



REPORT TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE

20 JULY 2017

Report by: GwE Managing Director

Subject: GwE Annual Report 2016-17

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To present the GwE Annual Report for 2016-17.

2.0 Background

2.1 As is stated in the GwE Inter Authority Agreement, GwE will report annually on the performance of the Service in delivering the Service Functions and Key Aims.

2.2 The draft version was presented at the last Joint Committee meeting & has been revised following further consideration.

3.0 Considerations

3.1 Our vision states that in GwE we will have:

Outstanding schools naturally collaborating and jointly identifying direction for improvement which will deliver excellent standards and wellbeing for their pupils.

3.2 To achieve this vision we will set ourselves and schools minimum or required expectations.

These expectations are:

- Good leadership and management;
 - Good teaching;
 - Eradicate in school variation;
-

- None of GwE schools to feature in Estyn statutory categories;
- Pupils learning and wellbeing at least good; and
- Successful Futures in place

3.3 To achieve our vision and expectations we have defined service and personal values which will help guide us in our work. These include:

- Trust;
- Show no bias;
- Fairness;
- Respect diversity;
- Supportive and collaborative;
- Bilingual;
- Objectivity;
- Demand high standard;
- Integrity.

3.4 GwE's business plan priorities for 2017-18 are as follows:

- **Standards** – to ensure the highest standards at all key stages and that all learners make appropriate progress in literacy and numeracy from one key stage to another. That all learners achieve qualifications relevant to their ability and potential and are working towards being bilingual by the age of sixteen.
- **Curriculum and assessment** – to ensure that all schools deliver an engaging curriculum which responds to the statutory requirements of the national curriculum. Ensure that all learners are supported to achieve qualifications which enable them to be ambitious capable learners that reach their potential. Ensure all schools have robust assessment processes in place with strong targeting, tracking and intervention procedures.
- **Leadership** – to ensure that all leaders have a clear educational vision and can plan strategically to achieve this. Ensure that all learning organisations have the leadership capacity at all levels to inspire, coach, support, share practice and collaborate at all levels to ensure all learners' achieve their potential. Ensure that the principles of distributive leaderships are embedded in all learning organisations across the region.
- **Wellbeing** – create the conditions to ensure that learners develop as healthy, resilient and globally responsible individuals and provide an inclusive, aspirational education system, committed to tackling inequality so that young people achieve their full potential.
- **Teaching** – to ensure that all teachers and support staff are equipped to have a clear understanding of what constitutes effective teaching, based on reliable evidence. In addition, the ability to deliver a range of approaches, effectively matching the needs of the learners with the context, to ensure positive impact on learning and achievement is paramount.
- **Business** – to ensure that GwE has strong governance and effective business and operational support that provides resource for money.
- **Estyn recommendations** – to ensure that necessary progress is made against all recommendations within the expected timeframe:
 - **R1:** Ensure that the school improvement service uses data, target setting and tracking procedures more effectively to challenge and support schools in order to improve performance of all learners across schools and local authorities, particularly at key stage 4.
 - **R2:** Improve the quality of evaluation in the delivery of school improvement services.

- **R3:** Improve the rigour of the arrangements for identifying and managing risk.
- **R4:** Ensure that business and operational plans contain clear success criteria and that progress against these is monitored effectively.
- **R5:** Clarify the strategic role of the regional networks and their accountability to the Joint Committee.
- **R6:** Develop an appropriate framework to assess value for money; ensure that the business plan is accompanied by a medium-term financial plan and that work-streams are fully costed.

4.0 Recommendations

4.1 The Joint Committee is asked to recommend & accept the report.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

6.0 Equalities Impact

6.1 There are no new equalities implications arising from this report.

7.0 Personnel Implications

7.1 There are no new personnel implications arising from this report.

8.0 Consultation Undertaken

8.1 The GwE Management Board has been consulted during the development of the document.

9.0 Appendices

9.1 GwE Annual Report 2016-17

OPINION OF THE STATUTORY OFFICERS

Monitoring Officer:

No comments from a propriety perspective.

Statutory Finance Officer:

Nothing to add from a financial propriety perspective, however some sections of the report refer to “next steps”. It will be necessary to operate within the current financial resources, which include a savings target of £131,967 set in the 2016-17 budget, where the Managing Director is expected to present an action plan.