

Committee(s): Education Board	Dated: 17/06/2024
Subject: Education Strategy Update	Private
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverse Engaged Communities • Providing Excellent Services • Leading Sustainable Environment
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?	N/A
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Decision
Report author: Torri Stewart, Lead Officer, Strategy & Impact	

Summary

This report updates Members on final development work for the 2024-29 Education Strategy. The report:

- Highlights updates which have been made to the strategy document to acknowledge input from the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Education Board.
- Requests approval of the document content (not it's design), so that the project can progress to the next phase.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the updates shared in this report, and approve the content of the updated strategy document.

Main Report

Background

1. As noted in the February 2023 meeting of the Education Board, the Education, Cultural & Creative Learning and Skills Strategies 2019-23 will expire at the end of the 2023 calendar year. As this falls in the middle of an academic year, to minimise disruption to ongoing activity, the Education Strategy Unit (ESU) will continue to deliver against these strategies until the end of the 2023/24 academic year.
2. Development of the new strategic framework has been delivered through multiple workstreams. The ESU conducted desk research which looked at three areas: (1) An analysis of the previous strategies; (2) A review of the current and near-future education landscape; (3) Identifying opportunities within the Corporation.
3. In parallel to this, extensive stakeholder engagement took place. In all, 121 people were engaged from groups including: teachers, headteachers, multi-academy trust CEOs, governors, education charities, education researchers, employers, arts & culture professionals, skills development specialists, the City of London Family of Schools (FoS), local authority officers, Members of the Education Board and Livery Companies & Guild Members.
4. Additionally, over 350 pupils across the Family of Schools were engaged via a pupil survey, and a small group of parents from the Family of Schools were engaged through a bespoke project developed in collaboration with Brunel University.
5. After distilling the combined findings of the landscape research and stakeholder engagement, seven areas emerged as options for the priorities which could be central to the new strategy. These were, 'Educational Excellence'; 'Health, Safety & Wellbeing'; 'Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI)'; 'Personal Development'; 'Employability'; 'Culture, Creativity & The Arts'; 'Technology'.
6. At the February 2024 meeting of the Education Board, Members decided that the new strategy should be structured around five explicit priority areas, these being:

Educational Excellence
Health, Safety & Wellbeing
Personal Development
Employability
Culture, Creativity & The Arts

Alongside this it was decided that Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and Technology should exist as overarching themes that run through all activity in all areas.

7. At the April 2024 meeting of the Education Board, Members reviewed and approved the proposed lists of actions and outcomes associated with each priority area. Members were also updated on elements of preparatory work being developed to support delivery against the new priorities.

Current Position

8. Following the previous meeting of the Education Board, and in close consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Education Board, final amendments have been made to the strategy document.
9. The start of the document now features a foreword from the Chair of the Education Board and the 'Introduction' section has been updated to better illustrate connections to the Corporate Plan 2024-2029. Particular attention has been paid to the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion section which has been further expanded. The 'Context' section has also been updated to summarise the national and regional state of play, and to reference technology more explicitly.
10. To illustrate the fact that the City Corporation is already delivering work that aligns with the new priority areas, examples of existing activity have been included in each priority section's introduction. Additionally, the actions and outcomes listed in each priority section have been adjusted in line with input from the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Education Board.
11. Finally, over-arching measures have now been included in each priority section. These measures have been developed in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Education Board, the Strategic Director of Education and Skills, and the Corporate Strategy & Performance Team.

Options

N/A

Proposals

12. With the development process for this piece of work now complete, the Education Strategy Unit requests approval of this document so that the project can be progressed to the Policy and Resources Committee, and then move into the production and delivery phase in advance of the start of the new academic year.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

13. Strategic Implications - This work is aligned with and will contribute to the outcomes of the City Corporation's Corporate Plan 2024-29, specifically 'Providing Excellent Services', 'Diverse Engaged Communities' and 'Leading Sustainable Environment'.

Conclusion

14. This report has highlighted the work which has taken place to develop the 2024-29 Education Strategy and asks Members to approve the draft so that the project can progress to the next phase.

Appendices

- **Appendix 1:** Education Strategy 2024-29 Full Draft - June 2024
- **Appendix 2:** Equality Impact Assessment

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