



REPORT TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE

24 FEBRUARY 2016

Report by: GwE Lead Director / Chair of Management Board

Subject: Partnership Agreement (LA's & Schools)

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To present for information the Partnership Agreement between the 6 North Wales Local Authorities and their schools.

2.0 Background

2.1 Section 197 of the Education Act 2002 requires LAs to enter into a partnership agreement with the governing body of each school maintained by the authority. The purpose of the agreement is to sustain and enhance existing partnership working between LAs and schools.

2.2 The agreement must set out how a LA and a governing body will carry out their respective statutory functions in relation to a school and in relation to meeting the needs of all pupils in compliance with the 1996 Education Act / the SEN and Disability Act 2001 / the SEN Code of Practice for Wales 2002.

2.3 The agreement will be reviewed at intervals of no more than three years and any review will begin six months before the expiry date. It should also be noted that the agreement refers to several policies which will need to be reviewed at more frequent intervals.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 The Joint Committee is asked to note the content of the Partnership Agreement.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5.0 Equalities Impact

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

6.0 Personnel Implications

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

7.0 Consultation Undertaken

7.1 The agreement has been developed by the GwE Management Board.

8.0 Appendices

8.1 Partnership Agreement

OPINION OF THE STATUTORY OFFICERS

Monitoring Officer:

Comments will be presented orally at the meeting.

Statutory Finance Officer:

I believe that financial and budgetary aspects of the "Partnership Agreement" presented to the Joint Committee reflect the current financial and budget position and requirements within the individual local authorities (eg p.6 - financial administration to be in accordance with the Council's financial regulations, p.7 - schools to ensure best value using the public resources available to them, p.14 - in exceptional circumstances a local authority may suspend the governing body's right to a delegated budget etc.).

Any additional comments will be presented orally at the meeting of the Joint Committee.