

Making it in Burnley: the Aspiration Strategy

REPORT TO EXECUTIVE



DATE	19/12/2017
PORTFOLIO	Leader
REPORT AUTHOR	Rob Dobson
TEL NO	Ext 3115
EMAIL	rdobson@burnley.gov.uk

PURPOSE

1. To seek Executive approval of the *Making it in Burnley* Aspiration strategy.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Executive approve the strategy;
3. That it be recommended to Full Council to use up to £20,000 from reserves to help fund the growth of the Children's University Burnley Campus ;and
4. That it be recommended to Full Council that the Council's draft revenue budget for 2018/19 includes an increase to meet an anticipated shortfall in external funding for the Children's Partnership Co-ordinator post.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

5. The Council has a long standing commitment to help raise aspiration and attainment. The strategy summarises the reasons for this, sets out the Council's current actions, and also puts forward a number of proposals for future investment in the period up to 2020.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

6. The Council's current contribution includes:
 - a. strategic leadership: the Chief Executive supports the Burnley Learning Partnership and is instrumental in bringing partners together at a strategic level
 - b. an annual contribution of £10k towards the £25k costs for the part time Children's Partnership Co-ordinator post
 - c. £55k per annum towards Primary Engineer this year and in 18/19.
7. The draft strategy includes making a three year commitment to the establishment of a Children's University (CU) in the borough. Children's University is a national charity based in Manchester. Its innovative Passport to Learning encourages children from the age of 5 to try new learning experiences outside of school hours at approved learning

destinations.

8. The programme operates as a Social Franchise with local CU centres running in over 70 boroughs across UK. Lancashire Children's University has been established since 2013. In July 2017 the CU moved into Burnley, partnering with Burnley Council, UCLan and Burnley FC Community. Burnley FC in the Community is helping to fund the project, having committed £5k. A total of 13 primary schools and 1 secondary school have signed up to the scheme in year 1. A Steering Group for governance, practical and ambassadorial support has been established.
9. Many of the actions in the strategy rely on a project management and co-ordination role currently provided by the Children's Partnership co-ordinator. The post-holder is also responsible for external funding applications linked to the strategy's objectives. The post has been on the Burnley establishment since 2008. The cost in 2018/19 is projected to be £22,473, which has previously been offset by an annual contribution of £15,000 from the County Council. Budget pressures in the County Council mean that there is a very high risk that this contribution will be cut in 2018/19. This in turn puts at risk what can be delivered as part of the Aspiration Strategy. To mitigate this, it is recommended that the full cost of the post is met by the Council from 2018/19.
10. There are many elements of the strategy that require no additional funds but coordination to bring partners together and maximise delivery in Burnley. This includes family learning through Lancashire Adult Learning, the delivery of emotional health and well-being programmes in schools and development of NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) projects.
11. The draft aspiration strategy also includes a number of additional proposals that are subject to external funding being made available. Officers will pursue funding opportunities and will bring further reports back to the Executive as the strategy is developed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION

12. The total additional funding is £50,000 over this and the next two financial years. This is made up as follows:

Children's University

13. To enable all 32 Primary schools to take part in the scheme a Council contribution of up to £20,000 is required in total over 2017/18, 2018/19, and 2019/20. The cost is estimated as follows.

	Total	School	BBC
17/18 (10 schools)	£12,255	£6127.50	£6127.10
18/19 (20 schools)	£22515	£16886.25	£5628.75
19/20 (30 schools)	£33155	£28,243.50	£4911.50
All Years	£67,925	£51,257	£16,667

14. It is recommended that the Council use its reserves to fund this. Schools would fund the scheme increasingly over time until it is fully embedded in their budgets.

15. Funding from other partners would be used to commission new learning opportunities for participants.

Children's Partnership Coordinator

16. The salary cost for the Grade 8 post is £22,473, which has been offset by an annual contribution of £15,000 from the County Council. With this contribution at risk, it is recommended that the post is core funded to support delivery of the strategy. This means the 2018/19 budget is recommended to include an increase to meet the anticipated shortfall in funding.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

17. As set out in the draft strategy.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

18. Lancashire County Council, the Burnley Learning Partnership (secondary head teachers), the Pendle and Burnley Children's Partnership, and the Making it in Burnley Group have been consulted.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

19. None.

FURTHER INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT:

Mick Cartledge, CEO

ALSO: