
OVERVIEW OF EDUCATION PORTFOLIO

1. Since the last meeting of the Council the following were the main areas of work under my Education Portfolio:
 - (a) Youth Service Operating Plan 2004/05 – Cabinet has approved the Youth Service Operating Plan for 2004/05 and placing it in the context of local and national requirements. The purpose of the plan will be to direct the service’s focus for the next operational year; provide a clear statement for staff, young people, elected members, senior officers and key partner agencies of the service’s aims, objectives and targets; provide a basis for evaluating the service’s progress towards its targets, identifying its impact; and to support self assessment under OfSTED framework.
 - (b) Education Capital Programme 2004/05 – Consideration was given to the capital programme of works in schools for 2004/05 and I am pleased to report that approval was given for the release of funding to support those schemes which will ensure that the funding of over £6.3 million secured for Darlington schools can be directed at the most urgent building projects providing an improved environment for children to learn.

Councillor Stephen Harker
Cabinet Member with Education Portfolio