

HARROW COUNCIL

Meeting:	Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Date:	13 October 2004
Subject:	Review of Phase 3 delegated funding for pupils with SEN statements in mainstream schools
Responsible Chief Officer:	Director of Organisational Performance
Status:	Part I
Ward:	N/A
Enclosures:	Appendix A - Scope of the Review Appendix B - Pre-scoping Meeting of the Review of Phase 3 SEN Delegated Funding

1. **Summary**

- 1.1 This report sets out the scope for the Review of Phase 3 delegated funding for pupils with SEN statements in mainstream schools.

2. **Recommendations**

- 2.1 **That the Sub-Committee approve the scope for the review.**

3. **Consultation with Ward Councillors**

- 3.1 N/A

4. **Policy Context (including Relevant Previous Decisions)**

- 4.1 When considering items for the work programme for 2004/05, the Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committee agreed to examine plans to move away from costed statements to a formula funding model for special educational needs. At the Cabinet meeting on 17 February 2004 it was agreed that Phase 3 of the proposals should be deferred until early 2005 in order to allow for greater consultation and additional time to make the case for a change from the statementing system. The Sub-Committee agreed that they would like to contribute to the development of these changes.

- 4.2 Relevant previous decisions:
Minute 137: Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committee, 22 April 2004
Minute 155 (i): Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committee, 28 June 2004

5. **Relevance to Corporate Priorities**

- 5.1 Supports the corporate priority of promoting Harrow as a centre of lifelong learning as well as improving the quality of health and social care in Harrow and discharging the Council's statutory duty in this area.

6. **Consultation**

6.1 Groups that the review group intends to consult are detailed in the scope. The consultation will need to complement and be consistent with the overall consultation process that will be put into place by the LEA.

7. **Finance Observations**

7.1 Finance observations will be sought when the review group produces its final report.

8. **Legal Observations**

8.1 Legal observations will be sought when the review group produces its final report.

9. **Conclusion**

9.1 Members are requested to approve the scope.

10. **Background Papers**

10.1 None

11. **Author**

11.1 Heather Smith, Scrutiny Officer, 020 8420 9203, heather.smith@harrow.gov.uk

HARROW COUNCIL**LIFELONG LEARNING SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE****PROJECT SCOPING**

1	SUBJECT	Phase 3 delegated funding for pupils with SEN statements in mainstream schools
2	COMMITTEE	Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committee
3	REVIEW GROUP	Councillors: Mitzi Green (Lead), Cllr Mary John, Cllr Janet Mote, Cllr John Nickolay, Cllr Marie-Louise Nolan Co-opted Members: Mr Humphrey Epie, Dr Judith Wilson
4	AIMS/OBJECTIVES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To examine effects in other authorities of delegated funding for pupils with SEN statements in mainstream schools and to identify best practice. 2. To provide evidence for Cabinet for its decision on Phase 3 delegated funding and to identify best practice for the transition process to such arrangements. 3. To investigate means of ensuring that parents and stakeholders are fully informed and consulted on proposals for delegated funding.
5	MEASURES OF SUCCESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of the project on time to enable report to contribute to service development. • Contribution to policy development through identification of good practice in other authorities. • Active consideration of recommendations by the executive.
6	SCOPE	To investigate the proposals for changing SEN statement funding.
7	SERVICE PRIORITIES (Corporate/Dept)	Supports the corporate priority of promoting Harrow as a centre of lifelong learning as well as improving the quality of health and social care in Harrow and discharging the Council's statutory duty in this area.
8	REVIEW SPONSOR	Paul Clark, Director of Children's Services
9	LEAD OFFICER	Heather Smith, Scrutiny Officer
10	SUPPORT OFFICER	Roger Rickman, Group Manager – Enhanced Services
11	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	Administrative support in arranging and recording findings of meetings to come from Scrutiny team. Much of the information support will come from People First.
12	EXTERNAL INPUT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other local education authorities

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Partnership • SENCOs • Governors • Headteachers
13	METHODOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desktop research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Literature/policy review - data analysis - best practice in other authorities/experience of transition • Evidence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SENCOs / Governors / Headteachers - Visits to other local authorities
14	ASSUMPTIONS/ CONSTRAINTS	Review is tightly focused on identifying best practice, as officer and Member resources are limited. To include possible implications for staff. Service area has already been subject to wider reviews.
15	TIMESCALE	October 2004 – January 2005. It is intended that the report be referred to Cabinet for consideration alongside the annual report on changes to school funding.
16	SCRUTINY RESOURCE COMMITMENT	<p><u>Scrutiny team</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop and manage the review - Carry out comparative research - Arrange/service member outreach - Draft Reports <p><u>People First</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advise on work programme - Supply relevant evidence - Take part in evidence gathering - Comment on draft reports <p>Scrutiny team resources to be proactively managed, with flexible deployment, pooling of resources and re-allocation of any 'spare' resources wherever possible.</p>
17	REPORT AUTHOR	Scrutiny Officer/Review group

Contact: Heather Smith, Scrutiny Officer, 020 8420 9203, heather.smith@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers: None