

Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee

Friday, 14 December 2018

10.00 am

Oak Room, County Buildings, Stafford

NB. Members are requested to ensure that their Laptops/Tablets are fully charged before the meeting

John Tradewell
Director of Strategy, Governance and Change
6 December 2018

A G E N D A

1. **Apologies**
2. **Declarations of Interest**
3. **Minutes of the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee held on 15 November 2018** (Pages 1 - 6)
4. **Education and Skills Strategy: A Partnership Framework for Staffordshire** (Pages 7 - 36)
Report of the Cabinet Member for Learning and Employability
5. **Review of Elective Home Education - Executive Response Action Plan** (Pages 37 - 44)
Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer
6. **Work Programme** (Pages 45 - 52)



7. Exclusion of the Public

The Chairman to move:-

“That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Local Government Act 1972 indicated below”.

Part Two

(All reports in this section are exempt)

nil

Committee Membership

Ron Clarke	Rev. Preb. M. Metcalf
Tina Clements	Ian Parry (Chairman)
Mike Deakin	Kyle Robinson
Keith Flunder	Jessica Shulman
Julia Jessel (Vice-Chairman)	David Smith
Bryan Jones	Simon Tagg
Andrew Mason	Bernard Williams

Note for Members of the Press and Public

Filming of Meetings

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Recording by Press and Public

Recording (including by the use of social media) by the Press and Public is permitted from the public seating area provided it does not, in the opinion of the chairman, disrupt the meeting.

Minutes of the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee Meeting held on 15 November 2018

Present: Ian Parry (Chairman)

Attendance

Ron Clarke	Kyle Robinson
Tina Clements	Jessica Shulman
Mike Deakin	David Smith
Keith Flunder	Simon Tagg
Bryan Jones	Bernard Williams

Also in attendance: Councillor Helen Fisher, Cabinet Member for Highways.

The Chairman welcomed both Mike Deakin and Jessica Shulman to their first meeting of the Committee as Parent Governor, Co-opted Members.

Apologies: Julia Jessel and Rev. Preb. M. Metcalf

PART ONE

25. Declarations of Interest

There were none at this meeting.

26. Minutes of the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee held on 19 September 2018

A Member asked that a breakdown of the £5m extra funding (page 3) be detailed in the minutes. Officers agreed to check if the information had been available at the meeting and include if appropriate.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee held on 19 September 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

27. Staffordshire Freight Strategy 2018

The Chairman welcomed Mr Ian Ashbolt, (President of the Staffordshire Parish Council's Association) Mr Andrew McRea (Chief Executive of the Staffordshire Parish Council's Association) and Parish Councillors Victor Kelly, Richard Painter, Tony Holmes, and Mike Allen who had all been invited to the Committee to contribute to the Freight Strategy debate.

The Committee considered the updated Staffordshire Freight Strategy which had been refreshed as a result of a scrutiny review which had taken place to look at the impact of heavy goods vehicles on Staffordshire's roads. The Strategy considered: both road

and rail based freight activity; Local, Regional, National and International Freight Networks; the impact of freight; managing the impact of freight; and the action plan.

The Strategy had an important part to play in delivering the Council's vision for a connected Staffordshire where everyone has the opportunity to prosper, be healthy and happy. From a policy context, the strategy fits within the Staffordshire Local Transport Plan (LTP3) and government policy 'Creating growth, cutting carbon: making sustainable local transport happen'.

Councillor Helen Fisher, Cabinet Member for Highways; Clive Thomson, Commissioner for Connected and Sustainable County; Darryl Eyers, Director for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills; and Nick Dawson, Connectivity Strategy Manager attended the meeting to present the strategy and answer questions.

The Chief Executive of the Staffordshire Parish Council's Association explained that the general view of his members was that although the Strategy was welcomed, it did not fit with the National Rail Strategy and also did not address local housing growth throughout the county. Other Parish Councillors present at the meeting felt that the Strategy did not explain how the strategy would improve the current situation; how it would mitigate the issues caused by the M6 or the A5; local roads were not designed for the levels of traffic currently experienced; and there was no mention of the West Midlands transport plan or other neighbouring conurbations.

A Member of the Committee asked if the emergency services had been consulted over the strategy so that their planned emergency routes could be incorporated. Other neighbouring authorities Freight Strategies such as Shropshire and Cheshire's also needed to be considered. There was also little mention of Stoke on Trent in the strategy and yet it has the largest population and direct links to the M6 and A50.

A Committee Member stated that the M6 toll is widely used particularly for coaches and asked how we were planning for this increased activity long term. The impact of traffic on the A50 when the M6 is closed was discussed. It was felt that the A50 corridor and its ever-increasing volume of traffic was not mentioned in the document nor was the connection with HS2 developments and the proposed hub. The HS2 hub may bring in more traffic and increase the demand for development sites.

The issue of planning consent for industrial/commercial buildings/warehouses without appropriate consideration of the local road network was sometimes an issue. Members raised the issue of the relationship with local planning authorities and possible ways of encouraging them to consider including planning conditions such as timed activity or weight restrictions.

Members felt that the Local Authority (LA) should be able to direct traffic away from smaller county lanes onto main arterial routes. The possibility of a national Freight grid that could be used purely for commercial vehicles was discussed.

Members discussed how the size of vehicles and how the national trend of reducing the number of local distribution centres and satellite depots and the increase in 40 tonne articulated vehicles for local shop deliveries, was putting increased pressure on small roads. Also, the way consumers shop, and the increased use of timed home delivery

services and delivery drivers who don't know the area, encourages drivers to take direct routes which are often on unsuitable roads.

Concern was expressed by the Committee that the action plan attached to the report contained a number of actions which fell to the Community Liaison Officers to implement and it was not clear that they would have the capacity to deliver and therefore expectations needed to be managed.

Members suggested that smart technology could be used to track vehicles and enforce weight restrictions etc. However, this would need a change in legislation. The role of MP's and the need to lobby them to facilitate such changes was necessary.

It was felt that there was a lack of lorry parking facilities in the County and this resulted in overnight parking in country lanes which offer no facilities for drivers. The strategy didn't include lorry parks or parking areas and the Committee felt this needed to be addressed.

Members felt that the use of domestic satellite navigation systems by Heavy Commercial Vehicles (HCV) was proving problematic as this rarely contained information on weight restrictions or bridge heights. Additional legislation to enable conditions on operating licenses to be added and greater enforcement through use of technology was again discussed.

The Staffordshire Freight and Community Forum met every four months. It was noted that it had a very broad membership and could set up its own working groups if it wished to look at issues in more depth. The Committee asked to see the Forum's terms of reference.

The use of motorways and dual carriageways and the need for introducing specific lanes for large vehicles or different speed restrictions was raised by Members. Again, it was mentioned that this would require a change in legislation and MPs would need to be lobbying on the Councils behalf.

It was highlighted that figure 4 in the Strategy suggested that more freight was being transported by water than by rail and this was questioned. Officers agreed to check the figures.

It was also requested that the cost of the traffic on infrastructure such as collapsed drains and on grass verges should be included in the strategy. Future strategies should try to address reducing mileage and dealing with quarry vehicles and their movement close to schools.

Members asked that when Industrial sites were being developed, local planners could look to use any local opportunity such as existing/disused railway lines again, for example developments at Stoke and Lichfield have not used rail lines that could have been bought back into use and taken freight off the roads.

A question was asked on the Council's policy on weight restrictions and how this was used. In response, the Committee heard that there was no intention to remove existing weight restrictions, but they did tend to have a knock on effect by pushing vehicles onto

other roads. Generally, they were used as a last resort. Enforcement was carried out if specific problems were highlighted. Again, the use of technology was discussed as a possible solution and groups like Community Speed Watch could be set up to monitor local problem areas.

The Cabinet Member stated that she would take on board the comments and suggestions made by the Committee and suggested that the Members may want to invite Highways England to a future meeting of the Committee as there were some issues that the County could not address.

The Cabinet Member informed the Committee that the Strategy would be going to the Staffordshire Freight and Community Forum as part of the consultation process and then to Cabinet for approval.

