

Item no:	Classification: OPEN	Committee: Executive	Date: 25 March 2003
From: Overview & Scrutiny Committee		Title: Behaviour Management (low-level disruption)	

Purpose

To consider the outcomes of the scrutiny of behaviour management (low-level disruption).

Recommendations

Overview & Scrutiny Committee recommends that:

- the Executive instruct the Strategic Director of Education & Culture to commission the preparation of a strategy for the minimisation of low-level disruption in all maintained schools in the borough;
- the strategy and its implementation are based on the identification and sharing of best practice in all schools where it exists, both those within and those outside of the current reach of the Behaviour Improvement Programme;
- the next revision of the Behaviour Support Plan is to include the new strategy for tackling low-level disruption;
- the dissemination of best practice throughout the borough should be encouraged;
- these proposals should work with or alongside the Behaviour Improvement Programme pilot;
- the methodology for minimising low-level disruption should be agreed in consultation with the Headteachers' Council.

Background

At its meeting of 19 February 2003, Overview & Scrutiny Committee considered the report by Education, Youth & Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee. Overview & Scrutiny Committee endorsed the recommendations of the sub-committee in full, as reflected in the recommendations set out above. The wording of the recommendations has been slightly amended to reflect the partnership arrangements for the delivery of education services.

Resource implications

The drafting of the strategy could be accomplished within existing resources allocated to Atkins under the partnership contract.

In order to identify best practice wherever it exists in the borough (to underpin the strategy), it would be necessary to support schools in conducting a behaviour audit of every school in the borough. It is estimated that the additional cost of performing such an audit for all schools not currently participating in the BIP would be approximately £250,000. There is currently no budget identified for this.

The net cost of implementation of the strategy is more difficult to assess. It would depend on the recommended approach and what funding streams are available. If the BIP model of Behaviour and Education Support Teams was followed, there would be a revenue cost equivalent to approximately 3-4 key staff for the authority and some additional administrative costs for schools. Again, there is currently no budget identified for this.

However, there have been indications from the Secretary of State for Education and Skills that further specific grant funding may become available to support wider behaviour improvement programmes. This issue might best be addressed in the context of a report back to the Executive with concrete proposals for a strategy.

Further background information is contained in the attached report from Education, Youth & Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Hughes, Head of Corporate Strategy	
Report Author	Graeme Gordon, Adviser to the Education, Youth and Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee	
Version	Draft	
Key Decision?		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Borough Solicitor & Secretary	Yes	No
Strategic Director of Education & Culture	Yes	No
Chief Finance Officer	No	No
Executive Member	No	No

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held at	Contact
Minutes of Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting on 19.02.03	Southwark Town Hall Peckham Road SE5 8UB	Lucas Lundgren T: 020 7525 7224
Overview & Scrutiny Committee item 49 (19.02.03)	Southwark Town Hall Peckham Road SE5 8UB	Lucas Lundgren T: 020 7525 7224
Minutes of EYL Scrutiny Sub-Committee meetings on 11.11.02, 10.12.02 and 14.01.03.	Southwark Town Hall Peckham Road SE5 8UB	Louise Gardiner 020 7525 7460
EYL Scrutiny Sub-Committee : Item 10 – Behaviour Management – Framework for debate (11.11.12)	Southwark Town Hall Peckham Road SE5 8UB	Louise Gardiner 020 7525 7460
EYL Scrutiny Sub-Committee : Item 13 –	Southwark Town Hall Peckham Road	Louise Gardiner 020 7525 7460

Background Papers	Held at	Contact
various Best Practice (10.12.02)	SE5 8UB	
EYL Scrutiny Sub- Committee : Item 21 – Behaviour Management (Low-level disruption) (14.01.03)	Southwark Town Hall Peckham Road SE5 8UB	Louise Gardiner 020 7525 7460