

Ofsted Inspection of Local Authority School Improvement Arrangements Scrutiny Review – Executive Response Action Plan

Date:

	Recommendation	Proposed action (or action already taken)	Lead Member/Officer	Deadline
1.	<p>The Working Group were impressed with the Data Dashboard and felt this was an excellent resource and monitoring tool, one that was easy to use and that helped accurate analysis of a schools progress across a number of areas. The working group therefore recommended that Staffordshire school governors be given access to this database and are made fully aware of the opportunity this resource offers</p>	<p>The Dashboard has continued to be developed and in particular there are discussions underway to find an effective mechanism for better sharing of key intelligence with schools, including governors. One option being explored is through Nexus – a shared platform that is already available and used for data collection and reporting purposes. Meanwhile, data is shared via Core Groups in schools – and through the key relationship schools have with County Managers for Education and their Commissioning Manager for School Improvement.</p>	Tim Moss/Anne Newton	
2.	<p>There are over 400 education settings within Staffordshire and work is ongoing to share the new school improvement approach and documentation with them. The working group felt It was essential that these settings understand how the new system operates. Schools have been invited to district briefings</p>	<p>Details of the district briefings were shared with Members via the Members Bulletin</p> <p>District meetings ran as planned and over half of schools attended. Further communications have reinforced and reiterated the publication of the Framework for</p>	<p>Lynn Coates</p> <p>Anna Halliday/Anne Newton</p>	Completed 17/01/2014

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<p>throughout January and the beginning of February and the working group felt that there was a role for local members to play in ensuring their local schools attend these briefing sessions, recommending that local members be given details of the district briefings via the Members Bulletin and contact their local schools to ensure they are attending</p>	<p>School Improvement which describes the new system end to end.</p> <p>Further work is needed to strengthen and embed awareness and understanding, as recent Focused Inspection Survey by Ofsted reported some confusion in schools about the new approach.</p> <p>Briefing sessions with members have been offered and with limited attendance. Updates through members bulletin have also been utilised.</p>		
<p>3. There have been a number of changes to the structure, roles and responsibilities of those within education and skills and this should be reflected in the web pages, both intranet and internet. We understand that these changes have been made and that “cold call” checks are also being made to ensure the detail is up to date and easily accessible. However on further inspection the</p>	<p>The structure diagram was updated and issued out to schools and further work has been undertaken to update the web pages. Recent changes to the Staffordshire Learning Network (SLN) means that further work is ongoing to update and redesign the internet/intranet pages in order to make key documents and information readily accessible. This work is being monitored through the</p>		

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	<p>People Service leadership structure remains out of date. The internet and intranet pages, as well as the Staffordshire Learning Net, are a useful source of information for inspectors and as such we the working group recommended that they should be kept up-to-date.</p>	<p>Ofsted Programme Board which meets monthly.</p>		
4.	<p>Whilst being impressed by the dedication and work undertaken by key officers throughout this process the working group had concerns that during the preparation for the Entrust joint venture with Capita, and indeed as a result of the transition of staff through this process, key expertise was lost. The working group were aware that Staffordshire was currently in the process of undertaking further commissioning opportunities and wished to highlight the difficulties in the loss of expertise and in the uncertainty created during the transition process. The working group recommended that the</p>	<p>Cabinet member responded to this point.</p> <p>Further work has been done to strengthen the Client side function, including contract monitoring arrangements. Reporting processes have been redesigned and formats refined to make reporting more effective. The governance structures have continued to strengthen as they establish, including a “commissioners” group that brings the range of internal commissioners together to review contract arrangements and delivery.</p>	<p>Ben Adams</p> <p>Matt Prisk</p>	

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receive the education they were entitled to and wished to be updated on progress with this			