PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 30TH JANUARY, 2018

Please find enclosed, for consideration at the next meeting of the People Scrutiny Committee taking place on Tuesday, 30th January, 2018, the following report(s) that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No  Item

13.  Schools Progress Report  (Pages 1 - 6)

   Report of Deputy Chief Executive (People)

14.  Connecting communities to avoid isolation - update  (Pages 7 - 10)

   Report of Chief Executive
1. Purpose of Report

To inform members of the People Scrutiny panel of the current position with regard to the performance of all schools, including those schools causing concern, and to update on known Academy developments.

2. Recommendation

That members note the information in the report.

3. Background

Ofsted Inspections
In the period since the previous Schools Progress Report, one Southend-on-Sea school has been inspected by Ofsted. Cecil Jones Academy was inspected 5th December 2017. The report has not yet been published and the outcome of the inspection is not in the public domain.

Shoeburyness High School was inspected on 15th/16th November 2017. The very positive report was published on 15th December 2017 and found the school remained Good.

Our Lady of Lourdes was inspected on 5th/6th December 2018. The previous judgement at the school was Inadequate. I am pleased to say that the recently published report has recognised rapid improvement at the school, and has now judged the school as Requiring Improvement.

Overall, pupils attending a good or outstanding school in Southend remains at 85.6%. However, it should be remembered that a Good judgement now is made against a more robust inspection framework than when a school was previously inspected. Equally recent inspections will not affect this % unless a school crosses the grade 2/3 boundary either way. Lastly, OFSTED are currently consultation on a different and
more robust means of calculating this %. Southend already adopts this means of
calculation.

A further nine Southend-on-Sea Primary Schools are imminently due an Ofsted
inspection. This is mainly due to the date of academy conversions, which means most
of these schools are due their first inspection since gaining academy status. The Local
Authority will be providing support for schools to prepare them for the requirements of
the inspections including the ‘preparation’ training which took place as part of the last
Directors briefing.

**Academies**
We currently have 32 Academies (Federation of Greenways and PLT Campus counted
as one school each) in Southend.

The conversion of Futures College has been delayed once again and is now due to
convert on 1\(^{st}\) March 2018.

Temple Sutton Primary school is now due to convert 1\(^{st}\) April 2018, to align conversion
with the start of the financial year.

**School Performance and Improvement Strategy**
The School Performance and Improvement Strategy has now been published on the
Democracy Southend on Sea website and is in the public domain.

The strategy defines Southend Borough Council’s evolving process of support and
intervention for schools and includes information on how we intend to monitor,
challenge and support schools.

**Diminishing the Difference (previously known as ‘Narrowing the Gap’) Pupil
Premium Strategy**
Two local head teachers will be leading implementation of the strategy and will focus
on the delivery of CPD and support for schools. The project, the launch of which will be
hosted at The Tickfield Centre on Monday 22nd January 2018, is entitled "Every Child,
Every School, Same Opportunities" and will focus on innovative, holistic approaches to
the whole curriculum.

**Grammar School Strategy**
Initial analysis (using google analytics) of the Council’s ‘nofuss11plus’ website (which
forms a core part of the strategy) shows that in the first six months, (to Jan 14\(^{th}\) 2018)
there were 8,308 page views by 1,833 users.

The National Offer Date for Local Authorities to send out secondary school offers to
parents is 1\(^{st}\) March 2018. We will be releasing more information about offers made
and taken up by local residents after this date.

As previously reported, the consortium of Selective Schools in Essex (CSSE) have
confirmed that more local children registered for and passed the 11plus test this year
compared to the year before. In 2016, 1,280 candidates from the SS0-SS9 priority area
registered for the test, with 399 passing. This year 53 more passes were gained in
comparison to the previous year with 1,440 candidates registered and 452 passing the
test. The figures represent an increase of 12.5% in applications on the previous year
and a 13.3% increase in passes.
There are sufficient priority places at the grammar schools, which mean that if the additional 53 pupils name both Grammar Schools on their application in their preferred order, they are guaranteed a place.

It should be reiterated that the initiative allows parents the ability to make an informed choice if a grammar school is appropriate for their child’s needs. The Council through the Education Board continues to work with all schools to support them in improving their school where required.

