

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....17th May 2012

1. Title of Item/Report

EIT Review of School Effectiveness

2. Record of the Decision

Cabinet considered a report that presented the findings of the Children and Young People Select Committee following its Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation review of School Effectiveness. The scope of the review was agreed by the Select Committee in October 2011 and covered the following services:

- School Improvement
- School Inclusion
- Looked After Children in Education Team
- Redhill Education Service
- Specialist Learning Team
- Governor Support
- Stockton ICT Unit (SICTU)
- Workforce Development

The review built on the work of the earlier review of the Early Years strand of the Early Intervention Grant EIT Review and previous service reviews which had already achieved the savings targets required. The review therefore focused on reviewing staffing structures and establishing efficient and effective business modelling meeting the needs of Stockton schools.

The proposals relating to the definition of job roles and team alignment would be subject to a formal consultation with staff, which would begin in May. However, the Committee noted that whilst there were no current proposals to reduce staffing, any requests for voluntary redundancy would be considered in line with broader Council policy and the opportunity to maximise efficiencies and/or opportunities for staff in compulsory redundancy situations. Such considerations would of course, be assessed in the context of service need and delivery.

It was estimated that the proposals would save the Authority £200,000 per annum by re-aligning premature retirement and redundancy costs

reflecting decreasing payments to the pension fund and a lower call on the use of the funds from schools.

A one off saving of £0.5m could also be released following a review of monies set aside from the Standards Funds / Area Based Grant programme for school improvement purposes which had since ended. The majority of these reserves were no longer required due to introduction of more efficient school interventions and support.

Cabinet noted that, following consideration by Cabinet, an action plan would be submitted to the Select Committee setting out how approved recommendations would be implemented detailing officers responsible for action and timescales.

RESOLVED that:

1. teams be aligned and integrated to ensure efficient and effective service delivery and support for schools.

2. business models be reviewed for commissioning and buy back services in the context of Campus Stockton Prospectus.

3. a modernised 'whole system' school improvement model be put in place, rooted in collaboration with Stockton schools and key partners and stakeholders

3. Reasons for the Decision

As part of the Council's EIT Programme, the Committee had undertaken the review with the aim of identifying options for future strategy, policy and service provision that would deliver efficiency savings while sustaining/improving high quality outcomes for SBC residents.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

None

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

By no later than midnight on Friday 25 May 2012

Proper Officer  
21 May 2012