The Chairman thanked the Parish Councillors and the Staffordshire Parish Council Association for attending the meeting and contributing to the debate.

The Committee made the following suggestions, observations and comments on the strategy:

1. The Document needs to contain a Strategic Vision and stronger links to other Strategies such as the West Midlands Freight Strategy and other neighbouring authorities such as Derbyshire, Shropshire and Cheshire.
2. We need stronger links to the Local Planning Authorities (LPA) and the development of housing and its impact on the road network and demand for goods delivered by HCV's.
3. The diversion of freight from villages and town centres, should this be central to the strategy?
4. M5/M6 link road and the movement of traffic from the M6 onto the County network was an issue when for example, traffic is diverted off the M6 due to its closure.
5. Rural network roads are not sufficient to handle the HGVs
6. Overnight parking of HCVs and the provision of lorry parks needs to be addressed.
7. Freight Sector use large vehicles to deliver locally, these are often too big for the roads. There are few local/ smaller distribution centres now.
8. We need to work with the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner on Police and Fire routes.
9. There is no specific link to M6 Toll in the strategy and how this impacts on adjoining roads and a long term view.
10. Links to LPAs as industrial units (sheds) are built in inappropriate locations without due consideration of the size of vehicles using them or hours of opening and the impact on local communities.
11. Local MPs' role in lobbying, particularly to promote some of the national/legislative changes required to implement this strategy for example enforcement of weight restrictions and the use of smart technology.
12. The use of domestic 'Sat Navs' by large freight carriers which don't highlight bridge heights or weight restrictions, and could there be a nation grid for Freight operators to use?
13. Stoke-on-Trent links need to be recognised in the report.

14. There needs to be a move to get as much freight as possible onto rail e.g. could large industrial parks which are built on old train paths (Stoke and Lichfield) have the lines reopened as part of the planning requirements?
15. Weight restriction enforcement - can we use Automatic Number Plate Recognition (AMPR) or Community Enforcement like Speed Watch to enforce?
16. The action plan mentions Community Infrastructure Officers delivering some of the actions and there was concern that these officers would not have adequate capacity.
17. Need to consider the cost of HCVs on smaller roads such as collapsed drains and grass verges.
18. The Committee welcomed the Staffordshire Freight and Community Forum and the work it did and asked to see the terms of reference.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the Committees suggestions, observations and comments on the strategy be taken on board prior to consideration at Cabinet.
- b) That details of freight traffic on rail and water be provided to the Committee.
- c) That a copy of the Staffordshire Freight and Community Forum's Terms of Reference be shared with the Committee.

28. Work Programme

The Select Committee received a copy of their Work Programme for 2018/19.

RESOLVED: That the Work Programme be agreed.

Chairman

Local Members' Interest
N/A

Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee - Friday 14 December 2018

Education and Skills Strategy: A Partnership Framework for Staffordshire

Recommendations

- a. That the Select Committee scrutinises the content of the Education and Skills Strategy: a partnership framework for Staffordshire including the role that the county council will be committing to.
- b. That the Select Committee provides comment and responses regarding the vision, principles and approach set out in the partnership framework.

Report of Councillor Philip White, Cabinet Member for Learning and Employability

Summary

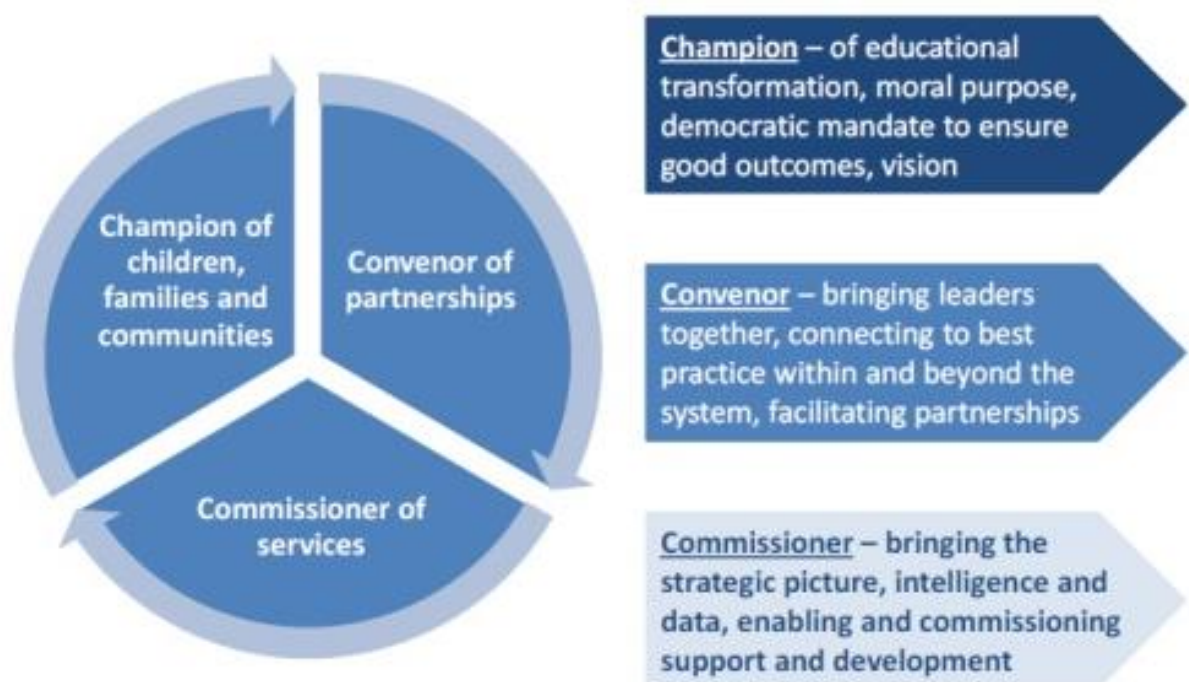
1. OFSTED have judged that 84% of schools in Staffordshire are good or outstanding. Yet overall outcomes for Staffordshire's young people remain below average, particularly at Key Stage 4 and 5.
2. There are very many examples of good practice, however, there is too much variation between schools. Appendix A is technical - and small – but it shows too many bottom quartile performance measures (in red) for schools. When we look at our statistical neighbours, we want outcomes to be near the top not the bottom.
3. Improving Education and Skills “so that more people gain the training and qualifications they need to succeed” is one of the county council's strategic priorities (see Appendix B).
4. However, the county council's statutory role (see Appendix C) has diminished as the autonomy and accountability of individual schools and trusts and the Regional Schools Commissioner have increased.
5. There is now a complex mix of relationships and accountabilities which means that no single institution or organisation can impose or affect significant, system-wide change on its own. The county council champions better outcomes for children and young people but does not have the authority, responsibility, control or resources to determine those outcomes.
6. This draft Education and Skills Strategy is a “partnership framework” developed by a reference group of education and skills providers and partners from across Staffordshire (see Appendix D). It proposes a shared leadership approach, that is evidence based, outcomes-focussed and underpinned by peer support and challenge.
7. It is a strategy for Staffordshire, not a county council strategy, and requires the support of the county council and from across the education and skills sector.

8. The consultation runs until 21 December 2018, after which the reference group will review the responses and we anticipate that the final strategy would launch by April 2019.

Report

Background

9. The county council has determined its Strategic Plan for the next four years which has identified education and skills as one of its five strategic priorities.
10. Within Staffordshire, there is a diverse range of education and skills providers, with over 1,000 early years providers, 400 schools, 60 colleges and learning providers and two universities.
11. The role of local authorities is reducing as the education landscape continues to change. In Staffordshire, for example, we expect 50% of Staffordshire's 400 schools will be academies by January 2019 and accountable direct to the West Midlands Regional Schools Commissioner.
12. The role of local authorities in education has been evolving to focus on three key areas of responsibility: as a convenor of partnerships; as a champion of children, families and communities; and as a maker and shaper of effective commissioning as set out below:



13. So, as the roles and responsibilities of the county council and education providers and partners change, we need to create a different way of engaging and working with system leaders.
14. Our aspiration is to be near the top of the table of our statistical neighbours not the bottom. We want a partnership that champions high aspiration and ambition for every learner, collective accountability for achieving better outcomes, peer challenge and peer support, greater visibility of institutional performance and more parental engagement.
15. Clearly setting out how we will all work together to champion the interests of all children and young people will enable us to keep a clear focus on providing the very best outcomes for Staffordshire's children and young people in an outcomes-focused and highly inclusive environment.

