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Details

Status: Decision Subject To Call In

Title:
Improving Home to School Transport

Reference: 008291/2020

Urgent Decision - Not in Forward Plan No

Details for Agenda Sheet

Report of the Interim Chief Executive.

Implementation Date (not before meeting on) Tue 15 Dec 2020

Purpose

Following the Motion passed at Full Council on 15 September 2020, as a result of consistent service failings, Ernst and Young LLP were commissioned to run an independent inquiry to review the service and provide recommendations for sustained improvement in the medium to longer term. This Cabinet Report outlines the Council's response to these recommendations

Key Portfolio	Children's Wellbeing
Include item on Forward Plan/ Key Decision	Yes
Decision Maker	
Reason For Key Decision	
Relevant Documents	
Decision Type:	Committee
Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Directorate	
Other Information	
Private Reason	
Decision Outcome	<p>On 15 December 2020, Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Reinforced the apology to parents / carers and the pupils for the disruptions to their lives and education at the start of term;ii. Noted the Inquiry's findings and recommendations;

- iii. Noted the improvements already made to the service and those planned to build upon this, as set out within the report;
- iv. Noted the recommendations for further improvements as set out in sections 3.11 to the report and the associated governance in section 4.8 to the report that will provide the Interim Chief Executive with confidence that the required changes are being made in line with the agreed timelines;
- v. Agreed, in principle, to create an Integrated Passenger Transport Unit, subject to the approval of an Outline Business Case (OBC) by the end of the financial year by the Council Leadership Team;
- vi. Agreed that the OBC will set out a new organisational structure which will be consulted upon and implemented during 2021/22 for Home to School Transport, which is aligned to and will support the creation of a wider Integrated Passenger Transport Unit;
- vii. Agreed that the above activity, the SEND programme, associated commissioning activity, Home to School redesign and Integrated Passenger Transport Unit developed are collated into a cohesive programme of activity with appropriate governance controls, management oversight and resources. The Programme Design Document for this to be completed by January 2021, setting out the key implementation milestones, benefits and required consultations with the public, stakeholders, staff and Members;
- viii. Agreed that additional resources, are commissioned in the new calendar year to drive forward the improvements needed across Home to School Transport and, given dependencies with assessments, the wider

Inclusion, SEND and Wellbeing Portfolio including:

- 1. A dedicated transformation lead who will take forward the recommendations and the programme of improvements;
- 2. Continued external resources to ensure the improvements made since September 2020 are maintained and built upon within the context of the wider transformation programme; and
- 3. Additional external resources to continue a wider SEN transformation programme and deliver and embed the required changes;

ix. Noted that the programme will report into the Corporate Programme Management Office (CPMO) and Interim Chief Executive on a monthly basis to ensure that delivery is maintained at the required pace and improvements are being made for pupils, parents / carers and schools; and

x. Received an update report back in summer 2021 that provides a position on progress and an assessment of the readiness of the service ahead of the new academic year.

THE DEADLINE FOR CALL IN IS 1600 HOURS ON MONDAY 21 DECEMBER 2020

Rating:

Is the Decision Maker Aware of the Decision: No

Is the Head of Services Aware of the Decision: No

No

**Is Decision
County Wide:**

**Would the
recommended
decision be
contrary to the
budget and
policy
framework:** No

**Further
Information:**

**Decision
Options:**

Additional Information

Reg 10

Reg 11

Decision Criteria

This Decision does not contain any decision criteria records.

Wards

This Decision does not contain any Ward records.

Topics

This Decision does not contain any Topic records

Overview and Scrutiny

This Decision does not contain any Overview and Scrutiny records.

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