

Public Document Pack

Southend-on-Sea Education Board (formerly referred to as the Schools Forum)

Tuesday 13th March 2018

I confirm that a meeting of the Schools Forum/Education Board will be held on **Tuesday 13th March 2018 at 8.15am to 11.30am**. The meeting will be held at the Tickfield Centre in the Darwin Room.

Robert Harris
Clerk to the Forum
Email: committeesection@southend.gov.uk

AGENDA

Agenda	Item	Lead	Time
1.	Apologies, Substitutions & Introductions (AOB not on the agenda to be identified and dealt with at the discretion of the Chairman).	Chair	5
2.	Membership Update - attached	RH	5
3.	a) Minutes of the meetings held on 16th January 2018 Minutes attached <u>Matters Arising:</u> Provision of Secondary School Places	Chair CB	10
	<u>Schools Forum Matters</u>		
4.	Academy Balances at 31st August 2017 – report to follow	CH	10
5.	Forecast Outturn for the Dedicated Schools Grant budget 2017/18 – report to follow	PG	10
6.	High Needs Funding – progress report on task and finish group attached	BM	10

7.	Early years 18/19 provider rates and Deprivation entitlement Paper – report to follow	EH/PG	10
	<u>Education Board Matters</u>		
8.	SEND the three year Journey - report attached	BM	10
9.	Feedback from Sub Group Chairs: (a) School Performance S.G. – Neil Houchen (b) Vulnerable Learners S.G. – Sarah Greaves (c) Resources S.G. – Robin Bevan	NH SG/JM RB	15
10.	Update on Current Matters: (a) academisation and inspection - verbal update (no papers)	BM	10
11.	Any other business		5
12.	Date and time of future meetings Tuesday 5th June 2018	RH	5

Members:

Mr M Sweeting (Chair)

Mrs Julia Jones, Mrs Karen Willis, Mr T Barrett, Dr R Bevan, Ms L Clark, Mr T Elbourne, Mr J Glazier, Dr P Hayman, Mr N Houchen, Mr J Johnson, Mr B Lester, Mr A McGarel, Ms J Mullan, Mr D Parker, Mr J Parsad, Mr L Pryor, Mr S Reynolds, Ms M Rimmer, Ms V Wright, Ms J Youdale and Cllr J Courtenay

SCHOOLS FORUM MEMBERSHIP

March 2018

1. Full voting members

2

Maintained Primary Schools (5 places)

Tim Barrett - Temple Sutton Primary	13 October 2019
Lionel Pryor - Fairways Primary Governor	12 October 2020
Jim Johnson – Edwards Hall Primary	24 February 2020
Niki Bannister – Milton Hall Primary Governor	5 th June 2020
Julia Jones – Barons Court	

Maintained Secondary Schools (1 place)

Stuart Reynolds - Futures College	2 December 2019
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Academy Secondary (5 places)

Robin Bevan - Southend Boys (Vice-Chair)	24 February 2020
Neil Houchen - Eastwood Academy	18 March 2019
David Parker - Shoeburyness High Governor	3 December 2018
Paul Hayman – Westcliff High for Girls	3 December 2020
Karen Willis – Cecil Jones	

Academy Primary (3 places)

Lisa Clark - Hamstel Infant	7 December 2020
Maurice Sweeting - Hinguar Primary Governor (Chair)	4 December 2020
Darren Woollard – Blenheim Primary School	

Alternative Provision Academy (1 place)

Annette Turner - YMCA

Pupil Referral Unit (1 place)

Vacancy

Maintained Special (1 place)

Margaret Rimmer - Kingsdown	12 September 2020
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Academy Special (1 place)

Jackie Mullan - St Christophers	7 December 2020
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Early Years (2 places)

Vicky Wright – Professional Association for Childcare & Early Years	24 October 2020
Lesley Yelland - Essex Pre-School Learning Alliance	7 December 2020

2. Members with restricted voting

14 – 19 sector (1 place)

Anthony McGarel - South Essex College

24 October 2020

Trade Unions (1 place)

Jerry Glazier

1 December 2018

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Darwin Back Room, Tickfield

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Attendees:

Maurice Sweeting - Hinguar Primary Governor (Chair)
Jerry Glazier – Trade Unions Representative
Tim Barrett - Temple Sutton Primary
Niki Lamont – Milton Hall Primary Governor
Lisa Clark - Hamstel Infants
Jackie Mullen - St Christophers Special School
Jim Johnson – Edwards Hall Primary
Stuart Reynolds – Southchurch High/Futures Academy
Dr Robin Bevan - Southend High School for Boys (Vice-Chair)
Dr Paul Hayman – Westcliff High School for Girls
Lionel Pryor - Fairways Primary Governor
Annette Turner – YMCA
Lesley Yelland – Early Years - PSLA
Neil Houchen - Eastwood Academy
Anthony McGarel - South Essex College
Julia Jones – Barons Court
Darren Woollard – Blenheim Primary

Observers:

Simon Leftley – Deputy CEO (People) - SBC
Brin Martin – Director of Education – SBC
Catherine Braun – Group Manager – Access & Inclusion – SBC
Paul Grout – Finance – SBC
Amanda Champ – Group Manager – Schools Improvement & Development – SBC
Ruth Bonner – (Minutes) – SBC

Apologies:

Cllr James Courtenay – Education Portfolio Holder - SBC
Rob Harris – Committee Officer - SBC
Jane Youdale - Essex Pre-School Learning Alliance
Christine Hickey – Finance – SBC
Karen Willis – Cecil Jones Academy
Vicky Wright – Pacey
Elaine Hammans – Group Manager Early Years – SBC

Agenda	Item	Lead
Introductions		
1.	Apologies, Substitutions, Resignations & Introductions Maurice Sweeting (MS) welcomed Julia Jones (JJ) and Darren Woollard (DW) to the meet. There is one vacancy to be filled, now that David Parker has resigned from Education Board.	
2.	Previous Minutes & Action Log The previous minutes and the Action Log for the Education Board decisions was reviewed. Jackie Mullen (JM) asked that point 7 (High Needs Block) be amended to reflect that the previous SEN Officer had not	

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	undertaken in respect of the VLSG work.	
3.	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Brin Martin (BM) confirmed that there's been no change to the progress since the last Education Board meeting on secondary school numbers. Thomas Moore, Shoebury High and Belfairs schools are still progressing toward expanding their pupil intake.</p> <p>Cathy Braun (CB) confirmed that although Belfairs was a late starter preparing for the extra student places, their relocatables plan is on track. A summary paper, summarising the secondary school places forecast was requested.</p> <p>Robin Bevan (RB) mentioned that a longer term forecast allows schools to make better quality decisions than short term forecasts.</p>	CB to provider report on secondary school places forecast.
4.	<p><u>Primary Catchment Review Update</u></p> <p>The formal consultation on primary catchment areas has now closed. BM expressed his gratitude to CB and her team for the incredible amount of work undertaken in running the consultation and evaluating the responses.</p> <p>BM confirmed that a paper has been prepared for approval for the next Council Cabinet cycle. The paper will be distributed at the Admissions Forum meeting on Friday 19th January and available to read on the Council website from Tuesday 23rd January 2018.</p> <p>The report will go before Scrutiny on 30th January, and objections can be made via the Office of Adjudications during 15th March – 15th May 2018.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Dedicated Schools Grant</u></p> <p>Paul Grout (PG) talked attendees through the Dedicated Schools Grant Budget 2018/19 report, which reflects the decisions taken at the last Education Board meeting. Despite the Early Years and High Needs funding blocks being provisional, the overall position set out for 2018/19 is a balanced schools budge that would be recommended to the Council to approve.</p> <p>The detailed funding allocation for the High Needs and Early Years funding blocks will be presented for approval at the next Education Board meeting in March 2018.</p> <p>BM also asked Board members to not underestimate the hard lobbying both Cllr Courtenay and local MPs had undertaken with central government to ensure all Southend schools are in a better position than before.</p> <p>Simon Leftley (SL) asked attendees to consider the impact the projected population growth in the South East England in the next</p>	

