Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Department of the Chief Executive

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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

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Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive
(People)
to
People Scrutiny Committee
on
30th January 2018

Report prepared by: Amanda Champ
School Performance & Improvement Group Manager (Interim)

Schools Progress Report

People Scrutiny Committee
Executive Councillor: Councillor James Courtenay
A Part 1 Public Agenda Item

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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 1st March 2018.

Temple Sutton Primary school is now due to convert 1st 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 14th 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 1st 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, 1280 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 al 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.

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

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)

Academy name	Date of conversion	Multi-Academy Trust	Single Academy
Belfairs Academy	01/06/2012	Legra Academy Trust	
Blenheim Primary and Nursery	01/09/2016	Learning in Harmony Trust	
Bournemouth Park Primary School	01/02/2017	Eastwood Park Academy Trust (EPAT)	
Bournes Green Infant	01/09/2016	Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)	
Bournes Green Junior	01/08/2017	Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)	
Cecil Jones Academy	01/09/2015	Legra Academy Trust	
Chase High School	01/04/2015	Brentwood Academies Trust	
Darlinghurst School	01/01/2014	Legra Academy Trust	
Friars Primary School and Nursery	01/09/2016	Portico Academy Trust	
Hamstel Infant School and Nursery	01/09/2016	Portico Academy Trust	
Hamstel Junior School	01/09/2016	Portico Academy Trust	
Hinguar Community Primary School	01/09/2016	Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)	
Kingsdown School	01/09/2017	SEN Trust Southend	
Lancaster School	01/09/2017	SEN Trust Southend	
Porters Grange Primary School	01/04/2016	Portico Academy Trust	
Prince Avenue Academy & Nursery	01/04/2014	South East Essex Academy Trust (SEEAT)	
Richmond Avenue Primary and Nursery School	01/08/2017	Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)	
PLT Southend Campus: Victory Park & Sutton House (formerly Seabrook College)	01/07/2017	Parallel Learning Trust (PLT)	
Shoeburyness High School	01/12/2011	Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)	
Southend High School for Boys	01/02/2011		Southend High School for Boys Academy Trust

Southend High School for Girls	01/02/2011		Southend High School for Girls Academy Trust
St Bernard's High School	01/08/2011		St Bernard's High School
St Nicholas School	01/09/2017	SEN Trust Southend	
St Thomas More High School	01/08/2011		St. Thomas More High School
The Eastwood Academy	01/08/2011	Eastwood Park Academy Trust (EPAT)	
The Federation of Greenways Schools	01/10/2016	Learning in Harmony Trust	
The St Christopher School	01/03/2012	SEN Trust Southend *(previously a single academy trust)*	
The Westborough School	01/09/2010	The Challenger Multi Academy Trust	
Thorpedene Primary School	01/09/2016	Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)	
Westcliff High School for Boys	01/09/2010		Westcliff High School for Boys
Westcliff High School for Girls	01/03/2011	South East Essex Academy Trust (SEEAT)	
West Leigh Junior School	01/04/2016	Portico Academy Trust	

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Report of Chief Executive
to
People Scrutiny Committee

On 30th January 2018

Report prepared by:
Fiona Abbott

Connecting communities to avoid isolation - update
A Part 1 Agenda Item

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　<u>Contribution to Council's Vision and Critical Priorities</u> – Becoming an excellent and high performing organisation.

5.2　<u>Financial Implications</u> – there are costs associated with organising in depth projects relating to officer time but this will all be contained within existing resources.

5.3　<u>Legal Implications</u> – none.

5.4　<u>People Implications</u> – none.

5.5　<u>Property Implications</u> – none.

5.6　<u>Consultation</u> – as described in report.

5.7　<u>Equalities Impact Assessment</u> – none.

5.8　<u>Risk Assessment</u> – 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