Purpose

16. This draft strategy proposes a partnership framework to support the delivery of the county council's strategic priority to improve education and skills outcomes. It is not a county council strategy: it is a strategy for all providers and partners, including the county council.
17. The Select Committee are invited to provide comment and feedback in response to consultation to further shape our way forward. The key questions the select committee should consider are:
 - a. Do you agree with the vision?
 - b. Do you agree with our principles?
 - c. Do you agree with the function of the strategic group?
 - d. Do you agree with the membership of the strategic group?
 - e. Do you agree with the outcome measures?

Education and Skills Strategy: a partnership framework for Staffordshire

18. In April 2018 the county council convened a reference group of headteacher, governor, trust and early years representatives to develop an Education and Skills Strategy for Staffordshire
19. The reference group worked together to develop a strategy that proposes a partnership framework to:
 - a. establish a Staffordshire-wide education culture based on a clear moral purpose where the conditions are such that providers are prepared to challenge and support each other
 - b. take decisions that are in the collective interest of children and young people in the wider community, as well as the interests of students, pupils and parents at their own institution.
20. We agreed a draft vision:

Vision: Every Staffordshire child deserves the best possible education and to leave school or college equipped with the learning, skills, aspirations and opportunities they

need to continue lifelong learning and forge their successful career, with fulfilled healthy lives, as responsible adults.

21. A set of three principles to achieve our vision was proposed:

Principle 1: A sustainable education and skills landscape with leadership that is built on morals, ethics and trust, is underpinned by transparency and is accountable for the outcomes for all Staffordshire learners.

Principle 2: All children get the best start in life from birth, helping children build strong foundations so they can continue to grow, learn and succeed in education.

Principle 3: Every child and young person has an equal opportunity to achieve and is equipped with the values, skills and knowledge necessary to progress into adulthood with a fulfilled life, to build their rewarding career and to continue their learning journey.

22. This framework will steer our combined efforts and resources. Through working together, we know that we can make a real difference to the life chances of children and young people and to Staffordshire's future economy, providing we collectively aspire to help all children and young people to succeed in their education and ensure that no one is left behind.

Link to Strategic Plan – Staffordshire County Council Strategic Plan 2018 - 2022

Appendices

Appendix A – Current education and skills context in Staffordshire: performance data

Appendix B – Staffordshire County Council Strategic Plan 2018 - 2022

Appendix C – SCC's statutory role in education and skills

Appendix D – Education and Skills Strategy: A partnership framework for Staffordshire

Contact Officer

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Current education and skills context in Staffordshire: performance data

Appendix A

Table of 2017 performance measures showing the variations between and within districts compared with the national average

Group / School	EYFS GLD	KS2 RWM	KS1-2 Progress - Reading	KS1-2 Progress - Writing	KS1-2 Progress - Maths	KS4 Eng. & Maths 9-5	KS4 Attainment 8	KS4 Progress 8	KS5 A-Level APS (schools only)	KS5 A-Level APS (schools & colleges)
Staffs	74.5%	63.2%	-0.4	-0.3	-0.6	39.3%	44.9	-0.13	28.65	28.53
National	70.7%	61.0%	0.0	0.0	0.0	39.6%	44.6	0.00	32.39	32.39
Strongest Performing School	100.0%	100.0%	10.1	7.5	7.4	67.4%	61.2	0.76	35.55	40.16
Poorest Performing School	19.0%	0.0%	-12.1	-20.6	-11.8	22.1%	33.4	-0.86	5.00	5.00
Strongest Performing District	77.9%	68.6%	0.2	0.5	0.2	48.8%	49.2	0.08	29.97	Not available
Strongest Performing School (within district)	93.8%	100.0%	9.3	4.0	3.7	52.7%	51.7	0.76	35.55	
Poorest Performing School (within district)	64.7%	20.8%	-4.3	-2.0	-6.4	40.8%	44.8	-0.28	19.96	
Poorest Performing District	71.1%	56.3%	-1.2	-0.9	-1.5	27.9%	43.6	-0.30	25.46	
Strongest Performing School (within district)	100.0%	90.9%	10.1	5.5	7.4	34.8%	45.8	-0.13	25.46	
Poorest Performing School (within district)	50.0%	40.7%	-6.3	-7.8	-5.2	0.0%	33.4	-0.62	25.46	

Table of attendance, exclusion and NEET data showing the variations between and within districts compared with national averages

Group / School	Average attendance % (2016/17 two terms data)		% of pupils classed as persistent absentees (2016/17 two terms data)		% of fixed term exclusions as a percentage of the population (2015/16)		% of permanent exclusions as a percentage of the population (2015/16)		NEET (Winter Average 2016/17)
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	
Staffs	3.6%	5.0%	7.0%	11.9%	1.32%	6.17%	0.04%	0.23%	2.30%
National	4.0%	5.2%	8.7%	12.8%	1.21%	8.46%	0.02%	0.17%	2.80%
Strongest Performing School	0.0%	2.7%	0.0%	3.1%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	Not available
Poorest Performing School	6.6%	9.7%	27.7%	30.1%	23.88%	23.74%	1.28%	1.15%	available
Strongest Performing District	3.3%	4.6%	5.9%	10.2%	0.90%	4.56%	0.00%	0.12%	1.80%
Strongest Performing School (within district)	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	3.1%	0.00%	0.89%	0.00%	0.00%	Not available
Poorest Performing School (within district)	6.0%	7.6%	20.9%	18.8%	17.96%	12.56%	0.00%	0.48%	available
Poorest Performing District	4.0%	5.7%	8.9%	15.3%	2.46%	9.34%	0.10%	0.37%	4.00%
Strongest Performing School (within district)	3.0%	4.6%	2.8%	11.9%	0.00%	0.61%	0.00%	0.00%	Not available
Poorest Performing School (within district)	5.5%	7.8%	15.5%	17.0%	19.13%	18.17%	1.09%	0.68%	available

Table showing Staffordshire's ranking against all 150 local authorities at the expected level across key stages in 2017.

Category	Rank	
Early Years	23	
Key Stage 1	Good Level of Development	19
	Reading	22
	Writing	26
Key Stage 2	Maths	37
	Reading	42
	Writing	55
Key Stage 4	Maths	101
	Attainment 8	105
	Progress 8	103
	English Baccalaureate (inc grade 5 or above in E&M)	104
Key Stage 5	Grade 5 or above in English & Maths	129
	A Level APS per Entry	128
	Academic APS per Entry	50
	Tech APS per Entry	25
General APS per Entry		

Code: Green = Staffs in top quartile;
 Blue = second from top quartile;
 Purple = second from bottom quartile;
 Red = Staffs in bottom quartile

Our Vision: A connected Staffordshire where everyone has the opportunity to prosper, be healthy and happy

Outcomes

The people of Staffordshire will:

- Be able to access more good jobs and feel the benefits of economic growth
- Be healthier and more independent
- Feel safer, happier and more supported in and by their community

Priorities



Create the right conditions for **economic growth** across the whole of Staffordshire that produces more, better paid jobs for residents.



Support the construction of more **housing** to meet the growing needs of our families and people young and old.



Improve **Education and Skills** provision in our schools, colleges and universities so that more people gain the training and qualifications they need to succeed.



A joined up approach to **Health, Care and Wellness** that encourages people to take responsibility for their own health and plan for their future, so that we can support those who really need it.



Ensure **Children and Families** have a network of support to help manage their own problems and stay safe and well.

Enablers



Our **workforce** is the greatest asset we have for improving the lives of Staffordshire people, so we need to give our employees the skills, tools and confidence to do their jobs well.



