

Item No:	Classification: OPEN	Date: 28 October 2003	Meeting Name: Education, Youth & Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Report Title:		Update on Behaviour Management	
Ward(s) or Group affected:		All Wards	
From:		Head of Corporate Strategy	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Sub-Committee notes the comments of the Director of Schools Services in respect of action taken in response to the Executive's decisions of 25 March 2003.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. In November 2002 the Education, Youth & Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee began a scrutiny of behaviour management, focusing on the issue of low-level disruption and, in particular, the identification and sharing of best practice for dealing with low-level disruption in Southwark schools. Members subsequently debated the issues with Officers and local stakeholders and visited a range of local schools. Background information was presented to the Sub-Committee on best practice, the Southwark Behaviour Support Plan and Behaviour Improvement Programme.
3. On 14 January 2003 the Sub-Committee agreed specific recommendations to be made to the Executive, which were endorsed by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. At its meeting on 25 March 2003 the Executive agreed the following:
 1. That the Strategic Director of Education & Culture be instructed to commission the preparation of a strategy for the minimization of low-level disruption in all maintained schools in the borough;
 2. That the strategy and its implementation be based on the identification and sharing of the current reach of the Behaviour Improvement Programme;
 3. That the next revision of the Behaviour Support Plan include the new strategy for tackling low-level disruption;
 4. That the dissemination of best practice throughout the borough be encouraged;
 5. That these proposals work with or alongside the Behaviour Improvement Programme pilot;
 6. That the methodology for minimizing low-level disruption be agreed in consultation with the Head teachers' Council; and
 7. That Officers bring the draft Behaviour Strategy back to the Executive for consideration.

COMMENTS OF DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS SERVICES

4. The Behaviour Support Plan is currently being revised. As part of this process strategies that have been implemented through the Behaviour Improvement Project are to be evaluated, with a view to identifying key elements that can be extended to all schools. The financial implications of generalising the strategies will also need to be assessed.
5. Support for pupils with challenging behaviour is also currently being reviewed to ensure that there is a continuum of high quality support, particularly for pupils within mainstream settings. As part of the process the suitability and adequacy of the PRUs and the EBD Special School will be assessed. In addition, provision for permanently excluded pupils (who must be provided with 25 hours tuition per week) will also be addressed.
6. It is expected that this work will be completed by February 2004.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Overview & Scrutiny Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agendas and papers• Minutes	Scrutiny Team Rm 3.16, Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB	Lucas Lundgren Scrutiny Team Tel: 0207 525 7224
Education, Youth & Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agendas and papers• Minutes	Scrutiny Team Rm 3.16, Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB	Peter Roberts Scrutiny Team Tel: 020 7525 7229
Executive <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agendas and Minutes	Constitutional Support Unit Rm 3.5 6, Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB	Everton Roberts Constitutional Support Officer Tel: 0207 525 7221

Audit Trail

Lead Officer Shelley Burke, Head of Overview & Scrutiny
Report Author Peter Roberts, Scrutiny Project Manager
Version Thursday 27 October 2003