

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

MONDAY 29 JANUARY 2001 AT 10.00 AM

COUNTY COUNCIL

THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2001 AT 10.30AM

Agenda Item No.

15

ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

HERTFORDSHIRE'S EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2001/02 DRAFT

Report of the Director of Education

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Executive Member:- Keith Emsall

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To propose to the County Council an Education Development Plan (EDP) for 2001/02, following consultation with schools and other partners and in the light of comments from the Children Schools and Families Select Committee.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The draft EDP for April 2001 to March 2002 is circulated with this report. The Select Committee's comments will be made available for the Cabinet meeting. The Plan is the last stage in the three-year plan, first agreed in 1999. It was circulated to all schools and other stakeholders as an initial draft early last term, and copies were also sent to all County Councillors. Comments made during the consultation have been incorporated into this draft. Cabinet, at their meeting on 20th November also considered the initial draft; and invited the Select Committee to submit comments for the Cabinet to consider on 29th January.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The LEA's approach to the EDP has been well received by schools and Ofsted, who wrote in the LEA inspection report that it was "a very good EDP, well written, well organised". About 130 people have contributed to the consultation on EDP 2001/02. Many on behalf of large groups of people. Their responses have been very supportive. Many detailed comments were made and have been included in the draft. After taking account of the Select Committee's comments, Cabinet are asked to propose the EDP 2001/02 to County Council.

1. Background

1.1 As in the last two years, the Plan is organised around ten priorities:

- Standards and the Curriculum
- Staffing and Training
- School Management and Organisation
- Community Education
- Behaviour and Motivation
- Budget and Assets
- Management Information and Communications
- New Technologies
- Special Educational Needs
- Early Years

1.2 Each priority includes key activities, there are a total of 28; and for all key activities there are a number of actions, a lead officer and detailed tasks that will be undertaken next year.

1.3 During the consultation, comments were sought on the most important aspects of next year's Plan. There was a great deal of agreement that these were:

- Improve the recruitment and retention of teaching staff
- Support headship and school leadership developments
- Continue to ensure accelerated progress for targeted schools
- Develop and implement relationships and the protocols between schools and the new CSF service
- Use ICT throughout the curriculum and in school management
- Develop and implement a strategy for gifted and talented children
- Develop and implement community-based preventative strategies to try to stop things going wrong before we have to help to put them right

2. Progress over the last year and targets

2.1 Targets for improvement upto 2002 have been set in the Plan; and the actual achievement in 1998, 1999 and, only in some instances 2000, are recorded under each priority. The targets are for the financial year, i.e. 2001/02, and with two months to go some of the actual figures for 2000 are not yet available. In a very small number of cases, data was incorrectly prepared in earlier versions of the plan and has been corrected in this draft. Each priority begins with a summary assessment of progress over the last year.

2.2 Last year when Education Committee considered the draft of the 2000/01 Plan they decided that targets for future years should be revised upwards if they had been surpassed by the actual achievement. No targets have been revised downwards.

2.3 The following targets for 2001 have already been achieved.

<u>Page 5:</u>	S&C3	Percentage of Key Stage 2 pupils achieving level 4 or above in Science
	S&C4	Percentage of schools with 80% of their Key Stage 2 pupils achieving level 4 or above in English

<u>Page 6:</u>	S&C18	Percentage of boys achieving above average in English at KS2
	S&C22	Percentage of pupils entered gaining A*-C in Spanish

<u>Page 37:</u>	B&M3	Number of permanent exclusions from primary, secondary and special schools and among African-Caribbean children
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3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are none arising directly from this report, because the cost of implementing the activities set out in the 2001/02 Plan, estimated at £21.9 million or £128 per pupil, has been included in next year's draft budget.
- 3.2 The detail of the EDP resources is set out on pages 1 and 2 of the draft Plan. However, it is important to note that these figures may change as the final details are incorporated into the 2001/02 budget.

Background information referred to by the author whilst compiling this report.

Initial Draft Education Development Plan 2001/02 circulated for consultation
Autumn term 2000.