



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Education, Skills and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee
Thursday September 28th 2023

Report of the Head of Education Development – Christopher Millis

Matter for Information

Wards Affected:

All Wards

Report Title: Partnership agreement between Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (“the LA”) and the governing bodies of all NPT schools

Purpose of the Report:

To provide Members with a summary of the Neath Port Talbot Partnership agreement

Executive Summary:

The report provides detail of Neath Port Talbot Partnership agreement

Background:

Each Welsh local authority is required to enter into a Partnership Agreement with the governing body of each school maintained by that local authority ('LA') according to Section 197 of the Education Act 2002. A Partnership Agreement is defined in the Act as an agreement about how an LA and the governing body of a school will act to discharge their functions in relation to the school.

The Partnership Agreement is intended to enhance and sustain effective partnership working between each local authority and the governing body of each school. The Agreement is made under The Maintained Schools (Partnership Agreements) (Wales) Regulations 2007 and sets out how a local authority and each governing body are to discharge their respective responsibilities towards a school, whether as

prescribed by legislation or as otherwise agreed between the local authority and the governing body under a Partnership Agreement.

The term of this Agreement is three years from 1st September 2023 unless circumstances as prescribed in Schedule 2 of the Regulations arise which will trigger a review sooner than three years. The document outlines in detail the expected responsibilities of the local authority and the governing body. The agreement stipulates the arrangements for reviewing the agreement as well as outlining the process for serving warning notices and the principles of collaboration.

The second section of the agreement specifies the agreed actions that can be expected from both the LA and the governing body in relation to a wide range of services for example, the School Improvement Service, the Inclusion Service, HR and other services. It also stipulates what the LA expects of the school in regard to these services.

Finally, the agreement identifies the agreed arrangements for service level agreements, policies and statutory documents that are required, and each school is required to sign and return the partnership agreement.

Financial Impacts:

No implications

Integrated Impact Assessment:

The Equality Act 2010 requires public bodies to “pay due regard to the need to: eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;

- There is no requirement for an integrated impact assessment as this is a matter for information

Valleys Communities Impacts:

All Neath Port Talbot schools are included within this report

Workforce Impacts:

No implications

Legal Impacts:

No implications

Consultation:

‘There is no requirement for external consultation on this item’

Recommendations:

Matter for information. No recommendations are required.

Implementation of Decision:

Matter for information. No decisions are required.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - School Partnership draft Agreement

Appendix 2 - Primary Schools SLA 2023 - 2025 HR

Appendix 3 – Secondary Schools SLA 2023 - 2025

Appendix 4 – SLA Schools Sickness Taskforce July 2023 - 2025

Officer Contact:

Chris Millis – Head of School Development c.d.millis@npt.gov.uk