

# Information

for County Councillors

Sheet Number:  
2013-17/91

From:	Kay Allen, Strategic Manager – Support Services for Education
-------	---

Date:	25 <sup>th</sup> June 2014
-------	----------------------------

To:	All County Councillors
-----	------------------------

## Support Services for Education (SSE) project

### Background

In April 2014, Somerset County Council's school facing services were successfully brought together to create the SSE Business Unit. This comprises of around 20 services. The services currently agreed as 'in-scope' are;

#### Business & management services (non-SWOne):

Finance, HR, eLearning and Information Management, Contract Support, and Health and Safety.

#### Professional Development and Curriculum Enrichment:

Somerset Centre for Integrated Learning, Somerset Music, Somerset Residential Outdoor Learning, Resources for Learning.

#### School improvement and collaboration:

School and Early Years improvement services, support for collaboration and partnership and governor services.

#### Vulnerable Learner Support:

SEN Statutory Assessment and Casework, Autism and Communication, Support for Vulnerable Groups, Attendance/Education Welfare Service, Education Psychology Service, Learning Sensory Physical Service, Access and Admissions.

Services currently agreed as 'out of scope'

Legal, Scientific Services, Heritage Services, Data Management and Performance Information services, the Supply Mutual Fund, SWone Business and management services for schools

**Work to date and next steps;**

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> April, Cllr Frances Nicholson, Cabinet member for Children and Families, approved the development of a Business Case assessing the following two options for Support Services for Education (SSE):

- Transfer of SSE to an external organisation involving a partner
- Transfer of SSE into an independent external organisation which has significant involvement from schools

Kay Allen is now working on pulling together a business case for each of these two options, which will go to Cabinet for a decision on the preferred model on the 17<sup>th</sup> September 14. As part of this process the current scope for SSE is also being reviewed.

Prior to the September decision, there will be a members workshop on the 17<sup>th</sup> July between 12.30pm and 1.40pm in the Wyndham room to discuss the progress of the project to date. . Invitations to this workshop have already been issued.

Engagement with key stakeholders and staff continues and helps to shape the Business Case going forward.

For more information please contact:	Name: Kay Allen Email: <a href="mailto:kxallen@somerset.gov.uk">kxallen@somerset.gov.uk</a> Tel No.: 01823 358285
--------------------------------------	---