**Overall performance of schools**
There has been no additional data released since the last Scrutiny report and the information previously provided in the following table remains the most up to date data information.

KS4 vulnerable group data will be available from the end of January 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Stage</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Southend Performance</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>England (State-Funded)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EYFS</td>
<td>% Achieving a Good Level of Development</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS1</td>
<td>% of pupils achieving the expected standard in the following subjects</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS2</td>
<td>% of pupils achieving the expected standard in the following subjects</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rea,wri,Mat combined</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS4</td>
<td>Attainment 8</td>
<td>50.3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>46.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Progress 8</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>-0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% Achieving English and Maths (9-4) (old A*-C equivalent)</td>
<td>70.6%</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>63.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: All data taken from SFR releases. Rank based on 151 local authorities.

4. **Other Options**
   N/A
5. **Reasons for Recommendations**
   N/A

6. **Corporate Implications**
6.1 Contribution to Council’s Vision & Corporate Priorities
   This report contributes to the Council’s ambition that all schools will be good or outstanding.
6.2 Financial Implications
The work currently undertaken with school improvement is covered by the core staffing budget and the SLA with the teaching school alliance.

6.3 Legal Implications
None

6.4 People Implications
None

6.5 Property Implications
None

6.6 Consultation
None

6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications
None

6.8 Risk Assessment
None

6.9 Value for Money
None

6.10 Community Safety Implications
None

6.11 Environmental Impact
None

7. Background Papers
None

8. Appendix
Appendix 1 – List of Southend Academies
## Appendix 1 - List of Southend Academies (as at 14/01/18)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academy name</th>
<th>Date of conversion</th>
<th>Multi-Academy Trust</th>
<th>Single Academy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belfairs Academy</td>
<td>01/06/2012</td>
<td>Legra Academy Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blenheim Primary and Nursery</td>
<td>01/09/2016</td>
<td>Learning in Harmony Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bournemouth Park Primary School</td>
<td>01/02/2017</td>
<td>Eastwood Park Academy Trust (EPAT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bournes Green Infant</td>
<td>01/09/2016</td>
<td>Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bournes Green Junior</td>
<td>01/08/2017</td>
<td>Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cecil Jones Academy</td>
<td>01/09/2015</td>
<td>Legra Academy Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chase High School</td>
<td>01/04/2015</td>
<td>Brentwood Academies Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darlington School</td>
<td>01/01/2014</td>
<td>Legra Academy Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friars Primary School and Nursery</td>
<td>01/09/2016</td>
<td>Portico Academy Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamstel Infant School and Nursery</td>
<td>01/09/2016</td>
<td>Portico Academy Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamstel Junior School</td>
<td>01/09/2016</td>
<td>Portico Academy Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hinguar Community Primary School</td>
<td>01/09/2016</td>
<td>Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingsdown School</td>
<td>01/09/2017</td>
<td>SEN Trust Southend</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster School</td>
<td>01/09/2017</td>
<td>SEN Trust Southend</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porters Grange Primary School</td>
<td>01/04/2016</td>
<td>Portico Academy Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince Avenue Academy &amp; Nursery</td>
<td>01/04/2014</td>
<td>South East Essex Academy Trust (SEEAT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond Avenue Primary and Nursery School</td>
<td>01/08/2017</td>
<td>Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLT Southend Campus: Victory Park &amp; Sutton House (formerly Seabrook College)</td>
<td>01/07/2017</td>
<td>Parallel Learning Trust (PLT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoeburyness High School</td>
<td>01/12/2011</td>
<td>Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southend High School for Boys</td>
<td>01/02/2011</td>
<td>Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)</td>
<td>Southend High School for Boys Academy Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Name</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Trust Name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southend High School for Girls</td>
<td>01/02/2011</td>
<td>Southend High School for Girls Academy Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Bernard's High School</td>
<td>01/08/2011</td>
<td>St Bernard's High School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Nicholas School</td>
<td>01/09/2017</td>
<td>SEN Trust Southend</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Thomas More High School</td>
<td>01/08/2011</td>
<td>St. Thomas More High School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Eastwood Academy</td>
<td>01/08/2011</td>
<td>Eastwood Park Academy Trust (EPAT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Federation of Greenways Schools</td>
<td>01/10/2016</td>
<td>Learning in Harmony Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The St Christopher School</td>
<td>01/03/2012</td>
<td>SEN Trust Southend (previously a single academy trust)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Westborough School</td>
<td>01/09/2010</td>
<td>The Challenger Multi Academy Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thorpedene Primary School</td>
<td>01/09/2016</td>
<td>Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westcliff High School for Boys</td>
<td>01/09/2010</td>
<td>Westcliff High School for Boys</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westcliff High School for Girls</td>
<td>01/03/2011</td>
<td>South East Essex Academy Trust (SEEAT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Leigh Junior School</td>
<td>01/04/2016</td>
<td>Portico Academy Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Purpose of Report

