

Report to the Education and Vulnerable Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee

9 December 2015

BIRMINGHAM EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP (BEP) AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Purpose of the Report

To brief the Committee on the Birmingham Education Partnership and School Improvement agenda.

Recommendation

That Members note the information contained in this report

Contact Officer Details

Name: Tim Boyes

Job title: Birmingham Education Partnership Chief Executive Officer

Tel: 0121 285 0924

Email: tim.boyes@bep.education

Birmingham Education Partnership (BEP) and School Improvement

BEP started life in November 2013 when head teachers from across Birmingham came together to create a collective voice for the city's schools. Since 1 September 2015, BEP has been commissioned by Birmingham City Council to carry out school improvement.

Central to BEP's approach is ensuring that every school is part of a family of schools and that there is good local and city-wide knowledge through working in districts. BEP has a team of serving head teachers, district leads, coordinating its school improvement work across the city.

The district leads are seconded three days a week to build knowledge of schools in each district, and to enable BEP to provide school improvement support. District leads ensure that all schools are connected and are part of a wider family so that no school is isolated. In addition, five district engagement coordinators are working across the ten districts to strengthen existing connections and build infrastructure with other engagements. They support school leaders to help make it easier for schools to access services from partner organisations.

BEP's governing board is chaired by Baroness Estelle Morris, the former Secretary of State for Education. From 1 September 2015, Tim Boyes has been seconded from head teacher of Queensbridge School to the post of BEP Chief Executive Officer for one year. Pat Smart, Executive Head of the Greet Teaching Schools Alliance, and Chris Quinn, CEO of Ninestiles School, are the Vice Chairs. They also lead the collective of Teaching Schools in Birmingham that form a key part of BEP's delivery plan.

Alastair Falk, a former head teacher of three London schools and former Director of the Reed Foundation's Enterprise Schools Network, is BEP's Director of Partnerships. Sarah Ray, who was a senior manager at the National College for Teaching and Leadership for 13 years, is BEP's Director for Marketing and Membership.

BEP has formed a School Improvement Commissioning Group with a core group of recently serving head teachers. Together with the Board they are responsible for the heart of BEP's contract with the city to ensure no schools are in special measures or requiring improvement.

The power of BEP comes from a group of head teachers on the System Leadership Group who want to ensure BEP improves all schools, working collectively to deliver a deeply good education offer in its entirety, that is deeply good in a social, civic as well as academic sense.

www.bep.education

List of Appendices

None.