

BRISTOL

LEARNING CITY

Minutes / Action Notes
Learning City Partnership Board Meeting
26 September 2018

Actions Summary

Agenda Item	Actions from meeting	Who	When
Priority actions and development	Bristol City Council and University of Bristol to discuss sharing of information and analytics regarding HE widening participation	Dr Jacqui Jensen	14 November
Progress:			
Wider Learning City Updates	Board members to submit agenda items for update in advance of future meetings	All	14 November
Progress:			
Wider Learning City Updates	The Recruitment and Retention Group to give greater focus to BME recruitment and report back to the Board at future meetings	Tommy Jarvis	14 November
Progress:			
One City Plan	Partnership Board to sign off on the learning narrative for the One City Plan. Draft outline to be shared with Board members	Tommy Jarvis	14 November
Progress:			

Attendees, Board members:

Cllr Anna Keen, Bristol City Council Cabinet member for Education & Skills - Chair
 Jon Angel, Bristol Secondary Head Teachers and Principals Association
 Jim Bowyer, Special Schools Partnership
 Jacqui Jensen, Executive Director – Adults, Children & Education, Bristol City Council
 Lee Probert, City of Bristol College
 Professor Judith Squires, University of Bristol

Apologies:

Chris Curling, Society of Merchant Venturers
 Sandra Meadows, VOSCUR
 Jo Midgely, University of the West of England
 Laurence Pitt, Primary Headteachers and Principals

Other attendees:

Andrea Dell, Bristol City
Louise deCordova, Bristol City Council
Chrysta Garnett, Bristol City Council
Debbie Miles, Bristol City Council
Nakita Singh, Bristol City Council
Council
Tommy Jarvis, Bristol City Council

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Cllr Keen welcomed attendees to the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves.

PRIORITY UPDATES AND DEVELOPMENT

The following updates were provided:

1. School Attendance

Cllr Anna Keen presented an update.

The Learning City Partnership Board has delegated authority to take key decisions regarding Bristol City Council's Education, Learning and Skills functions. It is recommended that the key decision for the School Attendance Strategy is taken at the Partnership Board. It is also asked that the Learning City Partnership Board provide feedback and input during the consultation process.

In discussion the following points were raised:

- School attendance has an impact on the whole city, on student attainment and post 16 progression and should continue to be reported on at this Board
- Schools and multi-academy trusts follow different processes for managing attendance, it could be beneficial to have a 'Bristol View'
- An attendance summit is planned with invitations sent to all school leaders. The aim of the event is to share best practice and agree next steps
- It is important for all board members to continue to raise this issue as a key city focus at board level
- It was noted that reporting included a high proportion of representation of SEND and ethnic student groups. There was no clear correlation with pupil premium recipients, but it was noted that low attendance was a serious safeguarding issue
- It is important to highlight where percentage improvements had been recorded

2. Post 16 strategy

Lee Probert presented an update.

The Board was asked to note the report and actions taken to progress the new task and finish group; to consider options for resourcing this work; and to support the new task and finish group by acting as a champion for this collaborative planning process.

In discussion the following points were raised:

- There is a need to sense check any capacity issues that may emerge and ensure the right balance of provision exists across the city. Access to good quality provision needs to be more coherent with more A-level provision rather than vocational apprenticeships, for example in South Bristol
- There was currently a fractured post 16 picture and more work was being done to ensure the right membership of the group to make the progress required and secure buy-in at the decision-making levels of organisations. The support of universities was required to understand what a post 16 curriculum needed to look like, incorporating the views of private providers
- The group were planning to recruit a project officer to develop supporting data 'one version of the truth'.
- There are national metrics for widening participation. Bristol's low participation rates were a combination of a range of factors, many socio-economic. It was considered that predictive analytics could provide additional data to map areas in the city where these factors were most felt. Bristol City Council held analytics which could be usefully shared with the group.

3. Reading City

Prof. Judith Squires presented an update.

The project was at a critical point regarding initial funding allocation to ensure the project can continue to move forward. It was essential that Reading City remains a priority during the changeover of the education senior leadership at Bristol City Council. The Learning City Partnership Board had a role to play to ensure this remained a priority.

