



Education & Skills Board  
Wednesday 8 March 2017

## Surrey Education in Partnership

**Purpose of the report:** Policy Development

To share feedback from recent engagement with Surrey's schools community and set out next steps for the Education in Partnership programme.

### Introduction

1. Surrey's Education in Partnership (EiP) programme is seeking to work with education providers and other stakeholders to:
  - i. achieve a shared understanding of the changes taking place in education and their potential impact;
  - ii. build on strengths to improve educational outcomes for children and young people;
  - iii. support school leaders to find the right solutions to local and county-wide issues; and
  - iv. co-design and make the transition to a resilient and inclusive schools-led system.
2. Between September and January, as part of the 'discovery' phase of the EiP programme, colleagues in Surrey's schools community were invited to share their thoughts on the changes taking place and on Surrey's current education system.
3. These conversations have helped to establish a shared understanding of the changing education landscape, highlighted priority themes and generated a body of knowledge that will inform work to co-design Surrey's future education system.

### Engagement analysis

4. Conversations were structured around four open questions consistent with the Safer Surrey framework, with which participants were invited to identify and discuss their own priority themes:
  - i. What are you worried about?

- ii. What is working well?
  - iii. What do you need to know more about?
  - iv. What needs to happen?
5. Analysis of responses to these questions has produced an overview of Surrey's current system – including strengths, areas of concern and where more information is required – and identified key themes to develop as the programme progresses.
  6. Incorporating this information into the co-design will enable a strengths-based approach and will support the transition to a resilient schools-led system.
  7. The Education & Skills Board is invited to consider the key themes identified in the analysis, and to consider how its members could support the development of the EiP programme.
  8. To support this discussion, a presentation will be made to the Board at its meeting on 8 March 2017, providing more a more in-depth analysis of the engagement feedback and plans to take the priority workstreams forward.

**Working with Local Committees**

9. At its meeting on 24 November 2016, the Board recommended that the Local Committee Chairmen be invited to discuss and support the EiP programme.
10. On 31 January, the Local Committee Chairmen received an update on the programme to date, and discussed key issues relating to national policy, funding changes, budget pressures and the importance of ensuring a coordinated approach with other priority areas, such as Surrey's Early Help and SEND provision.
11. It was agreed that the Local Committees would seek to support this work going forward, and Members were keen to support engagement with schools in their constituency areas.
12. In light of the forthcoming local elections and the subsequent Member induction programme, there is an opportunity to hold a session on the changing landscape of education, and the changing role of the council and its elected Members within that.

**Suggested recommendations:**

13. That the Education & Skills Board:
  - i. note and comment on feedback provided by schools as part of the Education in Partnership 'discovery' engagement; and
  - ii. identify areas in which its members can support future activity the Education in Partnership programme.

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**Sources/background papers:** N/A

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