The Future Role of the Local Authority in Education

A Public Policy Exchange Symposium

Tuesday 2nd October 2012
10:15am – 4:30pm

Central London

Public Policy Exchange, in association with the Centre for Parliamentary Studies, holds regular interactive seminars which provide an invaluable interface for policy discussion, debate and networking. These special events offer local practitioners, civil servants and other stakeholders not only an insight into current policy thinking, but also the opportunity to feed into future development across all areas of public policy.
The Future Role of the Local Authority in Education

Overview

In June 2012, the Department for Education published the final Report for the Ministerial Advisory Group (co-funded by the Local Government Association) entitled ‘Action research into the evolving role of the local authority in education’. This key piece of research set out to explore how local authorities are changing and responding to the requirements of a more autonomous education system. Central to the research was to examine three core responsibilities of the local authority in education:

- Ensuring a sufficient supply of school places
- Tackling underperformance in schools and ensuring high standards
- Supporting vulnerable children

The purpose of the project was to present an accurate snapshot of how nine local authorities across the country are responding practically to the challenges and opportunities that a more autonomous education system presents.

In a wider context, there has been a useful and major discussion about the future roles of the middle tier and local authority, and though the Report does not second guess that ongoing debate, the final Report offers a unique insight into how the participating local authorities have shaped their education strategies, and may potentially re-evaluate some of their core systems and processes in light of the new education landscape. Indeed, the Report documents emerging effective practice and points to lessons that may have direct implications for other local authorities and the education system as a whole.

This special symposium provides an invaluable opportunity for local authorities, teachers, head teachers, researchers, education providers and other key stakeholders to discuss the opportunities and challenges emerging from a more diverse and devolved education system.

Overall the evidence in this report suggests that in many cases local authorities and schools, working together, are creating local solutions to some of the challenges that have arisen as a result of the new education landscape and are at the same time finding ways to maximise the opportunities ... However, the research also points to issues and challenges which, so far, have not proved amenable to local solutions and where some additional clarity, further action, or ongoing reflection may be needed on the part of national government and its partners.”

- ‘Action research into the evolving role of the local authority in education’, The final report for the Ministerial Advisory Group, June 2012

...The purpose of the research project was to move away from a theoretical debate about ‘the council role in education’ and shine a spotlight on what is actually happening on the ground. I hope that it will encourage and inspire councils and schools in other areas to continue to work together to develop and strengthen their relationships in a way that works for local children and their families.”

- Cllr Stephen Castle, Member, Local Authority Action Research Steering Group, July 2012

Why Attend?

- Examine the findings of the final Report for the Ministerial Advisory Group
- Discuss the three core responsibilities of the local authority within the new education landscape
- Assess emerging areas of good practice for local authorities, their schools and other local partners
- Share ideas and experience on practical solutions that local authorities need to implement to address immediate and long-term challenges

Who Should Attend?

- Local Authorities
- Local Education Authorities
- Local Authority Officers
- Schools
- Education and Training Professionals
- Teachers
- Headteachers
- Ofsted
- School Improvement Advisers
- Behaviour and Attendance Officers
- Pastoral Officer/Coordinators
- Pupil Referral Units
- Emotional Literacy Coordinators
- Inclusion Managers
- SENCOs
- Governors
- Education Welfare Officers
- Magistrates
- Social Workers
- Social Care Services
- Lead Members for Children’s Services
- Directors of Children’s Services
- Families Services Officers
- Schools and Children’s Trusts
- Early Years Practitioners
- Counselling Services
- Child and Educational Psychologists
- Family Planning Specialists
- Looked After/Children in Care Teams
- Child Protection Officers
- Youth Workers and Youth Offending Teams
- Community Safety Teams
- Academics and Researchers

Accommodation

Through our partnership with HotelMap, we are able to offer our delegates heavily discounted hotel rates at a wide range of London hotels. To view hotel availability and rates and to book online, visit www.HotelMap.com/MSNUZ/