To update the Committee on the in depth Scrutiny project – ‘Connecting communities to avoid isolation’.

2. Recommendations

That the report be noted.

3. Background

3.1 At the meeting on the 11th July 2017, the Committee agreed that its in depth project for the current municipal year would be on the following topic – ‘Connecting communities to avoid isolation’ (Minute 170 refers). The membership of the project team is – Councillor Nevin (Chairman), Councillors Boyd, Buckley, Butler, D Garston, Walker, Borton, Endersby and Davies.

3.2 The project plan was agreed by the project team in October 2017 and endorsed at the Scrutiny Committee on 10th October 2017 (Minute 374 refers).

3.3 The project team has held 5 meetings in total, including a facilitated workshop session on 22nd November and an evidence gathering session on the afternoon of 12th January 2018.

4 Scrutiny Review

4.1 The scrutiny review is exploring issues around connecting communities and isolation focussing on the enabling role of the Council, partners and also the role of elected members. The agreed project plan states:-

The central aim is to reduce social exclusion and avoid isolation to increase individuals, families and carer’s wellbeing in promoting physical and mental health. This will promote opportunities to connect and mobilise both individuals and communities, encouraging positive relationships with a range of diverse organisations to encourage integrated working.

The project will be instrumental in building a strong and connected community developing assets within a strengths based approach and learning from communities lived experience. Effective partnerships will be supported by appropriate signposting, professional transparency embracing person centred values to enhance co
production and empower people to be actively engaged in ‘the life of the town’. Through creating innovative opportunities individuals can take control of their own lives within a safe creative and unique community.

4.2 The project team had an evidence session in October and heard about the community engagement work being done locally (for example the intergenerational work at Earls Hall School) and also about the development of an interactive map, which identifies relational opportunities in the community. The project team also heard about work being done by Leeds City Council, who set up “Neighbourhood Network Schemes” over 20 years ago and the positive outcomes from that.

4.3 The project team had a workshop session in November and explored applying an asset based approach in Southend (looking at for example the west central area and east central area localities) and then spent time preparing for the session in January. The project team had previously indicated they would like to speak to a number of people / organisations as part of the review, as set out in the project plan. In the light of discussions at the workshop, the project team agreed the key organisations / people they would like to invite to the session. The following attended the session on 12th January:

- Traci Dixon and Stuart Long, South Essex Homes
- Alison Semmence, SAVS and Matt King, Trust Links
- Reverend Hannah Bucke
- Councillor Lesley Salter, Chair Southend Health & Wellbeing Board
- Maurice Sweeting, Chair Education Board and Gert Sheepers, University of Essex
- Karen Bayliss and Verbena Barker-Newyear, EPUT

4.4 The session was run in a world café style and facilitated by officers from the Service Transformation Team. Some notes from the session are attached at Appendix 1.

4.3 A more detailed report from the scrutiny review will be reported to the April meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

5. Corporate Implications

5.1 Contribution to Council’s Vision and Critical Priorities – Becoming an excellent and high performing organisation.
5.2 Financial Implications – there are costs associated with organising in depth projects relating to officer time but this will all be contained within existing resources.
5.3 Legal Implications – none.
5.4 People Implications – none.
5.5 Property Implications – none.
5.6 Consultation – as described in report.
5.7 Equalities Impact Assessment – none.
5.8 Risk Assessment – none.

6. Background Papers

Notes from project team meeting, emails to witnesses.