People Helping People is how we support citizens to help themselves and one another to improve their communities and act on the things that matter most to them.



Our **digital** programme will make greater use of technology and data to work in more modern, effective and lower cost ways.



Work with and through our **networks** of public, private and community organisations to achieve our ambitions.

Pledge Deliver value for money for residents and businesses and live within our means

SCC's statutory role in education and skills

The role of local authorities for early years and childcare¹ extends to:

- “free (**funded**) **entitlements** for two-, three- and four-year-olds;
- securing **sufficient childcare** for working parents;
- providing **information advice and assistance to parents**;
- and providing **information, advice and training to childcare providers.**”

“4.1 The role of local authorities in supporting the **provision of excellent education for all**² children of compulsory school age is to:

- ensure that **every child has a school place**;
- ensuring fair access through **admissions and transport** arrangements;
- ensuring the **needs of vulnerable pupils** are met;
- and to act as a **champion for all parents and families.**”

Local authorities retain the duty³ to

- ensure that pupils have the **opportunity to attend schools that are good or better**,
- with **powers to intervene** where we have concerns about standards in maintained schools
- and to **liaise with the regional schools commissioner (RSC)** where we have concerns about an academy school.

The role of local authorities in respect of post-16 education and training⁴ is

- “secure **sufficient suitable education and training provision** for all young people in their area” aged 16-19 and up to 25 for those with an EHCP
- “promote the **effective participation** in education and training of 16 and 17 year olds
- “**identify 16 and 17 year olds who are not participating** in education or training” and provide support to enable participation.

¹ [Early education and childcare - Statutory guidance for local authorities](#), DfE, March 2017

² [Schools national funding formula - Government consultation stage one](#), DfE, March 2016

³ [School Standards and Framework Act 1998](#)

⁴ [Participation of young people in education, employment or training](#), DfE, September 2016

Education and Skills Strategy: A partnership framework for Staffordshire

Consultation Document

Education and Skills Strategy: a partnership framework for Staffordshire

Foreword

Every day, 23 babies are born to families across Staffordshire.

A new born baby is a precious thing. That baby, as it takes its first few breaths, has its whole life ahead of it. Families are full of joy, hope and aspiration. As this little person grows to become a toddler and pre-schooler, their heads are full of creativity and ambition.

Whatever their background, they crave new experiences and soak up information like sponges. Whether they live in a remote village in the Moorlands or a busy estate in one of our towns, it's our job to embrace this enthusiasm whilst they are young, help them to learn and give them the best possible start.

When they're at school or college, they will continue to grow and learn. It's our responsibility to support them and guide them in the choices they make. It's up to us to create opportunities for them to get the knowledge and skills they need for a great job, a rewarding career and the best shot at life.

As they become parents themselves, our children will have ambition and aspiration for their families and communities, making Staffordshire a great place to live for everyone.

This is what we want for our children, this is what we want for all children and young people and we're determined to work together to make it happen.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This is a partnership framework for education and skills providers, partners and stakeholders across Staffordshire. This is not a county council strategy: it is a partnership framework that has been jointly developed by a reference group of education providers, partners and council officers from across Staffordshire.
- 1.2. The partnership framework being consulted on reflects our shared ambition to improve the life chances and opportunities for our learners and citizens.
- 1.3. This framework will steer our combined efforts and resources. Through working together, we know that we can make a real difference to the life chances of children and young people and to Staffordshire's future economy, providing we collectively aspire to help all children and young people to succeed in their education and ensure that no one is left behind.
- 1.4. This is a partnership framework that is based on education and skills providers as partners and leaders of the education landscape. A landscape that is characterised by multiple networks, alliances and overlapping partnerships, with their own internal governance and accountabilities.
- 1.5. Within the continually evolving education and skills landscape, there is a need for a shared vision with an agreed set of principles and clear priorities to help deliver that vision.
- 1.6. The partnership framework has been developed by a reference group of educational professionals and it seeks to:
 - *establish a Staffordshire-wide education culture based on a clear moral purpose where the conditions are such that providers are prepared to challenge and support each other*
 - *take decisions that are in the collective interest of children and young people in the wider community, as well as the interests of students, pupils and parents at their own institution.*
- 1.7. The framework will assist partners in the delivery of better outcomes for the people and communities of Staffordshire. Each partner plays a part in providing the opportunities for children and young people to get the best start in life, to acquire the knowledge and skills they need for a great job, a rewarding career and to be happy and healthy.

- 1.8. The education and skills strategy is an overarching partnership framework for Staffordshire under which other education and skill-based strategies and approaches are developed and implemented, reflecting and working towards the realisation of the ambition set out within this framework.

- 1.9. In the current economic climate, where partners and providers are under increasing financial pressure, working together within the resources available will be a more efficient and effective way to achieving our ambition for the children and young people of Staffordshire.

2. Current context

- 2.1. The education landscape is changing nationally and locally. In Staffordshire there is a diverse mix and sizes of institutions providing opportunities to children and young people from early years through to adulthood, from individual childminders who may be caring for just a few children to universities with 15,000 students.
- 2.2. Existing networks are being remodelled, new partnerships are evolving and roles and responsibilities are changing. Clearly setting out how we will all work together, to champion the interests of all children and young people, will enable us to keep a clear focus on providing the very best outcomes for Staffordshire's children and young people in an outcomes-focused and highly inclusive environment.
- 2.3. This aspiration can only be delivered through a shared sense of moral purpose and responsibility across the education landscape in Staffordshire. Therefore, the ability to articulate our shared moral purpose and the need for effective system-wide collaboration to improve outcomes and realise our vision will be key.
- 2.4. We know that parents, carers and families have the most direct and lasting impact on children's learning and development. Where possible we will work in partnership with parents, carers and families to support them in helping their children succeed in education in its broadest sense. We will promote inclusion and cohesion in our education communities and equality of access and opportunity for all.
- 2.5. We can only achieve this through active collaboration by all educational providers and other partners. These include the West Midlands Regional Schools' Commissioner and representatives of the Department for Education; leaders of all our educational settings (from early years to higher/ further education skills and employment) whether they be, for example, private, voluntary or independent sector, maintained schools (including mainstream, special, PRUs), academies (including mainstream, special, PRUs), multi-academy trusts, teaching schools alliances, further education colleges and training providers.
- 2.6. In a county as big as Staffordshire, we have a flourishing and diverse population of children and young people. There are around 170,00 children: almost 12,000 have an ethnic minority background and around 150 languages are spoken. Over 80% of the county is classified as rural but just under 1 in 4 of the population live in rural areas. Some parts of the county are in the top 20% of

most affluent areas in the UK whilst others are in the 20% most deprived, but almost all consider Staffordshire as a safe place to live.

3. Vision and Principles

- 3.1. This vision and underpinning principles describe our collective ambition and aspirations for education and skills in Staffordshire. We believe that the county of Staffordshire is a great place to grow up and live. Our children and young people deserve the best possible education to prepare them for their futures lives. Our shared aspiration is that Staffordshire should be one of the best places in England to access education and skills.
- 3.2. This vision and principles have been developed with reference to, and the engagement of, leaders from the sector and reflect the changing roles and accountabilities for education and skills in the County. They provide a basis to consult more widely with education leaders, learners, families and employers across the sector over the coming months.

Vision for Education and Skills for Staffordshire

- 3.3. The vision encompasses education and skills from birth to leaving formal education and entering adulthood and will require leaders across the sector to work collectively to achieve it. We want our vision to be compelling, to inspire leaders in the system, and raise the aspiration of young people and families to live, learn and work in Staffordshire.
- 3.4. The vision is that:

Every Staffordshire child deserves the best possible education and to leave school or college equipped with the learning, skills, aspirations and opportunities they need to continue lifelong learning and forge their successful career, with fulfilled healthy lives, as responsible adults.

Principles for Education and Skills for Staffordshire

- 3.5. There are three principles that underpin how we can achieve our Vision and these are:

Principle 1: A sustainable education and skills landscape with leadership that is built on morals, ethics and trust, is underpinned by transparency and is accountable for the outcomes for all Staffordshire learners

Principle 2: All children get the best start in life from birth, helping children build strong foundations so they can continue to grow, learn and succeed in education.

