

Committee(s)	Dated:
Education Board	25 June 2015
Subject: Education Strategy Update Report	Public
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information

Summary

This report provides Members of the Education Board with a summary of key developments in the delivery of the Education Strategy. Each of the five strategic objectives of the Education Strategy is addressed (paragraphs 3 – 7) with examples of recent work and future activities.

A report including the full Education Strategy Development Plan will be submitted bi-annually.

Recommendation(s)

- Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The City of London Corporation Education Strategy 2013 – 2015 established five strategic objectives. Each objective is underpinned by a series of recommendations. Every recommendation identifies a key deliverable that the City is seeking to achieve and details specific actions that will facilitate this.

Current Position

2. The implementation of the Education Strategy is overseen by the Education Board. This report provides Members of the Education Board with a summary of key developments in the delivery of the Education Strategy. Each of the five strategic objectives of the Education Strategy is addressed (paragraphs 3 – 7) with examples of recent work and future activities.

Education Strategy Update

3. Strategic Objective 1: To promote and support excellent education and access to higher education
 - a) On 2 June the City of London Freeman's School published their ISI inspection report. The inspectors' judgements on teaching and learning, extra-curricular provision, pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural

development, pastoral care, welfare and health and safety were that they were all “excellent”.

- b) Following the Education Board’s approval of the Quality Assurance and Accountability Framework at its May meeting, this has been considered by the Chairmen of the City academies and will be discussed at the June meeting of the Headteachers’ Forum.

4. Strategic Objective 2: To strive for excellence in the City schools

- a) The Chairmen of Governors’ Forum met on 12 June 2015 and received updates on partnership activities, considered options for future clerking arrangements for governing bodies, and discussed the academic information that the City schools will provide to the Education Board.
- b) On 12 June 2015 Year 6 Students from Redriff Primary School enjoyed an informative tour of Mansion House from the Walbrook Keeper and had the opportunity to ask the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress questions about their roles.
- c) All Year 6 students at the City schools have been offered the opportunity to view the Magna Carta and will be provided with copies of a supporting academic publication, “the Magna Carta Chronicle”.
- d) Each secondary school has been offered the opportunity for seven students and one teacher to attend the Quit Rents Ceremony on 7 October 2015. This opportunity is aimed at students in Year 11 and above and should be of interest to those studying law or history.
- e) At its meeting on 19 June 2015, the Headteachers’ Forum will discuss the proposed Quality Assurance and Accountability Framework, the format for providing summer examination results data, options for future clerking arrangements for governing bodies, and opportunities to create partnerships to support careers guidance.

5. Strategic Objective 3: To inspire children through an enriched education and outreach opportunities

- a) The Learning and Engagement Forum continues to meet to discuss closer working. In addition, individual departments continue with their education programmes which include the events set out below:

Museum of London

- i. 11,336 pupils visited the Museum of London (MoL) or took part in sessions in schools during May.
- ii. 3,882 people took part in the MoL’s family programmes during May. These included half-term events and activities linked to London’s rich theatre heritage. Families also made string puppets, listened to Shakespearean stories, examined objects from Tudor theatres,

sang traditional songs and learnt dances from London's music halls, and re-enacted Georgian pirate plays.

- iii. MoL commissioned a company called Webcredible to consult potential users of the proposed Great Fire website and to scope and cost the options for it – they will report their findings at the end of July to enable the Learning & Engagement Forum to recommend a course of action.
- iv. London Metropolitan Archives (LMA), MoL, and Barbican have jointly commissioned Coda Consultants to consult schools about the proposed Hard Education project – they will be speaking to two secondary schools in every London borough and to groups of young people about their priorities for the project between now and the end of term. A full report will be available in early August and they will present their findings to the Learning & Engagement Forum. LMA, MoL, and Barbican also applied to A New Direction's Education Challenge Fund for funding (50% of overall costs) for the project and were one of the 11 projects to be shortlisted (from 45 applicants). The second stage of the application will be submitted by 14 July 2015, with a decision expected by the end of July.

The Barbican

- i. As part of the on-going development of the East London and City Culture Partnership the Barbican Guildhall creative learning team have convened meetings with key stakeholders in each of the partnership boroughs to share information regarding the Barbican Guildhall activity and plans, and deepen the relationships with partner boroughs.
- ii. Also in this period, final approval was gained from both the Barbican Board and Policy and Resources Committee for Drum Works to set up as a Community Interest Company. The company will retain a relationship with the Barbican through a partnership agreement and the new structure will enable the Drum Works project to develop new income generating activity strands and seek funding from new and additional sources in order to continue to expand and develop.

Tower Bridge

- i. The Tower Bridge learning programme ran an art stall at the City Life Community Fair, at Guildhall Yard on Saturday 13th June, where children created dragon masks inspired by the Victorian Gothic dragons on Tower Bridge.
- ii. A family learning event will be held at Tower Bridge on 20 June 2015, with storyteller Diana Olutunmogun performing a specially created story offering a fun way for families to learn about Tower Bridge's links to international trade, and the history of the local

area. There will also be an 'exploration table' of multisensory items related to the cargo and a craft table.

6. Strategic Objective 4: To promote an effective transition from education to employment
 - a) The Lord Mayor hosted a roundtable discussion at Mansion House on 8 June on apprenticeships, jointly with David Meller, Chair of the Government's National Apprenticeships Ambassadors Network, and also involving Tim Campbell MBE, the Mayor of London's Ambassador for Training and Enterprise. The aims of the event were to help increase the take-up of apprenticeships in financial and professional services and to understand any barriers to doing so. Around 35 City businesses attended, all of which will be approached to undertake a follow-up meeting with the National Apprenticeships Service.
 - b) The Policy and Resources Committee approved funding at its May meeting for a 'Study to Strengthen the City's Role in working with London's Communities'. The Study will look at the challenges faced by unemployed young Londoners, identify examples of good practice, consider what could be done differently to help address the problem and suggest some principles to guide further work in this area. It is intended that the Study Panel meets twice and culminates in a publication of a short report. Places on the Study Panel will be reserved for 3 Court Members, one of whom is to be drawn from the membership of the Education Board.
 - c) A report was approved by Policy & Resources Committee at its May meeting proposing a decision-making process for new ideas for employability initiatives, plus assessment criteria and guidelines for which types of idea the process would cover. This report is on your Board's agenda today, for information.
7. Strategic Objective 5: To explore opportunities to expand the City's education portfolio and influence on education throughout London
 - a) Members will receive an update on the two free school projects at this meeting.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

8. The Education Strategy complements and supports the City of London's corporate policies and objectives, as set out in the Corporate Plan 2013-2017.

Background paper

City of London Corporation Education Strategy 2013–15.

Joshua Burton

Policy Officer

T: 020 7332 1432

E: joshua.burton@cityoflondon.gov.uk