

APPENDIX 2

Overview & Scrutiny Committee, 28th July 2008 Advance Questions to the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People

Page/ Point	Question/Observation	Answer (Where applicable)
	From Councillor Aitken:	
Cabinet Member C&YP	1. At the last meeting of Overview and Scrutiny on 30 June it was stated by the Leader of the Council in a written answer that the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and Head Teachers had approved the Secondary School Search Protocol in principle – will the Cabinet Member provide the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a copy of the Protocol?	A draft protocol had been drawn up by the Safer School Team. It has been discussed with the Secondary Heads and amendments are being made. The Children and Young People's Service will produce a final draft for discussion with Secondary Heads and ratification by Governing Bodies in September. It is the intention to launch the protocol in Peace Week. Training will be provided for staff.
	From Councillor Egan:	
p41	2. ICT: Will RM provide ICT technicians to be based in BSF schools?	Yes. The managed service will cover all aspects of the maintenance of ICT equipment in schools.
P41	3. Transport: How many routes are being considered for out sourcing and what are they?	Fifteen routes are being considered for outsourcing. The council runs 90 daily routes, the vast majority of which are for the transport of SEN pupils. Of these 75 are currently delivered by a group of eight contractors under a contract which was re-tendered for September 2007. The contractors safely deliver 270 students to and from special schools in

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		<p>Haringey and out-borough.</p> <p>Fifteen routes delivering 126 students (plus some ancillary deliveries) are managed in-house from Ashley Road. The whole transport operation has been under review since early 2007 with the re-tendering of external routes the major part of the external work. This re-tendering reduced costs by 27% as compared to the previous contracts. Since the start of the review we have informed and consulted the workforce on a regular basis. Throughout we have made clear that we would benchmark the in-house operation against the external contracts. We have now done this and the tender cost is very significantly lower than the current cost of the in-house operation. We are currently verifying these tenders and fully reviewing the in-house costings. If the costings prove to be broadly accurate then to achieve best value we would expect to award the 15 routes to external contractors.</p> <p>These students, whether they are transported on the 15 in house routes or the 75 external routes, are supported by a team of trained directly-employed escorts. There are no plans to change this.</p>
	<p>4. Can the Lead member report on the numbers of teachers employed in Haringey Schools who do not possess QTS? Is this going to be a significant problem for some schools for the next Academic Year?</p>	<p>From the Schools Personnel records for 64 of our 73 schools the total number of unqualified teachers who do not possess QTS is 98: 49 on primary and 49 in secondary – 4.7%</p>

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	Will this have problems regarding the Authority's Recruitment and Retention Policy?	<p>We have employed unqualified teachers in schools for several years in shortage skills posts and the School Teachers Pay and Conditions provide that we can continue to do so.</p> <p>We do not anticipate this to be a significant problem for any school for the next academic year.</p>
	5. Will the Portfolio holder outline the progress that has been made in introducing a Modern Foreign Language in to Primary School?	<p>It is a national requirement that by the academic year 2009/10 every child should have the opportunity throughout Key Stage 2 to study a Modern Foreign Language and develop their interest in the culture of other nations. The provision of MFL should be inclusive and for all children and part of a broader curriculum entitlement involving language and culture. Children will be expected to reach recognised levels of achievement by the age of 11. The strategy covers five strands: oracy, literacy, intercultural understanding, language learning strategies and knowledge about language it is closely aligned with the Literacy Framework.</p> <p>During 2008/9 85% of primary schools are delivering languages in Key Stage 2 and 28% are delivering them to the whole of Key Stage 2. The LA has provided support for schools in integrating and implementing Key Stage 2 MFL in their curriculum through training, support and advice. The requirement for 2009/10 will be met.</p>
	6. Can the Lead member outline the progress being made to	A project: <i>The Keys to Well-Being Project</i> , chaired by the

