

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

24 JANUARY 2019

**REPORT OF CORPORATE
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

CABINET DECISION

Leader of the Council – Councillor Bob Cook
Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Housing – Councillor Nigel Cooke
Cabinet Member for Children & Young People – Councillor Ann McCoy

STOCKTON RIVERSIDE COLLEGE PROGRESS UPDATE

1. Summary

Stockton Riverside College continues to be a good college as judged by Ofsted in December 2017 and, in terms of Higher Education, by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) in May 2018. This report presents the College's current position as well as future aspirations. **Appendix 1** of this report covers a review of College performance and summarises challenges faced by reduced funding, an uncertain political landscape and the introduction of new initiatives. Detail is provided on the merger with Redcar & Cleveland College, which was finalised on 1 August 2018, financial sustainability and student recruitment. The report draws attention to the important role of partnerships at the college and the significant work undertaken with Employer engagement, apprenticeships and inclusivity.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:-

1. Note the report, the progress of the college and the on-going partnership between the College and the Council.

3. Reasons for the Recommendation(s)/Decision(s)

Cabinet is asked to consider the strategic and operational activities of the college and note its' progress against these.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members) should consider whether they have a personal interest in any item, as defined in **paragraphs 9 and 11** of the Council's code of conduct and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with and/or taking account of **paragraphs 12 - 17** of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 16** of the code, in any business of the Council he/she must then, **in accordance with paragraph 18** of the code, consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest and the business:-

- affects the members financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code, or
- relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to the member or any person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code.

A Member with a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, may attend the meeting but must not take part in the consideration and voting upon the relevant item of business. However, a member with such an interest may make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to that business before the business is considered or voted on, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under a statutory right or otherwise (**paragraph 19** of the code)

Members may participate in any discussion and vote on a matter in which they have an interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, where that interest relates to functions of the Council detailed in **paragraph 20** of the code.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

It is a criminal offence for a member to participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which he/she has a disclosable pecuniary interest (and where an appropriate dispensation has not been granted) **paragraph 21** of the code.

Members are required to comply with any procedural rule adopted by the Council which requires a member to leave the meeting room whilst the meeting is discussing a matter in which that member has a disclosable pecuniary interest (**paragraph 22** of the code)

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CABINET DECISION

STOCKTON RIVERSIDE COLLEGE PROGRESS UPDATE

SUMMARY

Stockton Riverside College (SRC) continues to be a good college as judged by Ofsted in December 2017 and, in terms of Higher Education, by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) in May 2018. This report presents the College's current position as well as future aspirations. **Appendix 1** of this report covers a review of College performance and summarises challenges faced by reduced funding, an uncertain political landscape and the introduction of new initiatives. Detail is provided on the merger with Redcar & Cleveland College, which was finalised on 1 August 2018, financial sustainability and student recruitment. The report draws attention to the important role of partnerships at the college and the significant work undertaken with Employer engagement, apprenticeships and inclusivity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet:-

1. Note the report, the progress of the college and the on-going partnership between the College and the Council.

DETAIL

1. The Stockton Riverside College Annual Update 2017/18 is presented in various sections (see **Appendix 1**):
 - a) Corporation Board
 - b) Senior Management Team
 - c) Safeguarding
 - d) Student Performance and Experience
 - e) Merger with Redcar & Cleveland College
 - f) Financial Sustainability
 - g) Student Recruitment
 - h) Partnerships
 - i) Employer Engagement, Apprenticeships and Inclusivity
 - j) The college as an Employer
2. Stockton Borough Council (SBC) regards SRC as a strategic partner and seeks to work with them on a range of initiatives.
3. SRC has an outstanding reputation for creative and performing arts courses, with outcomes consistently above national rates. In the same sector, SBC commissions, hosts and presents

an outstanding programme of distinctive cultural events, frequently bringing companies into the area for technical and creative services with significant contract values.

4. SRC and SBC are currently exploring how we might use events to provide learning and training opportunities in technical and creative roles to nurture local talent, increase capacity in the sector and support new businesses and employment in the sector.

COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

2. This report does not relate specifically to a new policy or strategy or a change in the delivery of a service.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

RISK ASSESSMENT

5. This report is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

COUNCIL PLAN POLICY PRINCIPLES AND PRIORITIES

6. Whilst the report per se does not impact on any of the policy principles, the work of the College does make a contribution to the following Policy Principles:

- **Promoting equality of opportunity through targeted intervention**
- **Developing strong and healthy communities**
- **Creating economic prosperity**

CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

7. This report does not contain corporate parenting implications.

CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

8. There has been no consultation in the preparation of this report.

Name of Contact Officer: Richard McGuckin
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Education related?

Yes

Background Papers

None.

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:

All

Property

There is no impact arising from this report.