

**REPORT FOR: EDUCATION
CONSULTATIVE FORUM**

Date of Meeting: 7 November 2011

Subject: **INFORMATION REPORT – Local
Authority Strategic Role for
Education in Harrow – Update
Paper**

Responsible Officer: Catherine Doran, Corporate Director of
Children’s Services

Exempt: No

Enclosures: Annexe A - Summary of the DfE
Schools White Paper and Education Bill
Implications

Section 1 – Summary

This report provides the Education Consultative Forum with an update to the June 2011 report about the future strategic role of the Council for education in Harrow.

FOR INFORMATION

Section 2 – Report

1. At its meeting on 27 June 2011, the Education Consultative Forum received an information report about the *Local Authority's Strategic Role for Education in Harrow* outlining some of the changes to schools and the Council arising from the proposed Education Bill 2011.
2. This report updates the Forum on developments in the areas described in the June report and adds commentary on new aspects of the emerging Local Authority education role for information.

Section 3 – Further Information

3. A report was presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 19 May 2011, which included an update from the Education Consultative Forum. Cabinet agreed in principle to the education consultation mechanisms being reviewed and revised and recommendations being brought back to a future meeting of Cabinet. Cabinet requested a further report be received in the Autumn to confirm the progress in the following areas:
 - Decision Making and Consultation Forum
 - Strategic Role for Schools
 - Support services for Schools.
4. At its meeting on 27 June 2011, the Education Consultative Forum noted the information report and agreed that the role of the Forum would need to be re-considered as and when further detail of the White Paper proposals, and the subsequent legislation, was confirmed. The Education Bill is currently in the Report Stage of the House of Lords and is likely to receive Royal Assent later this year or in early spring 2012.
5. Attached at Annexe A is a summary of the DfE Schools White Paper and Education Bill Implications. The Annexe summarises the future role of the Local Authority by key areas. High level details are then provided on the emerging Government policy, the local position in Harrow and an up-date for October 2011.
6. Work will be progressed by officers in the coming months to ensure that the Local Authority's strategic responsibilities are delivered, principally in the implementation of the New Operating Model within Children's Services.

Section 4 – Financial Implications

7. There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report as the review will be undertaken from within existing resources. If the review proposes changes to services these would be subject to further consideration and approval, with any financial implications highlighted and incorporated into the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Section 5 – Equalities Implications

8. An Equalities Impact Assessment has not been undertaken at this stage, and will be undertaken when officer work is progressed in relation to any future recommendations.

Section 6 – Corporate Priorities

9. These considerations will support the Council's Corporate Priorities for 2011-2012:
- United and involved communities: a Council that listens and leads
 - Supporting and protecting people who are most in need

Name:	Emma Stabler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date:	17 October 2011		

Section 7 – Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Adrian Parker, Head of Education Strategy and School Organisation, Children's Services, 020 8736 6522

Background Papers:

Report to Education Consultative Forum on 27 June 2011

<http://www2.harrow.gov.uk/documents/s89167/INFORMATION%20REPORT%20-%20Local%20Authority%20Strategic%20Role%20for%20Education%20in%20Harrow.pdf>

Report to Cabinet on 19 May 2011 - Local Authority's Strategic Role for Education in Harrow

<http://www2.harrow.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=249&MId=60264>

The Importance of Teaching: The Schools White Paper 2010

<http://www.education.gov.uk/b0068570/the-importance-of-teaching/>

The Education Bill 2011

<http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/departmentalinformation/educationbill/a0073748/education-bill>