



**CABINET – 30TH MARCH 2016
(DEFERRED AT CABINET – 16TH MARCH 2016)**

SUBJECT: EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE (EAS) BUSINESS PLAN 2016-2017

REPORT BY: DEBBIE HARTEVELD - MANAGING DIRECTOR (INTERIM) EAS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report presents the South East Wales Education Achievement Service (EAS) Business Plan 2016-2019. The plan sets out the priorities, programmes and outcomes to be achieved by the EAS on behalf of the South East Wales Consortium (SEWC).

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 SEWC is required to submit to the Welsh Government (WG) a three-year Business Plan that will be updated annually. This is the third iteration of the plan first submitted in 2013. This plan covers the period 2016-2019. The requirement for a 3-year Business Plan is set out in WG's National Model for Regional Working.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- Qualified for Life - the national Education Improvement Strategy (2014)
- Successful Futures - the review of curriculum and assessment (2015)
- Teaching tomorrow's teachers - Options for the future of initial teacher education in Wales (2015)
- Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010
- Child Poverty Strategy for Wales
- Corporate Improvement Plan
- The Learning Theme of Caerphilly Delivers
- The LSB Single Integrated Plan
- Welsh Government's Welsh-medium Education Strategy

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 This Business Plan sets out the overall targets to be achieved by the EAS working in partnership with the five local authorities. These outcomes are based on an analysis of pupil level data and a sound judgement of what should be achieved over the lifetime of the plan. The programmes of work to achieve these outcomes are set out in detail for 2016-17 and will be reviewed for future years.

- 4.2 The South East Wales EAS Business Plan sets out four priorities: Improving attainment overall but narrowing the gap between FSM and non FSM pupils; raising attainment in English; Welsh and Mathematics. These are the core priorities for the service and all other activities and programmes are now supporting the achievement of these outcomes.
- 4.3 The Business Plan contains an Annex which is specific to Caerphilly Country Borough Council. This section details the high level targets for the next three years for pupil outcomes and pupil attendance, specific support that will be provided to schools requiring enhanced support and any bespoke Local Authority intervention programmes. Progress towards the Annex will be provided bi-annually.
- 4.4 This plan must be endorsed by Cabinet and annual updates on progress will be provided for Members.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The EAS have their own Equalities and Welsh Language plans in place; Caerphilly CBC has therefore not undertaken any specific impact assessment on the business plan.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The financial implications are to be included in the relevant sections of the Business Plan when confirmed.
- 6.2 Financial arrangements for the core funding to the EAS from Caerphilly County Borough Council for 2016/17 are currently based on an indicative allocation (this includes a 3% efficiency saving on the previous year) of £1,096,000. At the time of the submission of this report this indicative allocation is through verbal confirmation. This section will be updated with the financial agreement for 2016 -2017 when finally confirmed.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no personnel implications within this report.

8. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 The South East Wales EAS Business Plan has been developed in consultation with a wide range of key stakeholders and all comments have been reflected in the report. The consultation framework is set out in the Appendices section of the plan.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That Cabinet endorse the content of the EAS Business Plan.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 EAS are required to submit their Business Plan to Welsh Government and Cabinet are required to endorse it.

11. STATUTORY POWER

- Children and Families Measure (Wales) 2010.
- Local Government Measure 2009
- Education Act 1944

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Councillor Wynne David, Chair of Education Scrutiny Committee
Councillor James Pritchard, Vice Chair of Education Scrutiny Committee
Headteachers
SEWC Directors
Joint Education Group (JEG)

Appendices:
Appendix 1 EAS Business Plan 2016-2019
Appendix 2 Annex for Caerphilly County Borough Council 2016-2017