringing this about as

quickly as possible through ensuring they receive the very best support.

Through a support package the Council would be able to

- offer expertise to support the production of the detailed intervention plan,
- utilise LA teams and expertise in school improvement particularly teaching and learning and behaviour
- broker support from local schools in line with the Campus Stockton way of working
- provide a financial contribution to secure the expertise of the preferred School improvement Partner as appointed by NHS Stockton-on-Tees, as Lead Sponsor, with whom the Council would work as co-sponsor to secure value for money.

RESOLVED that

1. the support to be provided, in the form of expertise and support from officers in the areas of school specifically in teaching and learning and managing pupil behaviour and also financial support from within the approved MTFP be noted.

2. the Corporate Director of Children, Education and Social Care in consultation with Cabinet Member for Children and Young People be given delegated authority to agree final details of a support package

3. Reasons for the Decision

To support the lead Sponsors in putting in place a support plan to remove the Academy from Ofsted Category by Summer 2013.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight on Friday 12 March 2012

Proper Officer  
12 March 2012