Principle 3: Every child and young person has an equal opportunity to achieve and is equipped with the values, skills and knowledge necessary to progress into adulthood with a fulfilled life, to build their rewarding career and to continue their learning journey.

Principle 1: A sustainable education and skills landscape with leadership that is built on morals, ethics and trust, is underpinned by transparency and is accountable for the outcomes for all Staffordshire learners

- 3.6. For the education and skills partnership framework to be delivered successfully, we need system leaders to engage and provide positive leadership whilst being accountable for institutional outcomes and holding others to account.
- 3.7. Through partnerships, alliances and networks we will continue to build new, collaborative ways of working effectively together to deliver our shared vision. The system will be self-supporting, sustainable and self-improving and will learn from the best people, institutions and evidence.
- 3.8. Through partnerships working to deliver this vision we will strive to improve life chances and opportunities for learners and citizens in Staffordshire.

Principle 2: All children get the best start in life from birth, helping children build strong foundations so they can continue to grow, learn and succeed in education.

- 3.9. We know that what happens at home is also a major influence on a child's development. We want to better support parents and carers to encourage early years learning by providing them with the right information and tools. We aim to provide them with the opportunity to develop their own skills as parents, families and communities through formal and informal learning.
- 3.10. Early education plays an essential role in childhood development, both socially and academically. We want to ensure that children from all backgrounds can access high quality early years education that will put them in the best position to thrive and learn when reaching school age.
- 3.11. The relationship between parents and providers is critical for children to grow, learn and succeed. Both share a responsibility to ensure a positive and productive relationship.

Principle 3: Every child and young person has an equal opportunity to achieve and is equipped with the values, skills and knowledge necessary to progress into adulthood with a fulfilled life, to build their rewarding career and to continue their learning journey.

- 3.12. We want all our children and young people to secure the knowledge and skills they need to succeed and achieve their potential through a high-quality education and skills system. Great teaching and learning across the whole of Staffordshire is key to ensuring that all children have an equal chance of success based on talent and potential, regardless of their background, disadvantage or vulnerability.
- 3.13. Staffordshire's education and skills system will be the passport to opportunity for our children and young people. We want to ensure that all our children and young people participate in this system and take advantage of the opportunities education can offer them.
- 3.14. Our children's core literacy and numerical skills, which provide the foundation for successful adulthood and a rewarding career, will be enriched by a creative, vibrant and appropriate curriculum. This will ensure that every child has the opportunity to develop their skills in a number of areas.
- 3.15. Parents and carers are fundamental in helping to guide a child's talents and ambition in building a career. Parents need to be given the right information advice and guidance to choose the best route their child, whether technical, academic or an apprenticeship. This also means ensuring that young people are equipped with the right attitudes and behaviours necessary for the world of work.
- 3.16. We recognise the importance of learning and development at home, through education and within the workplace because people who have a propensity to learn make good role models, successful employees and make a positive contribution to Staffordshire.
- 3.17. Staffordshire is a locality that prides itself on a culture of lifelong learning and healthy living, which is not only good for our children and young people it also makes economic sense, as it is good for productivity and the Staffordshire economy.

4. Governance and Structures

- 4.1. The current educational landscape is complex and continues to evolve. This landscape is characterised by a plethora of overlapping partnerships, networks and alliances. Within this context we recognise the importance of the opportunity to bring leaders together, connect to best practice within and beyond the system, facilitate partnerships. This will enable all of us in Staffordshire to work towards shared strategic principles to improve outcomes and children's and young people's life chances.

Individual provider

- 4.2. We need and expect all those who are part of the education and skills system to understand their responsibility and accountability to achieve the outcomes and vision as set out within this partnership framework.



- 4.3. For institutions we want them to achieve the best outcomes for their communities with a responsibility to help parents. For parents we want them to have aspiration for their children to achieve the best outcomes and children to be inspired to build a rewarding career, have the right attitude for the world of work and be active citizens within the community with a love of learning.

Locality or sector cluster

- 4.4. We recognise that there are existing and developing locality structures, relationships and networks which include Early Years providers, training providers, employers, mainstream schools, FE, special education, PRU. We would rely on these to continue to address the needs of individual and local settings and providers whilst reflecting the Staffordshire ambition, vision and principles.



Provider networks/ area groups

- 4.5. These networks and groups would be necessary to provide the possibility of co-ordination of the partnership framework across a local area and the link with existing district/ area based/ county wide groups. The established groups and networks which include Early Years providers, training providers, employers, mainstream schools, FE, special schools and PRUs as well as district councils and providers of social care are continuing to develop and are implementing strategies including a place-based approach to earliest and early help, SEND prototypes and transformation, inclusion agenda, family health and wellbeing through the district family improvement boards.



Proposal for the Education and Skills Strategic Group for Staffordshire

- 4.6. Through partnerships, alliances and networks we will continue to build new, collaborative ways of working effectively together to deliver our shared vision. The system will be self-supporting, sustainable and self-improving and learn from the best people, institutions and evidence.
- 4.7. This group would be responsible for the facilitation of the Education and Skills partnership framework as an overarching umbrella embracing existing clusters and networks in Staffordshire.



- 4.8. This group will identify and agree Staffordshire wide priorities based on analysis of trend performance information and comparison to national data sets. Using this intelligence, the group will identify key hotspots and areas of success. The group will be responsible for the communication and information sharing with all stakeholders.
- 4.9. For the education and skills partnership framework to be delivered successfully, we need system leaders to engage and provide positive leadership, whilst being accountable for institutional outcomes and holding others to account.
- 4.10. Through partnerships working to deliver this framework we will strive to improve life chances and opportunities for learners and citizens in Staffordshire.
- 4.11. Once consultation ends on 21 December, the feedback will be reviewed and considered by the reference group on 24 January 2019 and the Education and Skills Strategy finalised and agreed.
- 4.12. By April, an Education and Skills Strategic Group would be established (see the draft Terms of Reference in Appendix 1) and its initial actions would be to:
- Assess available evidence to identify strengths and variation in outcomes
 - Agree the priorities that the group will take forward
 - Develop delivery plan/s that engage system leaders
 - Develop communications plan to engage with all involved within the sector.

Links to other strategic partnerships

- 4.13. The Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is charged with the economic growth of the local economy and this partnership framework will support the education and skills priorities.
- 4.14. The Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB), through the Family Strategic Partnership Board (FSPB), is charged with giving children the best start in life and maximising potential and ability. These are reflected in the principles within this framework.

Terms of Reference for the Staffordshire Education and Skills Strategic Group

1. Purpose

The purpose of the group is to lead the delivery of the Education and Skills Strategy: a partnership framework for Staffordshire. The group members hold the responsibility for identifying priorities and reviewing available information to evaluate the impact on outcomes for the people and communities of Staffordshire.

2. Membership

To provide continuity, it is proposed to maintain representation from the range of providers and partners on the reference group:

- Early Years maintained providers
- Early Years PVI (private, voluntary and independent) providers
- Special School Headteacher Forum
- Primary School Headteacher Forum
- Middle School Headteacher Forum
- Secondary School Headteacher Forum
- University Technology College (UTC)
- Staffordshire Schools Forum
- Staffordshire Teaching Schools Alliances
- Staffordshire Governors
- A large Staffordshire MAT
- A large national MAT with schools in Staffordshire
- Staffordshire Joint Advisory Council (JAC)
- College/FE providers
- Staffordshire County Council
- Entrust

Membership would be widened to include representatives of:

- Staffordshire parent governors
- Staffordshire academy trustees
- Diocese of Lichfield
- The Archdiocese of Birmingham
- Training providers
- Universities
- Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire LEP (Learning and Enterprise Partnership)
- Office of the Regional Schools Commissioner for West Midlands

3. Functions and outputs

In the first instance, Staffordshire County Council will convene the strategic group. The strategic group is facilitated and co-ordinated by Staffordshire County Council.