In discussion the following points were raised:

- KPMG Foundation had contributed £45k funding for reading recovery for 6 year olds across the city, this had replaced funding that had been lost for 4 schools
- There was ongoing work with 5 European cities such as Gothenburg, to share practice regarding libraries and reading and support the objective to get reading right in Bristol
- Applications for lottery funding needed to be supported with the demonstrable evidence that reading recovery leads to good outcomes and the quality of Ofsted results
- The need to have a spotlight on the primary cohort was understandable, but the exclusion of family literacy and numeracy could be a missed opportunity

WIDER LEARNING CITY UPDATES

Cllr Keen proposed that this should be a standing item on future agendas and be an opportunity for all Partners to update the board on the wider work progressing in their own organisations.

Recruitment and retention

It is recommended that the Partnership Board continue to support the work of the group and use their individual and collective influence, and resource to address the challenge of teacher diversity.

Main points raised in discussion:

- There was recognition that levels of stress was driving the retention issue and this had been a clear focus of the commissioned wellbeing pilot. It was noted that the pilot has been successful, but it was not clear whether the model was an easily transferable and practicable model for staff. There may be other options available that could be explored
- There had been 44 responses to a recent Headteacher survey, with results currently under review to identify key themes
- A recent report from Inside Out West, highlighted the underrepresentation of black and minority ethnic teachers in Bristol schools. In discussion the members considered how as a group they could do more to improve recruitment and retention of BME teachers. There are existing opportunities, for example widening participation, FutureQuest, Leadership for Learning and Stepping Up that could be aligned to this work. In addition, more needs to be done to ensure teaching is seen as a viable career path for underrepresented groups.

Independent /State School Partnership

Tommy Jarvis presented an update.

The Partnership Board was asked to support the group as it develops, including identifying future priorities and opportunities.

The following points were raised in discussion:

- It was important to ensure buy in at the right level so that the partnerships also considered the wellbeing of state schools and delivered benefits for all young people
- There was a suggestion that Independent schools do not currently meet the cost of some of the hospital education services they access, and contributing to this would send a positive message

- The scholars programme continues to have high aspirations and the first cohort of Bristol scholars have all passed their first year. The University of Bristol sees a clear role in this work and can provide a neutral space that could be used for meetings and events

Ofsted

Inspecting Local Authority Children Services (ILACS)

Jacqui Jensen provided an update.

- The process was intensive and showed that recent self-assessments have been fairly accurate with respect to leadership, health and protection, and the overall effectiveness, with significant improvements since 2014. However educational outcomes needed to be better. The embargo on public reporting ceases on 22 October

SEND Area Review

Nikita Singh provided an update.

- A SEND inspection is expected in the New Year and is likely to focus on how services link between health and social care and alternative education provision. Details about the judicial review have been circulated and a plain English guide is available online

One City Plan Update

Andrea Dell, presented the update.

The Board was asked to support the progress of the One City Plan and provide comments in respect of the Education theme.

In discussion the following points were raised:

- The City Office was responsible for building the governance, structure and momentum for the plan which must enable innovation and collaboration whilst retaining some flexibility. The next city gathering will take place in January and will launch a detailed iteration of the One City Plan, and a timeline and vision of the city to 2050
- Current work was being done to build the narrative to deliver a statement of intent and a statement of need in respect of the challenges the city needs to address
- Members supported the view that children and lifelong learning should be separate themes and agreed that this could come to the November meeting for a wider discussion about the direction of travel
- Education and wellbeing was linked to a range of topics which can affect outcomes. It needs to be clear what themes should work together for individuals to do well
- There was a question of whether the One City Plan should have more emphasis on people. The current emphasis appears to be on place and there may be opportunities to show the relationships between the themes

- For the plan to be a pragmatic tool there needs to be clarity around how to coalesce around an issue and to mobilise resource
- It was suggested that feedback was sought from head teachers and young people
- It was noted that communication guidelines need to be shared quickly so that Members could refer to it when speaking with their organisations and networks

Board membership and Terms of reference

- Tommy summarised the changes. The Board agreed the revised Terms of Reference
- Cllr Keen thanked Chrysta on behalf of the Board for her valuable contributions to date and wished her well with her next endeavour
- The Board was asked to note that Alan Stubbersfield was the new Director of Education replacing Sue Rodgers and that Richard Hanks, School Improvement Officer would be acting up into Chrysta's post

Notes and actions from last meeting – 6 June 2018

- The notes of the 6 June meeting were confirmed as a correct record and noted

The Meeting Closed at 6.30pm