

Committee: **Cabinet**

Date: **9 March 2004**

Title of Report: **COMPACT between East Sussex Local Education Authority (LEA) and the Department for Education and Skills (DfES)**

By: **Director of Education and Libraries**

Purpose of Report: **To advise the Cabinet of the discussions with the DfES and seek their endorsement of the COMPACT**

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**Recommendation:**

**The Cabinet is recommended to note and endorse the COMPACT between East Sussex Local Education Authority and the Department for Education and Skills**

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**1. Financial Appraisal**

1.1 There are no additional financial commitments arising from the COMPACT with the DfES: all identified activities relate to the Education Development Plan, Council Plan or School Improvement Service Business Plan and are covered by existing resources.

**2. Supporting Information**

2.1 In July 2003 Charles Clarke, Secretary of State for Education and Skills, and Sir Jeremy Beecham, Chair of the Local Government Association, signed a Statement of Intent committing central and local government to working in partnership to achieve better educational outcomes for children and young people. A copy of the Statement of Intent is attached as Appendix 1.

2.2 Arising from that Statement of Intent was an invitation to each LEA to work with the DfES to agree an individual COMPACT setting out how the LEA and DfES would work together. It was envisaged that the COMPACT would identify the effort and resources each would commit to the local priorities requiring the most immediate attention.

2.3 Following consultation with the Lead Member for Education it was agreed that an East Sussex COMPACT should be negotiated, drawing largely on existing local priorities and plans, including the Education Development Plan. A copy the final document, which the Cabinet is invited to endorse, is attached as Appendix 2.

**3. Conclusion and Reason for Recommendation**

3.1 Endorsement of the COMPACT will confirm the commitment of the County Council to the priorities and outcomes identified in the COMPACT.

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**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None.