The functions of the strategic group are to:

- Assess available evidence to identify strengths and variation
- Consider and agree the priorities for the Education and Skills partnership framework;
- Develop and implement a communication plan to engage with all involved across the sector and share success and hotspots
- Develop delivery plan/s that engage system leaders in focussing attention on the key outcomes that will lead change and have the greatest impact
- Share available information and intelligence
- Evaluate the impact and outcomes
- Promote the engagement and ownership of all stakeholders.
- Model the behaviours of support, challenge and accountability
- Continue to review and refresh the partnership framework and delivery plans in line local and national landscape

The outputs of this group will be:

- Education and skills partnership framework
- High level priorities
- Communication plan
- Delivery plan/s
- Evaluation of impact

4. Roles

- We all commit to support the functions and outcomes of the group
- To share our perspectives on the current and future education landscape
- Share and exchange information which will assist in the delivery of the partnership framework
- The county council will convene and facilitate the Group
- The county council will ensure communication with all education providers, undertake consultation and collate and report feedback
- Education providers will act as a reference point for debate and dialogue with peers and reflect feedback and engagement

Roles and responsibilities

Parents: a parent's role in their children's learning evolves as they grow, however, one thing remains constant: parents are their children's learning models. Attitudes about education can inspire their children and show them how to take charge of their own educational journey. They have a responsibility in providing guidance and information throughout their learning journey.

Early years providers: All providers must meet the standards identified within the Early Years Framework 'to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life'

Governing Body and Trusts: As the education system is changing, increasing focus is being placed on the role and effectiveness of governing boards. In fulfilling their role within the overall system of accountability, Governing Body and Responsible Authorities for Governance operate within a framework of autonomy and have the primary responsibility for their own performance. The Governing Body and Responsible Authorities for Governance hold responsibility for the delivery of an appropriate curriculum and, in secondary schools, option choices. They also have the responsibility for the development and embedding of rigorous self-evaluation using individual school outcomes to set priorities to drive planning to secure continuous improvement for the attainment and progress of all their pupils. They use all available resources as self-managing schools to secure improvement in standards and quality.

The Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) in the West Midlands: The RSC is responsible for approving and monitoring academies and free schools on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education. The RSC is accountable to the National Schools' Commissioner. The RSC also has a role to address underperformance in Staffordshire LA maintained schools that are "failing", through sponsored academy arrangements, and to address underperformance in coasting Staffordshire local authority maintained schools or maintained schools requiring improvement through warning notices and notice periods for improvement.

Colleges, universities and training providers: These education providers have the same responsibilities as other educational institutions but are also required to meet the priorities as set out by the appropriate Local Enterprise Partnership which includes working with employers to design flexible programmes and delivery methods. Delivering appropriate training/learning that improves people's chances of being competitive in the labour market. Delivering a high quality and appropriate curriculum through the required vocational qualifications. Giving graduates the right skills that employers need and are asking for. Improving employer involvement in designing courses including Higher Apprenticeships. Appropriate Labour Market Information (LMI) awareness and advice and guidance given to students.

The local authority (LA): The local authority retains statutory functions for early years and childcare including securing sufficient childcare for working parents, providing information, advice and assistance to parents and information, advice and training to childcare providers.

The LA supports the provision of excellent education for all children of compulsory school age so that every child has a school place, ensuring fair access through admissions and transport arrangements and ensuring the needs of vulnerable pupils are met.

Local authorities retain the duty to ensure that pupils have the opportunity to attend schools that are good or better, with powers to intervene where there are concerns about standards in maintained schools and to liaise with the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) where we have concerns about an academy school.

In respect of post-16 education and training the local authority responsibility is to secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for all young people in their area aged 16-19 and up to 25 for those with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). They promote the effective participation in education and training of 16 and 17-year olds and identify 16 and 17-year olds who are not participating in education or training and providing support to enable participation.

The role of the LA in education has evolved to encompass three key areas of responsibility: as a convenor of partnerships; as a champion of children, families and communities; and as a maker and shaper of effective commissioning.

Employers: Employers are responsible for articulating the skills required to meet business needs. Supporting and delivering activity that improves careers advice and guidance. Offering work experience and traineeships. Developing the workforce by implementing apprentice and graduate recruitment policies. They are also required to help meet the priorities as set out by the appropriate Local Enterprise Partnership.

Principle 1: A sustainable education and skills landscape with leadership that is built on morals, ethics and trust, is underpinned by transparency and is accountable for the outcomes for all Staffordshire learners

Draft outcome measures	Key Performance indicator Examples	Staffordshire	National	Statistical Neighbour (if available)	Variation Minimum (if available)	Variation Maximum (if available)
System leaders provide effective challenge and support to their peers Levels of engagement in the system Sustainable and affordable that lives within means Open, transparent and evidence led	fixed term and permanent exclusions					
	Progress measures					
	Participation rates					
	Destinations					
	Looked After Children, Youth Offending Service, EHE					

Principle 2: All children get the best start in life from birth, helping children build strong foundations so they can continue to grow, learn and succeed in education.

Draft outcome measures	Key Performance indicator Examples	Staffordshire	National	Statistical Neighbour (if available)	Variation Minimum (if available)	Variation Maximum (if available)
Parents are informed and equipped to support child development Parents engage with learning and education early– accessing the system before the age of 5	take up of funded child care including vulnerable families					
	BRFC outcomes					
	Literacy and language development					
	Social and emotional health					
	good level of development					

Principle 3: Every child and young person has an equal opportunity to achieve and is equipped with the values, skills and knowledge necessary to progress into adulthood with a fulfilled life, to build their rewarding career and to continue their learning journey.

Draft outcome measures	Key Performance indicator	Staffordshire	National	Statistical Neighbour (if available)	Variation Minimum (if available)	Variation Maximum (if available)
	Examples					
<p>An inclusive system with an equal chance of success</p> <p>G&T/Most able</p> <p>disadvantage, vulnerable learners, SEND performance</p> <p>High quality education and skills offer</p> <p>Parents and families are informed and engaged in securing the best outcomes for their families</p> <p>Children and young people are equipped through education to become successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors, responsible citizens</p>	Reduced fixed term and permanent exclusions					
	Improved attendance, reduced absence, reduced PA					
	Narrowing gaps data					
	Pupil Premium/Disadvantaged					
	SEND Performance					
	% Good & outstanding providers					
	NEETS, Youth unemployment, work readiness/experience					
	Gatsby Benchmarks					
	English & Maths 5+					
	English & Maths 7+					
STEM						

Young people are best prepared for the world of work and are career ready	Functional Skills					
	T-level/Apprenticeship					
Higher productivity, higher skills and better pay	SCYVS/NCS					
	Level 2 and Level 3 attainment at 19					
	Progression to HE/higher Apprenticeships					
	Improved skills levels					
	Basic skills, ESOL and digital					

Local Members' Interest
N/A

Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee - 14 December 2018

Elective Home Education - Executive Response

Recommendation

- a. That the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee considers the Executive response to the final report and recommendations of its Review of Elective Home Education.

Report of Scrutiny and Support Officer

Reason for recommendation

1. The investigation by the Review Group considering Elective Home Education was completed in May. Its final report and recommendations were considered by the Select Committee at its meeting of 19 July 2018. At that meeting Members agreed the report and recommendations and endorsed their submission to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People for his Executive response. The Executive response is now attached (appendix A).

Report

Background

2. The Corporate Parenting Panel (CPP) made a referral to both the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee and the Safe and Strong Communities Select Committee in respect of its concerns over the potential vulnerability of Elective Home Education (EHE) pupils in Staffordshire. Following this referral, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of both Select Committees gave consideration to whether there was value in considering this issue again after elements of EHE had been considered as part of the Children Missing Out On Education Working Group in 2014. As a result of the significant increase in EHE numbers, changes to many of the reasons for pupils becoming EHE and changes to the EHE Policy they felt a review would be beneficial.

