

## Report of Corporate Director for People

to  
**Cabinet**  
on  
6<sup>th</sup> January 2015

Report prepared by: Jane Theadom Head of Learning

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**Draft Annual Education Report**  
**People Scrutiny Committee – Executive Councillor:**  
**Councillor Anne Jones**  
*A Part 1 Agenda Item*

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### **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To inform Members of the educational achievement of children and young people attending Southend schools and colleges.
- 1.2 To provide an overview of the trends over a four year period in a range of national measures to show how well Southend's children and young people are doing compared with all children and young people nationally
- 1.3 To inform Members of the quality of Southend's educational provision using the most recent Ofsted inspection judgements

### **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 For the report to be noted
- 2.2 To seek Members views about the content of the report in terms of quality and range of the information provided and the accessibility of the content
- 2.3 To seek approval in principle for the Annual Education Report, with agreed amendments and inclusions, to be published with the validated national and local school performance data

### **3. Background**

- 3.1 This report replaces the Report on Early Years and School Standards incorporating Schools Progress.
- 3.2 In October 2013 the Report on Early Years and School Standards incorporating Schools Progress came to Scrutiny. In previous years this report had been published in January but a version was published in October as concern had been expressed over the late notification of schools' academic standards. The early report however did mean that a second and final version was required and published in January and this version included the nationally validated data.
- 3.3 Notwithstanding the concerns about late notification, Members also requested a more comprehensive overview of the state of education in

Southend compared with the national picture. This report, with a new format and more detailed content has therefore been provided in response to this challenge.

#### **4. Reasons for Recommendations**

4.1 The first and most important reason is that Members are provided with a comprehensive overview of school standards and educational quality

4.2 The second reason is that the Report should also be accessible to a wider audience and be able to be read and understood by a wider audience

4.3 The third and final reason is that this Report should sit alongside those produced by HMCI about the state of education nationally and be able to illustrate how the quality of education and the standards achieved in Southend schools compares with that found nationally

#### **7. Corporate Implications**

##### **9.1 Contribution to the Council's Vision and Corporate Priorities**

This report provides evidence to show how Council is contributing to the priority of excellence

##### **9.2 Financial Implications**

The improvements evidenced in this report have been achieved through strengthening efficiency within the relevant service areas and improved targeting of resources

##### **9.3 Legal Implications**

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to address underperformance and provide for vulnerable children in order to improve their outcomes alongside the statutory duty of making good provision for all children and young people. This report provides evidence of the extent to which these duties are being fulfilled.

##### **9.4 People Implications**

None

##### **9.5 Property Implications**

None

##### **9.6 Consultation**

Not applicable

##### **9.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications**

All equality and diversity requirements are addressed in partnership with schools. The standards attained by pupils from different socio-economic groups are assessed and evaluated. The data is shared with schools to review the impact of interventions at LA and school level in order for appropriate steps to be taken to address future needs.

##### **9.8 Risk Assessment**

The key risks relate to quality and standards, i.e. that pupils' standards of achievement do not improve and that schools are not judged to be of sufficient quality to achieve a positive inspection outcome. The dual approaches of

universal school risk management and targeted support and intervention for underperforming schools together with promoting school to school support underpin the Strategy and are proving to be effective in mitigating these risks.

#### 9.9 Value for Money

The service operates at approximately 50% of its 2010 capacity whilst achieving improved results.

#### 9.10 Community Safety Implications

Not applicable

#### 9.11 Environmental Impact

None