7. Appendix

Appendix 1 – notes from session – 12th January 2018
In depth scrutiny project – ‘Connecting communities to avoid isolation’
Witness Session 2 & project team meeting
Friday 12th January 2018 - 14.00 – 16.30
Committee Room 5, Civic Suite, Southend-on-Sea

In attendance:-
Project Team
Cllr Cheryl Nevin (Chairman), Cllr Helen Boyd, Cllr Steve Buckley, Cllr Caroline Endersby Cllr David Garston and Cllr Chris Walker

Officer support
Rob Walters, Fiona Abbott and Tobias Hartley

Facilitators
Sarah Baker, Nick Constantine, Maxine Nutkins, Kamil Pachalko, Mark Carrigher and Catherine Benford

Invited guests
Traci Dixon and Stuart Long (South Essex Homes), Alison Semmence (SAVS), Matt King (Trust Links), Reverend Hannah Bucke, Councillor Lesley Salter (Chair Southend Health & Wellbeing Board), Maurice Sweeting (Chair Education Board), Gert Sheepers (University of Essex), Karen Bayliss (EPUT) and Verbena Barker-Newyear (EPUT)

Apologies were received from Cllr Margaret Borton, Cllr Mo Bulter and Cllr Lawrence Davies, Sharon Houlden and Mousumi Basu (EPUT)

Notes from feedback discussion

The questions which were explored at the session were:-

1. How can we build sustainability (and also flexibility)
2. How can we put information out and draw people in and have conversations about their lives (‘give and get’)
3. What might be the obstacles involved and how can they be avoided?
4. How can we identify and use those willing to be active, connecting to others (community leaders)?
5. How you see as the Council role – within existing assets and personal role (using our networks)

The following key points were highlighted:-

**How can we build sustainability (and also flexibility)**
- Communities have changed – our role – adapt to it
- Co-production – different narrative needed
- Move from deficit to asset / strengths approach
- Be bold and honest about prevention
- Physical / subtle barriers too – some people need skills / confidence to go to groups etc
- Grants process should be sustainable / long term
- Start early! E.g. Kindness Club
• Ensure that we do things with people, not just for people

**How can we put information out and draw people in and have conversations about their lives (‘give and get’)**

• Community Champions – Use people already in the public eye, such as postmen, hairdressers and car mechanics that may be able to help in a less intrusive way
• Reach out – use underutilised spaces / methods
• Hear stories and learn from 3rd sector
• Use a range of mediums to reach everyone that may be suffering. Use the typical mediums such as posters, leaflets and events but also try add things such as radio advertisements
• Use video diaries to show people’s stories and their journey to loneliness. This can help show people it is not an isolated incident but is a wide-range issue
• Utilise the student community in Southend

**What might be the obstacles involved and how can they be avoided?**

• Obstacle of bureaucracy sometimes e.g. DBS checks
• Accessing grants / funding can be complicated process and could be simplified and introduce levels of access such as a more simply application process for smaller amounts of money
• Can’t do things to people – need to be co-produced
• Embed community ethos when young (start young!)
• People might not enjoy the typical events such as coffee mornings – Include a diverse range of activities that everyone can be part of – be creative
• Some isolated people might lack confidence or suffer from anxiety. Cater for this accordingly and maybe run events that do not necessarily involve lots of other people – need to meet people ‘where they are’
• Stigma of isolation/loneliness an issue
• Gender tailoring needed?
• Some isolated people might not have means of transport – Run a transport system to help people get to certain events or places
• Isolation is usually stereotyped to older people – Include younger adults and even children in all campaigning and show that this stereotype is not true

**How can we identify and use those willing to be active, connecting to others (community leaders)?**

• Have strong asset base already – issue is how they are mobilised
• Use community champions and utilise the infrastructure that is already in place e.g. GPs, milkman, school teachers etc.
• Listen to needs of each community / locality – ask what they want to focus on
• ‘bottom up’ approach
• Can technology make us more isolated?

**How you see as the Council role – within existing assets and personal role (using our networks)**

• Council is facilitator and enabler. – need light touch, partner approach instead
• Its around building trust – both ways - don’t come with an agenda
• Can use its wide reaching media team and influence to spread the word
• The council could start a PR campaign to build this trust. This should be approachable, easy and simple. Encourage connectivity