

## **Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

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**Date of Meeting:** 25 March 2019

**Report Title:** Annual Education Report 2017-18

**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr Jos Saunders

**Senior Officer:** Jacky Forster: Director of Education & Skills

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### **1. Report Summary**

Every year, the Education & Skills Directory presents a summary of its work with schools for consideration by DMT and Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The 2017-18 report – see separate paper, captures the performances of our schools as well as the considerable work which the Local Authority leads/oversees in terms of support, challenge and interventions with our schools.

The continuing fragmentation of the education landscape provides increasing challenges in managing and leading on school improvement – the Local Authority role is pivotal to coordinating key workstreams for the benefit of young people.

This information has been used in recent monitoring and challenge sessions with NW Peers and with Ofsted.

This report and meeting will also provide a powerpoint presentation at the meeting of key messages which will then be shared to OSC members.

### **2. Recommendation/s**

- 2.1. To receive the detailed report which celebrates the successes across the educational sector in Cheshire East as well as identifying future work and priorities.
- 2.2. To recognise the continuing work to provide a localised system of school improvement in the absence of a clear national agenda.

### **3. Reasons for Recommendation/s**

This report captures in one place the considerable work of the Education & Skills Directory, in association with other C&F services, in supporting schools in both their successes and priority workstreams going forward. The increasing focus on

vulnerable groups of learners and vulnerable schools is critical in showing the range of interventions which best improves outcomes in targeted schools

#### **4. Other Options Considered**

The format of this report is similar to previous years in providing an overall summary report and then using the meeting to reinforce key themes of work and its impact.

#### **5. Background**

The attached detailed report provides the detailed breakdown of the outcomes for Cheshire East learners across all key stages of education. There is a lot of detail in this report and the content reflects the considerable work across the Education & Skills Directory and wider services to best meet the changing needs of all our learners.

In capturing key messages, the following themes are seen as critical in terms of how we utilise all available resources and in working closely with regional and national systems to both support and challenge schools.

- Categorisation Process 18/19 – Achievements & Alerts
- Meetings with Regional Schools Commissioner and Ofsted
- Latest work on the SSIF programme with targeted schools
- Case Studies – Cornerstone / EHE/CME
- New Ofsted Framework – impact on our schools.

These strategic themes will be covered during the meetings as part of a structured presentation to OSC members.

#### **6. Implications of the Recommendations**

##### **6.1. Legal Implications**

Legal services are heavily involved in any academisation processes and non-compliance – e.g. Penalty Notices for school absence.

##### **6.2. Finance Implications**

There are significant financial implications linked to the available budgets for schools ( linked to National Funding Formula ) to staff and resource their work to raise standards.

##### **Policy Implications**

Policy implications will reflect the work on providing both support and challenge to schools. An example of this is the changing approach to school categorisation.

### **6.3. Equality Implications**

An assessment has not been completed at this point.

### **6.4. Human Resources Implications**

These include the availability of Authority services to provide high quality services to support all aspects of school improvement

### **6.5. Risk Management Implications**

Management of risks would be a central role in a wide range of context including SEN assessments, impact of school intervention programmes and budget management.

### **6.6. Rural Communities Implications**

There are some implications for rural communities especially in terms of the sufficiency of school places and school budgets.

## **7. Implications for Children & Young People/Cared for Children**

There are direct implications for children and young people based upon their academic outcomes and supporting vulnerable learners

### **7.1. Public Health Implications**

Limited direct implications

## **8. Ward Members Affected**

Local Ward members are affected by this report

## **9. Consultation & Engagement**

Not applicable

## **10. Access to Information**

See attached report with this covering paper.

## **11. Contact Information**

Any questions relating to this report should be directed to the following officer:

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