Alternatively, if you would like to book your accommodation by phone, you can call Daniel Spinner at HotelMap, on 020 7292 2335 quoting Special Reference Code MSNUZ

Enquiries: 0845 606 1535

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Programme

09:30 Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:15 Chair’s Welcome and Introduction
10:30 Panel Session One: How Are Local Authorities Evolving and Adapting to a More Autonomous Education System?
  • Strategic vision – enabling schools towards a more autonomous and self-improving school system
  • Ensuring a sufficient supply of school places when demand rises and considering how to manage the consequences of oversupply
  • Tackling underperformance in schools and providing high standards-guaranteeing that a school-to-school support model is coherent and comprehensive
  • Supporting vulnerable children – addressing local authorities’ concerns about securing a good quality school place and gaining the best possible combination of services and support to enable every vulnerable child to succeed
  • Sharing best practice on the ability of local authorities to adapt to the changing “mixed economy” of schools, moving towards a national funding formula and other emerging issues
11:15 Morning Refreshments
11:30 Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel One
12:30 Networking Lunch
13:30 Panel Session Two: Emerging Areas of Good Practice in Education for Local Authorities, Schools and Strategic Partners
  • Strengthening partnerships and empowering schools as leaders in the education system and allowing them to develop solutions to community-wide issues
  • Local authorities developing high quality data analysis to enable schools, parents and other partners to better understand system-level needs and solutions
  • Local authorities working in partnership with local academies and sponsors to raise the standards of performance for all children and groups at risk of underachieving
  • Developing mechanisms to learn from other local authorities dealing with similar issues and consider other emerging areas of good practice highlighted in the Report
  • Explore key messages for national partners in education where action at a national level is required when locally developed solutions appear unworkable
14:15 Afternoon Refreshments
14:30 Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel Two
15:30 Chair’s Summary and Closing Comments
15:40 Networking Reception
16:30 Close

**Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice**

Event Details

Date: Tuesday 2nd October 2012
Time: 10:15am – 4:30pm
Venue: Central London

Forthcoming Events

Mental Health and Young People: Working Towards a Suicide Prevention Strategy
11th September 2012
Defusing the Diabetes Time-Bomb
12th September 2012
The Future of Social Housing: Empowering Local Authorities to Deliver Flexible Solutions
13th September 2012
Triggering Community Empowerment: The New Framework for Tackling Anti-Social Behaviours
19th September 2012
Pandemics and Infection Control: Meeting Tomorrow’s Threats and Challenges Today
20th September 2012
Clamping Down on Dangerous Dogs: Protecting the Public and Promoting More Responsible Pet Ownership
20th September 2012
Improving Responses to Rape and Sexual Assault: Shaping a Victim-Centred System
25th September 2012
Young Runaways and Missing Children: Prevention, Protection, Provision
26th September 2012
Improving Local Road and Highway Maintenance: The Implications of the Potholes Review
27th September 2012
Child and Adolescent Health and Well-being: Measuring and Addressing Child Poverty
27th September 2012
Health and Wellbeing in the Workplace: Reducing Sickness Absenteeism
3rd October 2012
Positive for Youth, Positive for Society: The Future of Young People’s Services
4th October 2012

Sponsorship and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of opportunities to enable your organisation to raise its profile and communicate with key decision makers in the public sector.

For further information please contact Parvin Madahar on 020 3137 8630 or email parvin.madahar@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk

Enquiries: 0845 606 1535  www.publicpolicyexchange.co.uk
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Booking Form [CJ02-PPE]
2nd October 2012

Delegate Fees

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<th>Local Voluntary/Community Organisations</th>
<th>£195 per delegate (1 Place)</th>
<th>£175 per delegate (2+ Places)</th>
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<td>Academic/National Charities/Local Authorities/NHS</td>
<td>£295 per delegate (1 Place)</td>
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<td>£395 per delegate (1 Place)</td>
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Signed

Date

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