



REPORT TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE

11 NOVEMBER 2020

Report by: Arwyn Thomas, GwE Managing Director

Subject: Wellbeing

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To share information with the Joint Committee members in relation to the regional approach in supporting the well-being of our children and our workforce.

2.0 Background

2.1 Our main priority in this time of unprecedented change and disruption is the safety and well-being of our children and our workforce, doing all we can to support the physical and mental well-being of our children and young people throughout this period.

2.2 All Supporting Improvement Advisers (SIAs) have ensured regular contact with the head teacher of their link schools, to check on their wellbeing and to ensure that they receive the required support.

2.3 To support this further, a series of workshops will be offered to school leaders and education officers.

3.0 Considerations

3.1 Headteachers, school leaders and education officers are presently working under difficult circumstances. During this time they may need:

- Emotional support and a safe space to reflect

- Tailored support to improve their own health and wellbeing
- Opportunities for peer to peer support

3.2 The programme offered will comprise of:

- A universal generic workshop for Head teachers
- A flexible, bespoke follow-up offer for schools
- Individual coaching opportunities
- Wellbeing workshops for LA officers

3.3 There will be a focus on a variety of aspects within the wellbeing agenda e.g. resilience, adapting to a changing environment, personal reflection, action learning etc. Those partaking in the programme can feed into this agenda.

3.4 The Universal offer will be one 'live' event to launch the programme focusing on generic aspects of Head teacher wellbeing. Following this, a series of bite-size webinars will be offered, focusing on various themes and aspects of wellbeing and resilience.

3.5 Schools can partake in these sessions on a flexible basis and use them within their own schools if they wish. For some individuals, coaching by an external individual might be what is needed. This could be offered and actioned on a case by case basis.

3.6 Peer to peer engagement and support will be key throughout the offer with opportunities to engage with peers from within individual school senior leadership teams and / or with school leaders from other schools.

3.7 There will be an opportunity for groups of schools to come together to further explore bespoke aspects of personal, collective and institutional wellbeing. This could be clusters of primary schools or groups of secondary schools.

3.8 Claire Chidley, an experienced and highly regarded expert regularly used by SOLACE will facilitate the workshops. The programme will be launched during November 2020.

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 The Joint Committee is asked to note and accept the content of the report and to support the regional approach in supporting the well-being of our children and our workforce.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. GwE will operate within the current financial resources.

6.0 Equalities Impact

6.1 There are no new equalities implications arising from this report.

7.0 Personnel Implications

7.1 There are no new personnel implications arising from this report.

8.0 Consultation Undertaken

8.1 Consultation undertaken with the GwE Management Board and Headteachers Strategic Forums.

OPINION OF THE STATUTORY OFFICERS

Monitoring Officer:

Nothing to add from a propriety perspective.

Statutory Finance Officer:

The author states in paragraph 5 that there are no financial implications arising from this report. Hence, GwE is expected to implement the 'Wellbeing Programme' within current financial resources.