

Committee(s): Education Board	Dated: 02/12/2022
Subject: City Schools' Conference Evaluation	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	3, 8, 9 & 10
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	Y/N
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author: Vasima Patel, Events Coordinator & Executive Administrator	

Summary

This report updates Members on the recent Annual City Schools' Conference and provides insights on the evaluation feedback from the event.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The Education Board have strategic oversight of the delivery of the City Corporation's Education, Cultural and Creative Learning and Skills 2019-23 Strategies.
2. Goal one of the Education Strategy commits to ensuring that pupils in the Family of Schools have access to transformative education, enabling them to achieve their potential, flourish and thrive. As part of the annual Action Plan 2022-23, within education, one of the high-level strategic actions is to deliver academic excellence and innovative approaches to teaching and learning. This is achieved through the annual City Schools' Conference.
3. In addition to the three strategies, the City Schools' Conference also takes into consideration the aim of the City Corporation's Social Mobility Strategy 2018-28 which is to bridge and reduce the social and economic divides that may be experienced by people during their lifetime, by maximising and promoting social mobility within businesses, organisations, central and local government and educational and cultural institutions statutory requirements and good practice.

Current Position

4. On Monday 3 October, in collaboration with The City of London Academies Trust, The Education Strategy Unit (ESU) hosted the annual City Schools' Conference 'Educating London 2030: Social Mobility – The new Challenge in London'.
5. The aim of the conference was to bring together London's community of educational practitioners around the topic of social mobility. The theme of the conference was inspired through the findings from the 'One City Two Worlds Report' (Appendix One), which evidences how despite London having strong academic attainment and a dynamic job market, young people are still suffering from some of the worst employment rates compared to their peers across England. As a result, the conference explored the barriers to social mobility, how best to break these down, and models of best practice.
6. The conference consisted of five keynote speakers, 10 panel members, 19 discussion facilitators and two Members of the Education Board who officially opened and closed the event. It was attended by over 120 key stakeholders from London Borough's educational contacts, cultural partners, businesses, education charities and members of staff from across the Family of Schools.

Evaluation feedback

7. Feedback surveys were used to gain insight from conference guests and acted as the main method of data collection. The key data is highlighted below:
 - 95% agreed that they had learnt new things and stated how they intended to share this new knowledge with others.
 - 80% agreed they had made meaningful connections that will enable them to take further action on the challenges addressed.
 - 95% agreed they gained useful knowledge or insight by interacting with people from other organisations and sectors.
 - 'Informative', 'networking' and 'opportunities' were amongst the top key words which were used by conference guests to describe their experiences.
 - Overall, most attendees rated the event as 'excellent.'
8. Recommendations for next year's conference include, but are not limited to:
 - Wider representation from across both local and central Government departments.
 - Have a greater focus on youth voice and ensure young people are considered as key stakeholders, specifically those with SEND.
 - Providing a space for further networking, post-event.

Proposals

9. This report is for information only

Options

10. This report is for information only

Corporate & Strategic Implications

- City of London – Our Corporate Plan 2018-23
- City Corporation’s Social Mobility Strategy 2018-28
- City of London Education, Cultural and Creative Learning and Skills Strategies 2019-23

Conclusion

11. Overall, this year’s annual City Schools’ Conference was very successful, and it is clear from the data collected that there is a continued appetite, not just for the theme, but also, to gather individuals from different sectors to discuss a wide range of issues in one place. The ESU remains in a unique position to leverage its relationships with businesses, cultural institutions, and Family of Schools to ensure that pupils in the Family of Schools have access to transformative education, enabling them to achieve their full potential, flourish and thrive.

Appendices

- **Appendix One:** One City Two Worlds Report

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