

<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>8 FEBRUARY 2017</b>
<b>DISCUSSION WITH THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS</b>
<b>REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR STRATEGY AND RESOURCES</b>

## **1 Purpose**

- 1.1 An opportunity to hear from the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills on his key priorities, objectives in 2016/17 and current challenges.

## **2 Action required**

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to use the information received at the meeting from Councillor Sam Webster, Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills, to inform questioning.

## **3 Background information**

- 3.1 On 9 November 2015, the Council Plan was formally approved by Full Council and this will guide the Council's services and approach to support the delivery of its key priorities for the city over the next four years to 2019.
- 3.2 Each Portfolio Holder has been consulted on the deliverables in their area and the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills (formerly the Portfolio Holder for Schools) will attend the Committee to outline his overall vision for his executive portfolio.
- 3.3 When the Council Plan 2015-19 was published, Councillor Sam Webster identified the following priorities for schools:
- aims over the next 4 years:
    - access to a good school close to home for every young person in Nottingham;
    - enable children in the city to achieve their potential at school and in later life;
  - key things that will be done:
    - ensure every child in Nottingham is taught in a school judged good or outstanding by Ofsted;
    - increase the number of young people getting 5 or more A\*-C grades at GCSE, including English and Maths, to above the national average;
    - guarantee a choice of places for every child at a local primary school;

- create more special school places for children's additional needs.
- 3.4 Since 2011, the portfolio has achieved the following for schools:
- improved attendance by reducing absence to 4.4% in city primary schools, down from 5% in 2011/12 and below the English average;
  - 50% of children gained 5 or more good GCSEs in 2012, a third higher than in 2007;
  - continued to invest in schools by improving the buildings at a further 19 schools, taking the total investment to more than £250m;
  - invested in a further 7 primary schools to increase the number of places available and to improve facilities.
- 3.5 Since the Council Plan was approved, portfolio remits have been revised and Councillor Webster's role now covers education, employment and skills. This has resulted in the inclusion of the following priorities in Councillor Webster's remit:
- aims over the next 4 years:
    - see every person in Nottingham with the skills and ambition to find work and create jobs to give our working age citizens the incentives to seek work and be involved in training and self-improvement by themselves;
  - key things that will be done:
    - guarantee a job, training or further education place for every 18-24 year old;
    - use our influence to deliver a co-ordinated further education offer within the city that is judged good or outstanding by Ofsted.

#### **4 List of attached information**

4.1 None.

#### **5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information**

5.1 None.

#### **6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

6.1 Council Plan 2015-19.

#### **7 Wards affected**

7.1 All.

## **8 Contact information**

- 8.1 Laura Wilson  
Senior Governance Officer  
0115 8764301  
[laura.wilson@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:laura.wilson@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)