Summary

3. The Review Group held an inquiry session where it met with a range of Staffordshire parents who had elected to home educate their children, as well as head teachers and officers, to help establish the level of EHE in Staffordshire and the reasons for becoming EHE, specifically why the number of those becoming EHE had risen so significantly.
4. The most significant rise in EHE numbers was around poor school attendance and avoiding prosecution/exclusion. The Review Group has concerns over the reasons behind this rise, which is mirrored nationally, and hopes that this report highlights their concerns whilst suggesting ways to mitigate them.

5. Its report and recommendations were considered by the Select Committee at its meeting of 8 June 2018, where Members agreed the report and its recommendations for submission to the Cabinet Member.
6. Data below in table 1 from this academic year 2017/18 demonstrates that the trends previously identified are continuing, however, it is noted that so far this year there are low numbers of parents choosing to EHE due to a risk of permanent exclusion. It is also noted in table 2 that the highest numbers of students going EHE remains in key stages 3 and 4.

TABLE 1 Reason for EHE	New EHE learners 2018/19
Alleged bullying	4
Attendance issues	26
Awaiting information	15
Dissatisfaction with School Provision	14
Parental Medical issue	3
No Satisfactory School Place	3
Philosophical	8
Physical or Medical need of Child	1
Problems SEN Provision	3
Risk Exclusion	2
Social/Emotional/Mental Health	15
Grand Total	94

TABLE 2	Count of Stud ID
Early Years	4
Key Stage 1	4
Key Stage 2	24
Key stage 3	32
Key stage 4	30
Grand Total	94

Next Steps

7. The Select Committee needs to consider the Cabinet Member's response to the Inquiry report and recommendations and how it will monitor the agreed actions.

Link to the Strategic Plan

8. Ensuring that Staffordshire's children and young people feel safer, happier and more supported in and by their community.

Implications

9. The equalities and legal; resource and value for money; and risk implications are set out in the Review Group report.

Contact Officer

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Appendices:

Appendix A: Review of Elective Home Education – Executive Response Action Plan

Background papers:

- Final Report of the Review Group on Elective Home Education
- Minutes of the 19 July 2018 Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee

Review of Elective Home Education – Executive Response Action Plan

Safe and Strong and Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee 11 and 14 December 2018

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Recommendation		Proposed action (or action already taken)	Lead Member/Officer	Deadline
No. 1	That the Cabinet Members support representations being made to Ofsted about the mechanism in place to take account of the reasons for de-registration and, where there is a disproportionately high number de-registering for EHE, consider more closely the reasons behind this.	<p>Officers have a regular meeting with regional representatives from Ofsted and the Regional Schools Commissioner. At these opportunities information will be shared of any disproportionately high numbers of EHE activity by an individual school, as well as continued dialogue around the wider issue of rising numbers of EHE children in Staffordshire.</p> <p>Staffordshire County Council will write to all schools and chair of school governors highlighting the concerns around rising EHE numbers, and potential coercion from schools.</p>	<p>Karl Hobson Tim Moss</p> <p>Karl Hobson</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>October 2018- Completed</p>
2	That the Cabinet Members consider how the annual event to celebrate the achievements of the EHE community can be supported and facilitated.	EHE officer to liaise with members of the EHE community and libraries to see if an event can be organised for 2018/19.	Karl Hobson	July 2019

Review of Elective Home Education – Executive Response Action Plan

	Recommendation	Proposed action (or action already taken)	Lead Member/Officer	Deadline
		to support the work of the EHE officer.		
4	That the introduction of a registration scheme for all children of statutory school age who are, or become, electively home educated, be supported and that the Cabinet Members be asked to make representations and lobby in support of the current Private Members Bill introduced by Lord Soley on Home Education.	<p>Cabinet members have completed and returned a recent call for evidence by the DfE on EHE.</p> <p>The Director of Children’s Services will submit a response to the ADCS Survey in consultation with Cabinet lead.</p> <p>The cabinet member will write to Lord Soley in support of his Bill.</p> <p>The Cabinet member will write to local MP’s to express support for Lord Soley’s Bill.</p>		<p>ADCS – 04/10/2018- Completed</p> <p>31/12/2018</p>



Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee Work Programme 2018/19

This document sets out the work programme for the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee for 2018/19. The Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee is responsible for scrutiny of highways infrastructure and connectivity, flood and water management, education, learning and skills. As such the statutory education co-optees will sit on this committee. The Work Programme is linked to the Vision, Outcomes and Priorities detailed in the Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022.

We review our work programme at every meeting. Sometimes we change it - if something important comes up during the year that we think we should investigate as a priority. Our work results in recommendations for the County Council and other organisations about how what they do can be improved, for the benefit of the people and communities of Staffordshire.

County Councillor Ian Parry

Chairman of the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee

If you would like to know more about our work programme, please get in touch with Tina Gould, Scrutiny and Support Manager, 01785 276148 or by emailing tina.gould@staffordshire.gov.uk

Work Programme Items carried over from 2017/18			
Item	Date of meeting when item is due to be considered	Details	Action/Outcome
Review of Charging for Non-household Waste at Household Waste Recycling Centres (to include Large Scale Fly Tipping in Staffordshire) Cabinet Member: Gill Heath Lead officer: Clive Thomson/Chris Jones	4 April 2018	This item was called in and considered by the Corporate Review Committee on 26 October 2016. Members are asked to review the current arrangements that came into effect on 1.11.16. Member's views are sought on how largescale fly tipping is being managed. (Views of JWMB to be sought).	The Committee considered the impact of introducing charging for non-household waste at Household Waste Recycling Centres in Staffordshire. They suggested that additional measures should be taken to improve communications and publicise the charging policy.
SACRE Annual Report Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Emma Jardine-Phillips	4 April 2018		Copies of the Annual Report have been circulated to the Select Committee.
EU Funding Case Studies Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead Officer: Nigel Senior	4 April 2018	Item requested by the Committee at their meeting on 15 December 2017.	The Committee considered details of 3 EU Funding case studies.
Improving Attendance and participation in our schools and settings Cabinet Member: Philip White Lead officer: Karl Hobson	20 June 2018	Members previously considered this matter at their meeting in September 2015 and requested that the Attendance Working Group report further progress, including specific intervention showing how the principles and priorities work in practice; Post-16 changes and any impact these have on take up. 2017-18 Attendance figures not available until June 2018.	Staffordshire continued to have below national average rates in its primary, secondary and special schools. Absence from Pupil Referral Unit schools (PRUs) was a cause for concern. The local authority was working with the PRU headteachers to explore ways to improve attendance, and an independent review had been commissioned of the entire PRU estate.
Libraries and Arts Strategy: Phase 2 Cabinet Member: Gill Heath Lead Officers: Janene Cox/Catherine Mann	20 June 2018	Previously considered at the meeting in September 2017.	The Committee endorsed: the introduction of a self-service pilot; the evaluation and selection process to procure community managed library organisations; the existing support

			package and service specification for community managed libraries; and the application of the principles that had been consulted on to inform the mobile and travelling library service review.
Scrutiny Review of Impact of HGVs on Roads and Communities in Staffordshire – follow up of Executive Response Action Plan Cabinet Member: Helen Fisher Lead officer: Clive Thomson	20 June 2018	Members undertook a review of the impact of HGVs on roads in Staffordshire last year. Members are asked to continue to scrutinise the Executive Response Action Plan until all recommendations are completed or an explanation given. An initial Executive Response was scrutinised by the Committee on 13 September 2016.	The Committee received a briefing note on the action plan and implementation of the recommendations of the Working Together to Address the Impact of Heavy Goods Vehicles/HCVs on Roads in Staffordshire final report.
Midlands Connect Proposal to Become a Sub-National Transport Body – Consultation Cabinet Member: Philip Atkins/Mark Winnington Lead officer: Clive Thomson	20 June 2018	Pre-decision scrutiny (post May)	The Committee supported the proposal for Midlands Connect to become a statutory Sub-National Transport Body, with limited powers, rather than continuing under existing voluntary partnership arrangements.
Rights of Way Cabinet Member: Hele Fisher Lead Officers: Janene Cox/Nicola Swinnerton/Paula Dalton	20 June 2018	Item requested by members	The Committee considered a briefing note on the key outputs of the Public Rights of Way Review, and agreed to scrutinise the plans to deal with the backlog of Section 53 applications at their July meeting.
Rights of Way Cabinet Member: Mike Sutherland/Helen Fisher Lead Officers: Janene Cox/Nicola Swinnerton/Paula Dalton	19 July 2018	Issue regarding backlog of applications	Plans to Deal with Section 53 Backlog. A further update to be brought to the meeting in January 2019.
Economic Growth Capital and Development Programme to include Overview of Regeneration Projects and	19 July 2018	Item proposed by the Corporate Director for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills.	Members noted the work and progress of the Staffordshire County Council Economic Growth Programme and the Growth Hub and requested that a

