

Report for: Scrutiny, March 2019

Title: Services to Schools & Haringey Education Partnership (HEP)
Report

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Ward(s) affected: All

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** Information

1. Describe the issue under consideration

Scrutiny Panel has asked for an update on the services currently offered to schools and also the service that Haringey Education Partnership delivers to our schools.

2. Background information

In 2017 Haringey Traded Services provided 47¹ services across 7 discrete areas of school support, managed by the Schools and Learning Team. The Service had 330 customers in Haringey, London boroughs and other local authority areas. In September 2018, two elements of Trade moved from the Local Authority into the Haringey Education Partnership: School Improvement and Governor Services.

2.1 The service operates with a zero net budget. Income from the services has been tentatively growing and the launch of the Portal in 2015 has helped increase access and management of these services, as well as contributing to the growth. The Portal provides many advantages to the Haringey Traded Services offer:

- Easier access for school buyers in terms of reviewing and purchasing / booking services through the 'basket' function;
- A channel for Traded Services to promote new services and packaged offers;
- Ability for Traded Services to assess levels of trading at any time, and produce dynamic reports on sales and customer participation;
- Advanced purchasing and booking of support services to allow Traded Services teams to better plan resources;
- Ability to calculate school 'basket' costs and raise invoices and receive monies in a timely manner.

2.2 All services operate within a competitive market and Officers and Heads of Service have had to adapt the services provided and benchmark pricing so as to ensure that they remain high quality, offer value for money and are

¹ Including but not limited to education welfare, early years CPD HR, payroll, music serviced, health and safety, Pendarren.

competitive. Schools are under pressure to improve pupil outcomes whilst operating with less funding, both 'actual' (removal of the Education Services Grant) and 'real-term' (freezing of school funding against increases in salaries, National Insurance and Pensions).

2.3 Haringey Education Partnership (HEP)

- 2.3.1 In September 2018, following an eighteen-month period of scoping and setting up a schools' led model, school improvement, Governor Services and Moderation moved out of the LA and into HEP. Haringey Education Partnership is designed, majority-owned and led by Haringey schools. This model was arrived at following intensive negotiations between the LA and our community and voluntary aided schools.
- 2.3.2 The Council has supported and invested in the creation of HEP (over £450k of Council funding and passed across all central school improvement funding) at a time when school improvement in the Borough would otherwise simply have ceased with the loss of the Education Services Grant. HEP is the focal point for maintaining the family of schools in Haringey, preventing our schools becoming isolated and vulnerable or the system fragmenting with increasing academisation. As such, HEP is also integral to how the Council supports and interacts with its schools across the borough. Haringey schools have almost without exception supported HEP as it is working for the Borough as a whole: focused on raising achievement and closing the gaps across the board for Haringey's children and young people; tackling Haringey wide priorities like Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) achievement, post-16 provision and pathways, alternative provision and exclusions; supporting and funding Network Learning Communities (NLCs); and delivering statutory services and moderation.
- 2.3.3 HEP has greatly improved the offer to schools and done so at a lower cost than schools were previously paying for school improvement. As a schools led company, owned and directed by its members, HEP has re-designed how services are delivered to schools and is constantly seeking schools' input to create the best offer available anywhere nationally. The cost of HEP membership is £19 a pupil (and capped for larger schools) where previously schools were top sliced at £33 a pupil. Schools are no longer top sliced and do not de-delegate funding for school improvement to allow room to invest in HEP membership.
- 2.3.4 Fundamentally, HEP is only as strong as its membership. This is true in terms of representing the voices of all schools across Haringey. It is also the case in terms of the financial sustainability and future growth of HEP. So far there are 75 schools and colleges signed up as members, so HEP has already established itself as the way forward across Haringey. The minority of schools not in HEP are very much wanted inside HEP so they can equally benefit from membership, play a full role as a Haringey school and continue to build one of the most exciting Education Partnerships anywhere in the country.
- 2.3.5 The Local Authority (AD-Schools and Learning) works closely with the CEO and other HEP partners, holding them to account in terms of outcomes for all of our children and contact and interaction is on a weekly, sometimes daily basis.

3. Contribution to strategic outcomes

3.1 Traded Services and HEP contribute towards Objective 5 of the Borough Plan:

- All of our schools will be outstanding or good and an increasing proportion will be rated as outstanding.

We will:

- Increase the number of Haringey schools that are rated as outstanding including those serving our most deprived wards – whilst ensuring that 100% remain outstanding or good.
- Support all schools to develop a model of quality and excellence through the Haringey Education Partnership (HEP).
- Work with schools to support children in education through positive, clear, achievable and goals which respond to individual stories and circumstances.
- Increase the number of schools achieving the Healthy Schools Award
- All children and young people, whatever their circumstances, will achieve to the best of their abilities.

4 Cabinet Member Introduction

N/A

5 Recommendations

N/A

6 Reasons for decision

N/A

7 Alternative options considered

N/A

8 Contribution to strategic outcomes

N/A

9 Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

N/A

10 Use of Appendices

N/A

11 Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

N/A