

Item No.	Classification: Open	Date: 4 th November 2003	MEETING NAME Executive
Report title:		Strategy for Southwark Secondary Schools	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Education & Culture (Acting)	

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 That Executive agrees the Secondary Strategy as outlined in the Appendix to the report and approves its submission to the DfES.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2 The five key Local Education Authorities that included in the London Challenge programme of the DfES have been asked to prepare a paper outlining their strategy to the delivery of high quality secondary education.
- 3 The Minister for Schools will be launching the London Challenge Secondary Strategy in each of the five London boroughs on 12th November 20
- 4 The strategy is intended to shape the provision for secondary schools within the borough for the foreseeable future.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 5 The attached paper will be summarised for wide distribution.
- 6 The strategy articulates a vision of achieving world-class standards in all Southwark schools through the process of transforming teaching and learning, providing excellent professional development opportunities and ensuring that the education provided is properly inclusive.
- 7 The strategy seeks to provide quality and choice through a broad curriculum 11-19 that offers every Southwark pupil the chance to achieve their potential. This includes a structured approach to specialist school status across the borough, a clear policy on the development of Academies, a commitment to innovation and the development of links with HE/FE providers.
- 8 The strategy recognises and builds on the rich diversity of Southwark as an educational community. In particular, it outlines a vision of schools at the heart of regeneration. The strategy encourages every school to become an extended school offering a range of facilities including excellent sports and arts facilities where this is practicable. It embraces the contribution that is being made by supplementary schools and the wider business and enterprise sectors. It sees schools making a significant contribution to making the community a safer place.

Policy implications

- 9 The strategy will define Council policy in respect of investment in new secondary schools. It will also shape the education contribution to the Council's regeneration agenda.

Effect of proposed changes on those affected

- 10 Successful implementation of the strategy will result in improved educational standards for all students in Southwark secondary schools.
- 11 Southwark secondary schools will become more inclusive.
- 12 There will be greater choice and diversity in provision in Southwark schools.
- 13 Local communities will access schools for a range of facilities and activities which go beyond traditional schooling.

Resource implications

- 14 The strategy seeks to identify potential sources of funding to support capital investment and will shape the allocation of those resources as they are deployed on specific projects. The Revenue implications of the strategy will need to be contained within current funding arrangements or subject to bidding through DfES

Consultation

- 15 The timescale for production of the strategy has precluded extensive formal consultation. However, the basic principles have been shared with secondary headteachers and the development of the strategy has been, and will continue to be, an initiative process. Views have also been sought from various units of the DfES, including those dealing with the London Challenge, the Academies Programme and Building Schools for the Future.
- 16 The Executive will receive further reports on process and implementation milestones will be developed through the proposed officer and headteacher working groups.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Comments of the Borough Solicitor & Secretary

- 17 Members are advised that it is reasonable to approve this strategy despite the limited consultation. The timetable has precluded full consultation, and the strategy contains very broad principles. In taking the strategy forward, there will need to be proper consultation at each stage with all relevant stakeholders, as indicated in the Strategy.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
<i>None</i>		

APPENDIX A

Audit Trail

Lead Officer	Simon Jenkin (Director of Schools Services, CEA@Southwark)	
Report Author	Simon Jenkin (Director of Schools Services, CEA@Southwark)	
Version	Final	
Dated	24/10/03	
Key Decision?	Yes	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Borough Solicitor & Secretary	Yes	Yes
Chief Finance Officer	No	No
Executive Member	Yes	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Support Services	27/10/03	