

TOPIC:**PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - SOUTHEND PRIMARY SCHOOLS' FALLING GRAMMAR SCHOOL ENTRY FIGURES****FRAMEWORK FOR SCRUTINY / SCOPE OF PROJECT:**

To establish the evidence base to provide Councillors with appropriate recommendations, to see what more can be done to improve access to grammar schools.

Method: gathered through project team meetings and witness sessions (using appreciative inquiry).

Target date: May 2014

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillor Kaye (Chairman), Councillor Flewitt (Vice Chairman), Councillors Betson, Carr, Dr Counce, Chalk, Grimwade, Hadley and A P Jones.

Officer / partner support –Jane Theadom and Fiona Abbott, project coordinator.
Technical Support – Darren McAughtrie and Mike Singleton

SOURCES OF EVIDENCE

The evidence base will be:

- (a) Trends and patterns
- (b) Review messages and key recommendations from relevant Reports to Cabinet
- (c) Information from comparable / similar LA's (Bournemouth, Torquay)
- (d) Stakeholders meetings

POTENTIAL WITNESSES:

- (a) Primary School Head Teachers in the Borough, from across spectrum;
- (b) Primary School Chair of Governors in the Borough, from across spectrum;
- (c) Consortium for Selective Schools in Essex (CSSE).

Questions to cover - establish patterns of grammar school entries at school; actions taken to progress it; what help need from the LA to maximise uptake.

To be 2 half day witness sessions in November 2013

Secondary Head Teachers in the Borough from across the spectrum will be invited to submit written statements:

Questions to cover – their position, how working with primary schools to maximise uptake; impact; how manage parental choice for academic education.

Scrutiny process to add value and is supportive of challenges already set to be delivered have limited resources which need to be focused on providing the front line service and the priority outcomes for the Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

To make appropriate recommendations to the Council.