

## ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

<b>1. Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>
<b>2. Date:</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> December 2010</b>
<b>3. Title:</b>	<b>Scrutiny Review – Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHEe)</b>
<b>4. Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services</b>

### **5. Summary**

A review of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHEe) was conducted by Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel in conjunction with the Youth Cabinet. This Review has been considered by the Council's Strategic Leadership Team, whose comments on the findings and recommendations are attached for Cabinet's consideration (see Appendix 1).

### **6. Recommendations**

That Cabinet:

- a. **Note the Strategic Leadership Team's commentary on the Scrutiny Review into PSHE in Schools.**
- b. **Agree the recommended actions to the 16 Recommendations of Review as outlined in the final column of the Table in Appendix 1.**

## **7. Proposals and Details**

This report sets out the response to the Scrutiny Review undertaken by the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel into the provision of PSHEe in schools. The report was submitted to the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel on April 9<sup>th</sup> 2010. The Review Group decided that prior to the report going through the Council's reporting structures, a period of consultation on the feasibility and implementation of the report will be undertaken; including presentations to the meetings of the Secondary Headteachers and the Chair and Vice Chair of Governors. These meetings took place on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010 and 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2010 respectively.

In Rotherham, PSHEe support and guidance for schools is the responsibility of the Healthy Schools Team as quality PSHEe provision has been included within the National Healthy Schools Standards. Over the last ten years, all Rotherham schools have been engaged with the Rotherham Healthy Schools Programme which included working towards achieving National Healthy Schools Accreditation and also Rotherham Advanced HS accreditation reflecting local priorities. In 2009 we met the stretch target for the LA by exceeding the target set for the number of schools gaining National Healthy Schools Accreditation – 97% of Rotherham schools are accredited (the National target was 75%); the schools which are not accredited currently do not have timetabled PSHEe lessons for all students.

The Rotherham Healthy Schools team welcomed the review of PSHEe provision initiated by members of the Youth Cabinet and were buoyed by the fact that young people felt good quality PSHEe experiences for young people were vital alongside the importance for academic achievement. We feel the consultation process modelled good partnership working as it gave the opportunity for all relevant parties to be able to be involved in the consultation to help produce a good report with useful recommendations which support nationally recognised good practice within the area of PSHEe. The report will therefore be able to be used as an additional tool to continue to support and strengthen the provision of PSHEe across Rotherham.

The review made 16 recommendations in total and these have been discussed by relevant officers and comments given about each one. Each recommendation is listed in **Appendix 1** with a response which is intended to set out whether the recommendation is accepted [along with any caveats] or is partially or not accepted with reasons why this is the case.

Since the review was submitted, the change of Government has led to many changes which directly affect the ability of carrying out the Scrutiny recommendations for PSHEe.

## **8. Finance**

Appendix 1 details the financial implications of implementing the review recommendations.

Additionally, Members should note that the current Government changes regarding funding have implications for the School Effectiveness Service where the Rotherham Healthy Schools Team is based. There will be a reduction in staffing levels within the Healthy Schools team from five consultants and eight project workers to two consultants from January 2011 and no project workers from

March 2011. The responsibilities of the two remaining consultants are PSHEe and Healthy Schools work, so support for schools in these areas could still continue as well as support for the wider remits of Health; helping the LA to meet national and local targets linked to prevention and early intervention work via universal education (e.g. Drug education and Sex and Relationships education)

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

Changes to the Ofsted Inspection Framework weaken the links to PSHEe for example the 'School Level Wellbeing Indicators' and ECM will not exist and the SEF, which includes PSHEe/Health links as evidence of school improvement is likely not to be required as part of the inspection process.

The Government supports the continuation of the Healthy Schools scheme with a focus on local needs and led by schools. However, we believe that schools will need our continued support to achieve Rotherham priorities. The Government has also indicated its support for PSHEe especially linked to continued reduction in teenage pregnancies, reduction in young people's drug alcohol and tobacco misuse and increase in young people's financial capability. We await the publication of the Government's Education White Paper and the clarification locally regarding strategic decisions/funding which will affect the support available to carry out the recommendations in the PSHEe Scrutiny Review.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

See review report.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

See section 7 of review report.

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