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	achieve the aspiration of having no permanent exclusions by 2012?	<p>Director of CYPS is in place to take forward developments for children and young people with behavioural and emotional health needs in partnership with CAMHS.</p> <p>The overall project is in two parts: primary and secondary and seeks to put early intervention/prevention strategies in place, delegate funding to schools and to provide a support programme including training. The project aims to have no exclusions by the academic year 2010/11. Achieving this aim is through the implementation of the Managed Moves protocol in both primary and secondary, the in-year fair access scheme, and through the BSF programme which will enable each secondary school to develop a learning support provision, and a refurbished and designed Young People's Centre which will work with CAMHS to achieve the best outcomes for young people.</p> <p>The primary part of the project seeks to develop a specialist centre in each Children's Network (subject to a bid to DCSF)</p> <p>The Local Authority has incorporated the findings of part 1 of the scrutiny review into fixed-term exclusions into the action plan for Changing Lives 2008-09 and will similarly incorporate the findings of part 2 of the review into the provision made at the PSC for those permanently excluded from school.</p>
	7. Can the Portfolio holder inform and update the Committee in	

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	<p>relation to The National Challenge (Raising Standards, Supporting Schools)?</p> <p>Can the LEA's response and proposed strategy be outlined along with concerns?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The National Challenge will focus resources on schools that are currently below the benchmark of at least 30% of students attaining 5+A*-Cs GCSE including English and mathematics. The additional financial support available from the Government to help schools and local authorities meet the National Challenge by 2011 will be £400million. 2. Each National Challenge School will be supported by a National Challenge adviser who will extend the role of the existing School Improvement Partner. Schools, their advisers and local authorities, working with the DCSF, will need to identify the appropriate package of support that will most effectively improve results in each National Challenge school. 3. The appropriate support for each school will differ. Lower risk schools will need less support. Higher risk schools are likely to need significantly more support, including transformational structural change. Local authorities must now submit refreshed plans for all National Challenge schools. 4. By 2011 every school should be above the 30% benchmark. If there are schools still below the target, it is expected that other measures will be taken, including closure or replacement by an Academy or National Challenge Trust.

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		<p>5. Haringey has four 'National Challenge' schools: John Loughborough School Woodside High School St Thomas More RC School Greig City Academy</p> <p>6. Currently John Loughborough and Woodside High are 'Keys to Success' schools and as such they receive support from London Challenge. These schools will not receive any further support from the National Challenge as both are part of an intervention programme. Their current London Challenge advisor will become the National Challenge advisor for these schools and also for St Thomas More. St Thomas More will have an intervention plan as part of national Challenge.</p> <p>7 All four schools will be above the 30% target by 2011. Three of the four schools (all except Woodside) are predicting that they will be at or above the 30% target in this year's results and we expect Woodside High to follow next year or the year after.</p> <p>8. The local authority is required to submit an overall strategic plan to respond to the National Challenge setting out which schools are unlikely to meet the 2011 target including for those schools already earmarked for a structural intervention, such as an Academy, Trust or federation.</p>

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		<p>9. Greig City Academy is one of the four schools achieving below 30%. The Department for Children, Schools and Families will be discussing plans directly with Greig in consultation with the National Challenge Adviser. Local Authorities have also been invited to comment on the challenges facing academies in reaching the floor target and also plans to improve support through wider children's services provision.</p>
	From Councillor Egan:	
N/A	1. Can the latest risk management assessment in the form of traffic light indicators be made available to O&S?	Please see the full answer below in section 1
p47	<p>2. Governance: What channels of communication are available to members of the public to keep up to date with the BSF programme? How can the programme be made more transparent?</p>	<p>There are many channels of communication used by the Haringey Council BSF programme to communicate with the public in addition to an extensive programme of involvement with stakeholders within schools or affected by, for instance our work on sport, culture and extended schools. These communication channels include drop-ins, newsletters, BSF websites and FAQs, area assemblies, road shows, exhibitions, media releases, letters and comment cards.</p> <p>The BSF programme improves its transparency with the public through a continual process of engagement, feedback and adjustment of our communications channels and approach. We welcome ways to increase involvement and</p>

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		transparency in ways that best meet the needs of our key stakeholders and the wider public.

Risk Management Assessment

Overall Risk profile

The Haringey Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme runs a rigorous process for identifying, evaluating and mitigating risks. The current (July 2008) risk status of the programme is amber. The overall risk profile of each of the projects within the programme is shown below. The Cabinet Member will outline the reasons for the individual school's red RAG status at the meeting.

School	Overall	STM	GLM	GLM (BLF)	WSH	PVA	NOP	JLS	HHS	YPC	HGW	HOR	FOR	ALP
RAG status	A	G	A	A	A	G	G	A	R	G	R	A	G	G