

**Cabinet response: Learning New Ways – Academies and the local authority in Buckinghamshire**

**T&F Group Chairman:** Avril Davies

**Lead Scrutiny Officer:** Ben Cahill (x7186)

**Date reported to Cabinet:** 10 December 2012

**Lead Cabinet Member for response:** Mike Appleyard

**Lead Officer for response:** Sue Imbriano

Recommendation	Agreed Yes/No	Cabinet Response including proposed action	Responsible Cabinet Member	Responsible Officer	Action by date
<p><b>1. That the local authority clearly defines its new, but still strongly strategic, role in relation to education and that it develops an implementation plan for communicating and delivering this role.</b></p>	Yes	<p>The Cabinet Member in conjunction with the Director for Children and Young People’s Services will set out the new strategic rôle of the County Council in education and how it will be implemented, for sharing with schools and other relevant partners.</p> <p>Development of the underpinning Education Principles document to be agreed by the Cabinet Member and Council.</p>	<p>Mike Appleyard</p> <p>Mike Appleyard</p>	<p>Sue Imbriano</p> <p>Chris Munday</p>	<p>April 2013</p> <p>March 2013</p>
<p><b>2. As future working relationships between schools and the local authority are in part dependent on the commercial robustness of the proposed Bucks Learning Trust, that the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills provides Overview and Scrutiny with an update on the early operation of the Trust in Spring/Summer 2014, including information on commercial operation, mitigation of identified risks, supporting collaborative working with</b></p>	Yes	<p>Reports on the development of the Trust will be provided to Overview and Scrutiny</p>	<p>Mike Appleyard</p>	<p>Chris Munday</p>	<p>June 2014</p>

<b>primary schools, and Councillor membership of the Trust.</b>					
<b>3. That options are explored for supporting and inducting on appointment new Heads and governors into the Bucks family of schools, school clusters and the Bucks Learning Trust. In addition, the possibility of an annual meeting of Bucks Heads, governors and councillors should be considered for sharing matters of common interest and importance in education.</b>	Yes	A proposal will be developed that builds on existing practice in relation to new head-teachers and new governors and the existing Bucks Association of School Leadership conference	Mike Appleyard	Sarah Holding	March 2013
<b>4. That the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills provides Overview and Scrutiny with interim updates on the progress of the incoming Fair Access Boards at timely points over 2013 to understand progress and to promote to councillors the work of the Boards in supporting vulnerable children.</b>	Yes	Reports will be made available to Overview and Scrutiny on the Fair Access Boards	Mike Appleyard	Sarah Holding	March 2013
<b>5. That, building on the formation of the Bucks Learning Trust, work is done to facilitate the sharing of best practice on school-to-school support, for example around</b>	Yes	This is a critical area of work for the Learning Trust. Members of overview and scrutiny will be updated on this work in the review of the Trust	Mike Appleyard	Chris Munday	June 2014

<p>continuing to drive up standards. This could include options for peer reviews, establishing linkages between governing bodies, and schools working in improvement clusters. The County Council should consider how its scrutiny function could support such work.</p>					
<p><b>6. That mechanisms are explored around bringing together schools, developers, and district and county councils in the local planning process to discuss and influence potential impacts of any new housing developments on local schools and BCC service planning, and to involve these parties at a much earlier stage in discussions on use of Section 106 monies and the Community Infrastructure Levy.</b></p>	No	Discussions are already held at the earliest opportunity as part of the County Councils statutory responsibility in this area	Mike Appleyard		
<p><b>7. That a link to <i>Parent View</i> (an online parent comment website provided by Ofsted) is included on the BCC 'Academies schools information for parents' webpage alongside existing links to Department of Education guidance on academies.</b></p>	Yes	A link can be established	Mike Appleyard	Sarah Holding	March 2013

<p><b>8. That, as part of the Member Induction Programme following the 2013 County Council elections, guidance is provided on why it is important for councillors to get to know their local schools and that options for a 'protocol' around school and councillor working relationships are explored. Guidance should outline the new role for councillors in the changed educational sector, advise councillors on how to get to know Heads and schools, working with parents, and helping to give schools a strong local voice.</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>An induction programme will be developed including an expectation on Members to be governors of schools; a checklist of contacts to be sent to each councillor; an up-to-date picture of educational provision and standards in the relevant area to be sent to councillors.</p>	<p>Mike Appleyard</p>	<p>Sarah Holding</p>	<p>May 2013</p>
<p><b>9. As part of the Review of Local Area Forums, consideration should be given to developing their role in relation to effective engagement with schools.</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Additional recommendation resolved by Cabinet</p>	<p>Mike Appleyard &amp; Martin Phillips</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>March 2013</p>