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	<p>10 years.</p> <p>BM mentioned the series of Task & Finish group meetings which have been set up to work through reducing the deficit in High Needs budget, and to create a fairer distribution model going forwards. Minutes of the Task & Finish group meetings would be distributed to Education Board members.</p> <p>JM confirmed that pressure from Essex County Council has been increasing regarding their High Needs children taking places in Southend</p> <p>RB said it would be helpful if inter-authority comparisons could be made as most people round the table have no knowledge of how our High Needs budget compares to elsewhere/nationally.</p> <p>Paul Hayman (PH) agreed it would be helpful to be able to compare overspend in High Needs with statistical neighbours.</p> <p>Anthony McGarel (AM) said the level of core funding for post 16 years children has not been changed since 2011.</p> <p>BM said the local authority will use demographic data to assess those on SEN support and what that means for Southend.</p>	BM
6.	<p><u>Education Board Matters</u></p> <p>Reports from VLSG and RSG sub groups were deferred to the next Education Board meeting as the sub groups had not yet been about the meeting due to the Christmas and New Year period.</p> <p>Neil Houchen (NH) presented a report from the SPSG.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Update on Current Matters</u></p> <p>BM reported back on recent Ofsted reports and the reasoning behind a two day inspection called was simply due to the size of the school.</p> <p>Amanda Champ (AC) reported back on the uplift in interest in the 11+ from Southend children following the summer marketing campaign. There followed a general discussion about grammar schools.</p>	
8.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>BM confirmed that he has invited Alison Griffith to attend the June Education Board meeting. He is also extending an invitation to Regional Schools Commissioner, Sue Baldwin to attend a future meeting.</p>	BM
9.	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p>	

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	The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 13 th March 2018, 0815h – 1100h. Venue details to be confirmed in due course.	Robert Harris
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Briefing note to Education Board on the operation of the High Needs Task and Finish Group

Tuesday 13th March 2018

Brin Martin, Director of Learning, Southend Borough Council

Membership:

Brin Martin SBC
 Gary Bloom SBC
 Paul Grout SBC
 Jackie Mullen Southend Trust
 Lisa Clarke Hampstel Infants
 Tim Barrett Temple Sutton

Frequency of meetings:

17.1 3-5
 31.1 11-2
 9.2 10-1
 20.2 8.30-11
 26.2 (RSG)
 9.3 10-2
 13.3 (Education Board)
 15.3 11-1
 27.3 11-2

Outcomes of T&F group:

To impact upon the current financial year 2017-18

1. To draw up an outline roadmap of activity to undertake in year and future savings on the HNB DSG
2. To identify in advance those areas and principles that the review will be governed by, and that are non-negotiable.
3. To make recommendations for the VLSG/RSG and then to Education Board
4. To propose in year mitigations and savings (2017-18) in order to minimise the impact of the in year overspend on the HNB DSG
5. To propose to Education Board mitigations to minimise the impact upon the DSG reserves 2017-18
6. To recoup such savings as can be reasonably made against legitimate DSG spend in year
7. To propose further DSG legitimate savings for the next financial year planning

To impact upon the subsequent financials years 2018-19 and 2019-20

8. To build on roadmap, identifying actions and activity required in order to provide assurance of intent
9. To map out the planned recovery plan to bring both the HNB DSG back into balance and restore the DSG reserves by March 2020 at the latest
10. To establish clear, transparent, understood and simple principles to achieve the above

11. Through Education Board to consult upon, approve and implement a robust recovery plan
12. To set up clear systems and procedures to monitor and track all spend related to HNB DSG on a monthly basis

Narrative

The group has so far met four times since January. We have separated our work into two phases:

(Fact finding and intelligence)

1. Phase one, interim recommendations relating to reducing the spend in year (17/18) and to identify savings for 18/19;
2. Phase two is the longer work to bring the DSG back into balance and restore reserves. In addition the more complex work of designing and building funding architecture going forwards that will enable the Council and schools clear and unambiguous systems and criteria for funding of all aspects of SEND and high needs spend.

Following the initial intelligence and due diligence, we are now approaching a position where firstly the data on the spend is known and reliable (approaching because some elements remain subject of scrutiny); and secondly identified those areas where there is little or no flexibility or scope for savings.

This exercise has indicated several areas of potential further investigation relating to both in year and next year savings.

Good progress has been made in intelligence, we know more now than we did, and have a far clearer picture of known knowns, known unknowns, which inevitably leads to unknown unknowns.

In addition it has raised several crucial questions that will require answering with regard to anomalous systems and pupil numbers that again will need reconciliation.

The bottom line remains, that currently this is a demand led environment, and demand across Southend is increasing. This demand is partially fuelled by a lack of inclusion exhibited in some areas, resulting in additional pressures.

