

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

Select Committee on Lifelong Learning – 25 January 2005

Report of the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning

Education Development Plan 2004/05

Purpose

1. To inform the Select Committee of the Education Development Plan 2 Year 3 (EDP) for 2004/05.

Background

2. The DfES has required all local authorities to produce a revised EDP on an annual basis. The Dudley EDP has been sent to the DfES following an evaluation of the EDP Year 2 for 2003/04. The evaluation was presented to Select Committee in March 2003. The EDP 2 Year 3 for 2004/05 was consulted upon through meetings with headteachers and the headteacher representation body, the Learning Working Group of the Headteachers Consultative Forum.
3. The EDP has been constructed in the context of the Dudley Community Plan, the Council Plan and the Directorate Strategic Plan. In future years it will be incorporated into the Children and Young People's Plan.
4. The EDP has been developed with staff teams and partners in order to meet national and local targets. It presents detailed information about the Council, its current operations and future ambitions.
5. The EDP runs to some 232 pages and is divided into seven priorities each with associated activities. The Priorities are:
 - Priority 1 - Raising attainment in Early Years and in Primary Education especially in Literacy and Numeracy
 - Priority 2 - Raising attainment at Key Stage 3
 - Priority 3 - Raising attainment at Key Stage 4
 - Priority 4 - Narrowing the attainment gap, tackling underachievement
 - Priority 5 - Supporting School Improvement
 - Priority 6 - Working in partnership to raise standards

Priority 7 - Statutory duties

A summary of the EDP is attached as Appendix A. The summary outlines each Priority with its associated activities and the line management responsibilities for each. The summary shows the breadth of activities which the Directorate is engaged in with schools to raise standards. An end-of-year evaluation report will be submitted to the Select Committee.

6. Legislation on EDPs is being repealed through the Children Act 2004. Authorities will still be required to plan for school improvement taking into account ministerial priorities and local circumstances. There will be a new overarching planning framework, the 'Children and Young People's Plan.'

Finance

7. The EDP will be delivered within existing base budgets, together with various external funding sources where identified.

Law

8. Provisions relating to the EDP are included in the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and the Children Act 2004.

Equal Opportunities Policy

9. Delivery of the EDP reflects the Directorate's Equality and Diversity Policy and supports the achievement of the Action Plan.

Recommendation

10. It is recommended that the Select Committee considers the EDP for 2004/05 and comments as it sees fit.



John Freeman
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Background Papers

Education Development Plan 2004/05