
Subject:

Review the School Improvement Team – Primary

Cabinet Member: Councillor Donna Martin

1. RECOMMENDATIONS / DECISION REQUESTED

- 1.1. It is recommended that approval is given to review the School Improvement Team (Primary) with a view to rationalizing the team.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. Secondary schools within the Borough have set up the Pioneer Trust which will operate as a self improving school system from September 2012. This means secondary schools undertake challenge and support functions in place of the School Improvement Team, resulting in a proposed reduction of the team by three posts from 1st April 2013. The intention is to work with primary school Head teachers to develop a similar model to be implemented in September 2013 and fully operational from 1st April 2014.

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. At the same time there has been a decrease in the number of schools in an Ofsted category or Causing Concern.
- 4.2 From 1st September 2012, all 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. It is intended to develop a similar model with primary schools. Consequently, the School Improvement Team's function will be to maintain an overview of performance all maintained schools and intervene where there is concern in mainstream schools. This will require a reduction in strategic management capacity and a smaller intervention team.

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		Savings Total £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			225		225	

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 Council has statutory duties under the Education Act 2005, Section 15 relating to schools going in to an Ofsted category and under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 Sections 60 and 63 relating to School Causing Concern. These duties will be met with the proposed revisions to the staffing structure.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

8.1

8.2

8.3

8.4

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 IMPACTS

12.1 Workforce Equality Impacts Assessment: There are no workforce equality issues arising from this report.

12.2 Equality/Community Impact Assessments: An equality/community impact assessment will be completed for this proposal.

13. VOLUNTARY SECTOR IMPACTS

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.