Given the preliminary work of the group, we have identified the following:

- Immediate savings of £50K
- Areas of interest that could potentially lead to savings in the region of £150-200K

Our next course of action will be to pursue current hit list for savings in the short/medium which are:

On a persona; not I must express my significant gratitude to members of the task and finish group for firstly their time commitment and secondly their willingness to challenge without favour.

Subsequent Board briefings will include the progress in securing the short/medium term savings, and secondly the traction gained in starting phase two.

Southend-on-Sea Education Board

on
13th March 2018

Report prepared by: Brin Martin, Director of learning SBC

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SEND in Southend, An Update

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 SEND rarely features as a topic of discussion at Education Board, other than the High Needs Block allocations or EHCP compliance. With significant changes and challenges to SEND provision and outcomes, this is an opportune moment to engage Board in the start of a strategic discussion.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That note the current context of provision for learners with SEND in Southend;

2.2 That Board recognises its role in supporting improvements in the area provision for SEND, as will ultimately be tested through OFSTED/CQC inspection;

2.3 That Board actively supports the refresh of the three year SEND strategy.

3. Background/Context

3.1 Provision for SEND, by its nature, remains a significant challenge in order to best meet the needs of vulnerable learners.

3.2 This challenge has manifested itself in outcomes below the national and statistical neighbour averages across a range of measures, in terms of compliance, resourcing, learner outcomes and provision. These measures are crudely summarised in the Appendix one, **Southend SEND dashboard**.

3.3 Overall, there remain some anomalous statistics exhibited in Southend that creates a visibly different profile, of the low number of SEND support learners compared to the high number of learners with EHCPs.

3.4 Traditionally specialist provision in Southend Borough was designed to serve the South of Essex County, and, layered with our own demographic pressures, is now at full capacity, both in our special schools and in additional specialist bases.

3.5 SEND in maintained schools is also subject to considerable challenges. This inevitably creates a tension between on the one hand the ambition of each

school to attain well and the pressures that including the needs of very vulnerable learners creates.

3.6 These conflicting tensions will be judged by the Area Inspection of SEND provision within the next few years. This inspection will report upon the collective provision for SEND, by the Local Authority (LA), the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and that of schools and other stakeholders, including the third sector.

3.7 Several contextual and regulatory functions coincide around this time, including the end/reinstatement of the Education Reform Grant; implementation of the act in relation to statements; the requirement refresh the SEND strategy and the arrival key strategic managers within the service. This allows us the opportunity to work with schools to review and realign our strategic and operational support for SEND.

4. Review and refresh

4.1 Members of Education Board, and their constituent associations are invited participate in the current review of all aspects of SEND provision.

4.2 This review will lead to a refresh of the current three year SEND strategy owned by the Council, recognising that optimistically to address all elements of the refresh will take that period of time.

4.3 This journey has already started, with engagement activity involving the service, the SEND strategic Board and other key stakeholders. The review will move through iterative phases:

4.3.1 An initial activity to identify all aspects of SEND that will be in scope;

4.3.2 Full engagement with stakeholders, including parents, carers, families and learners with SEND;

4.3.3 Prioritisation and focus;

4.3.4 Formalisation of the journey into accessible and succinct strategic documentation and plans;

4.3.5 Implementation of plans (this will start as and when an issue emerges, not wait for the paperwork to be completed);

4.3.6 Formalisation through cabinet

4.4 The first part of this journey is summarised in the **mind map** attached in appendix two

4.5 Through the next few months, it is hoped you will see progressive and iterative versions of this map and the documents that follow it, as well as starting to address the prioritised issues. Out of necessity, this will also entail other matters not being addressed in the first year.

5. Implications of the report

5.1 Financial implications. Currently, the HNB is overspent. Part of the early review will be activity to bring this back into balance with two years. All activity will be within the allocated staffing and budget by the Council.

5.2 Consultation. Inherent in the style and scope of the SEND journey. In particular, greater energy and effort will be placed upon hearing the views of parents and families, and the voice of learners with SEND directly.

5.3 Risk associated with the report. The key risks are that:

5.3.1 Stakeholders, including schools, see this journey as something involving only the Council, and do not recognise their part in providing within the resources they receive for SEND learners at their school;

5.3.2 Demographic or demand create even more pressure on the HNB;

5.3.3 That together, we, the LA, CCG and stakeholders, including schools, are not sufficiently aligned in respect of the Area Inspection.

6. Background Papers

6.1 SEND Dashboard

6.2 SEND mind map

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