<p>Growth Hub Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead officer: Anthony Hodge</p>			<p>breakdown of jobs by district and employment sector be provided to all members of the Council.</p>
<p>Inquiry Group Report on Elective Home Education</p>	<p>19 July 2018</p>	<p>Following a referral from the Corporate Parenting Panel a review group was set up conflated with members of the Safe and Strong Select Committee. Its first meeting was held on 12 January where Members received a briefing from officers. Further meetings were held, including the inquiry session scheduled for 21 March. The final report and recommendations will be considered by the Select Committee in readiness for forwarding to the Cabinet Member for his executive response.</p>	<p>The Select Committee endorsed the final report and recommendations of the Elective Home Education Review and agreed its submission to the appropriate Cabinet Members.</p>
<p>HS2 Construction Routes and Road Safety Cabinet Member: Helen Fisher/ Mark Winnington Lead Officer: Clive Thomson→James Bailey/Sarah Mallen</p>	<p>19 July 2018</p>	<p>Phase 2 under consultation</p>	<p>The Select Committee noted the work undertaken to date on efforts to influence HS2 construction routes, and the limited powers (as outlined in the phase 1 and phase 2a Hybrid Bill) available to the highway authority in respect of approving HS2 construction routes. Members agreed to assist in raising awareness of the HS2 Helpline and email for all queries and complaints regarding construction.</p>
<p>Update on Infrastructure + Improvement Plan and Performance Review based on 2017/18 Delivery/Highways Extra Investment Cabinet Members: Mark Deaville and Helen Fisher</p>	<p>19 September 2018</p>	<p>Members have been regularly involved in scrutiny of the contract arrangements with Amey. Members to scrutinise the Improvement Plan and Performance Review on a six-monthly basis. Members asked to scrutinise the</p>	<p>The Select Committee noted the progress which had been made on the Infrastructure+ Action plan and on the extra £5m investment in highway maintenance and asked for an update on the Highways Portal at their next meeting.</p>

Lead officer: James Bailey		county's investment in our road network. Members wished to consider the quality of repairs/failure rate.	
Delivering Housing in Staffordshire Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead officers: Mark Parkinson	19 September 2018		The Select Committee requested a further update in six months' time.
Freight Strategy Cabinet Member: Helen Fisher Lead Officer: Clive Thomson	15 November 2018		A number of Parish Councils and the Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association attended the meeting to contribute to the debate. The Committee made suggestions, observations and comments on the Strategy, which the Cabinet Member agreed to take on board as part of the consultation process.
Education and Skills Strategy: A Partnership Framework for Staffordshire Cabinet Member: Philip White Lead Officers: Tim Moss, Andrew Marsden, Anthony Baines	14 December 2018	Item proposed by the County Commissioner for School Quality Assurance and Intervention.	
Executive Response to the Report of the Working Group on Elective Home Education Cabinet Members: Mark Sutton/Philip White Lead Officer: Karl Hobson	14 December 2018	A review group had been set up jointly with members of the Safe and Strong Communities Select Committee, following a referral from the Corporate Parenting Panel.	
Safer Roads Partnership Cabinet Member: Helen Fisher Lead Officers: James Bailey/Mel Langdown	18 January 2019		
Car Parking Strategy Cabinet Member: Helen Fisher Lead Officers: James	18 January 2019	Pre-decision scrutiny.	

Bailey/Stephen Pritchett			
Countryside Estate Review – Final Proposals for Management and Delivery Cabinet Member: Gill Heath/Mark Winnington Lead Officer: Ruth Shufflebotham	18 January 2019	Pre-decision scrutiny.	
Rights of Way Cabinet Member: Mike Sutherland/Helen Fisher Lead Officers: Janene Cox/Nicola Swinnerton/Paula Dalton	18 January 2019	Issue regarding backlog of applications (last considered at the meeting on 19 July 2018).	Update on dealing with the backlog of Section 53 Applications (the number dealt with through delegation, and the number dealt with by the CRoW Panel).
Delivering Housing in Staffordshire Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead officer: Anthony Hodge	1 March 2019	A further update in six months' time was requested by the Select Committee at their meeting on 19 September 2018.	
Economic Growth Programme Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead Officer: Anthony Hodge	1 March 2019	Six-monthly updates were requested at the Triangulation Meeting on 17 October 2018.	
Post Brexit Economic Funding Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead Officer: Anthony Hodge	1 March 2019	Requested at the Triangulation Meeting on 17 October 2018.	
Sportshire Strategy and Major Events Evaluation Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead Officer: Ben Holland	Briefing Note	Strategy reviewed in December 2015. Members asked that future evaluation reports include a detailed cost benefit analysis and that any figures used to highlight the success of events should be robust. The negative impact on local communities of Sportshire events was acknowledged and the Select Committee wish to ensure that everything possible is done to	Briefing Note requested.

		mitigate these in future. An evaluation report of the 2017 Ironman event was requested to be brought to a Select Committee meeting approximately three months after the event.	
Post-16 (now Post 18) Education Provision Cabinet Member: Philip White Lead Officer: Tony Baines	To be advised	Item proposed by the Cabinet Member for Learning and Skills.	
Community Transport and Supported Bus Network Cabinet Member: Mark Deaville Lead Officer: Clive Thomson	To be advised		At their meeting on 14 November the Committee agreed to monitor the impact of the removal of bus subsidies going forward.
Capital Programme: Funding for New Schools Cabinet Member: Philip White Lead Officer: Andrew Marsden	To be advised		

Working Groups			
Entrust Service Level Agreement Key Performance Indicator Working group Cabinet Member: Mark Deaville Lead Officer: Ian Turner/Karen Coker	Scrutiny and Support Manager to discuss timing with Chair/Vice Chair	Following consideration of Education Support Services – Commissioning and Contract Performance on 22 January Members agreed to set up a Working Group to consider the review of KPIs and the information they wished to scrutinise in future.	Committee agreed that new Members should be sought and a further meeting of the Group arranged. Chairman to discuss way forward with Cabinet Member for Commercial. Update: Cabinet Member for Commercial is preparing an update for the Committee. Advised to defer setting up of Working Group until this has been received.
Elective Home Education Cabinet Member: Philip White Lead Officer: Karl Hobson		Item referred by Corporate Parenting Panel – August 2017 (NB also referred to Safe and Strong Communities Select Committee)	A review group has been set up jointly with members of the Safe and Strong Select Committee. Its first meeting was held on 12 January where Members received a briefing from officers. A planning meeting was held on 31 January with the inquiry session on 21 March. The Inquiry Group then compiled their

			report and recommendations which the Select Committee endorsed and agreed its submission to the appropriate Cabinet Members at their meeting on 19 July 2018.
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<p>Membership</p> <p>Ian Parry (Chairman) Julia Jessel (Vice-Chairman) Ron Clarke Tina Clements Keith Flunder Bryan Jones Kyle Robinson David Smith Simon Tagg Bernard Williams Mike Deakin (Co-optee) Andrew Mason (Co-optee) Rev. Preb. Michael Metcalf (Co-optee) Jessica Shulman (Co-optee)</p>	<p>Calendar of Committee Meetings at County Buildings, Martin Street, Stafford ST16 2LH</p> <p>4 April 2018 20 June 2018 19 July 2018 19 September 2018 15 November 2018 14 December 2018 18 January 2019 1 March 2019 25 April 2019</p>
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