

Report to: **Scrutiny Committee for Education**

Date: **12 June 2002**

By: **Director of Education**

Title of report: **Local Healthy Schools Scheme**

Purpose of report: **Inform the Scrutiny Committee of progress that has been made with the East Sussex, Brighton & Hove Healthy School Scheme and its achievement of national accreditation.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Scrutiny Committee for Education is recommended to:-

1. To support the continued involvement of East Sussex County Council in the East Sussex, Brighton & Hove Healthy School Scheme, with the aim of promoting the participation of all LEA schools.

1. Financial Appraisal

1.1 Continued receipt of standards fund 308 is conditional upon the existence of a local Education Health Partnership and the implementation of the post accreditation action plan.

2. Supporting Information

Introduction

2.1 The National Healthy School Standard is a key initiative led jointly by DfES and DoH to promote wellbeing and broad and balanced achievement across the school population and to promote schools as healthier workplaces. The East Sussex, Brighton & Hove Healthy School Scheme (HSS) is the mechanism locally to support dissemination and implementation of the National Healthy School Standard. This report will summarise progress made, the result of national accreditation and future steps.

2.2 The National Healthy School Standard (NHSS) aims to support schools in continued improvement and development, with a particular focus on the promotion of physical and emotional health. A partnership has been developed with colleagues in the NHS to support schools and implement the NHSS. Our local HSS aims to engage with schools at one of three levels, aiming for as many schools as possible engaging with the highest level of commitment. These levels are: level 1 – schools with basic introductory information about the HSS; level 2 – schools that have undertaken developmental work around personal, social and health education (PSHE), but are yet to engage with the full range of themes within the NHSS; level 3 – schools formally committed to participate in the HSS, with structures and data established in order to promote improvement.

2.3 A formal partnership has been in existence with NHS colleagues since June 1999, which built upon existing close working relations in the field of PSHE and sexual health. A Healthy School Scheme Coordinator is employed within the PSHE Advisory Team and support materials have been developed for schools to engage with the Scheme. Current figures show that 100% East Sussex schools are involved at level 1, about 70 primaries, 8 specials and 22 secondaries are involved at level 2, and 54 schools at level 3. The delay in applying for national accreditation was as a result of staff changes: the previous Coordinator left in April 2001 and a successor was not in post until July 2001, leaving insufficient time to prepare for an autumn term assessment visit.

2.4 The local HSS was nationally accredited in May 2002. A national assessor paid her visit in February and her formal assessment report included the findings that: the HSS was strong on its equalities component, some excellent materials had been produced for teachers and concluded there is the 'possibility to produce a uniquely excellent healthy school scheme'. The Post Accreditation Action Plan highlights a number of helpful steps for the future development of the HSS. These include establishment of a broader partnership alliance within the Healthy School Partnership Steering Group, support theme groups to maintain the momentum of developments by schools committed to the HSS and to develop a broader funding base for the HSS.

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

East Sussex, Brighton & Hove Healthy School Scheme Formal Assessment Report (2002).
Post Accreditation Action Plan (PSHE Advisory Team, April 2002)
East Sussex, Brighton & Hove Healthy School Scheme Development Folder.
National Healthy School Standard – Guidance. (DfES 1999)
Also available on www.wiredforhealth.gov.uk.