



ROCHDALE
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
COUNCIL

ITEM NO. SFL113

Subject:

Review School Improvement (Secondary)

Cabinet Member: Councillor Donna Martin, Children, Schools & Families

1. RECOMMENDATIONS / DECISION REQUESTED

- 1.1 It is recommended that the proposed budget and staffing proposals are agreed as a basis for consultation.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. Reductions to the School Improvement Team were implemented in a staffing restructure as part of the Council's Phase 1 efficiencies. Since then secondary schools have established The Pioneer Trust which will operate as a self improving school system from 1st September 2012. This means secondary schools will undertake challenge and support functions in place of the School Improvement Team.

3. ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

- 3.1. None

4. BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

- 4.1 The School Improvement Team offers challenge and support to all schools in Rochdale Borough in order to improve educational provision and raise standards for all learners as well as fulfilling the statutory duty of intervention where there is serious underperformance. Since 2009, there has been a particular focus from central government on developing school to school support through collaboration. The School Improvement Team has facilitated collaboration and encouraged schools to work together in order to self-improve and this has been particularly successful between secondary schools. At the same time, the number of secondary schools in an Ofsted category, or causing concern, have decreased.
- 4.2 From 1st September 2012, the majority of secondary schools will be members of The Pioneer Trust in partnership with the Local Authority. The Trust, rather than the Local Authority, will provide universal functions of challenge and support to bring about school improvement in its member schools. Consequently, the School Improvement Team's function in secondary schools will be to maintain an overview of performance and intervene where there is concern. As a result, fewer personnel with a secondary background are required.

5. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN / REQUIRED

- 5.1. The Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Families has been consulted.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. **Theme Building:** Building Success
- 6.2. **Proposal Title:** Restructure School Improvement Team.
- 6.3. **Breakdown of Savings from the Service**

Service Name: Support for Learning
 Area of Service: School Improvement
 Cost Centre affected:

Is this a cost or additional saving:

	Savings 2013/14 £000		Savings 2014/15 £000		Total Savings £000	
	Ongoing	One Off	Ongoing	One Off	Ongoing	One Off
Employees						
Other Costs						
Income lost (Show as minus)						
Net Savings						
Additional Income Generated (show as a positive figure)						
Total Savings						
Implementation Costs						
Total Savings less Implementation Costs	130				130	

6.4 Financial Impact on another service?

There is no financial impact on any other service as a result of this proposal.

6.5 Voluntary Sector Financial Impact?

There is no financial impact on the voluntary sector as a result of this proposal.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The Local Authority has a statutory responsibilities relating to intervention in schools that are under performing or in an Ofsted category. The Local Authority will be a partner in the newly formed Pioneer Trust and will retain its responsibility to intervene.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

8.1

9. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

10. ASSET IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no asset implications for members to consider arising from this report.

11. JOINT WORKING

11.1 School Improvement Team will continue to support joint working across all partners as at present.

12. EQUALITIES IMPACT

12.1

12.2 Equality/Community Impact Assessments:

An equality/community impact assessment will be completed for this proposal.

13. VOLUNTARY SECTOR IMPACT

13.1 There is no impact on the voluntary sector as a result of this proposal.

Background Papers: There are no background papers relating to this report.
