

Southend-on-Sea Education Board

on

Tuesday 30th October 2018

Report prepared by:
Robert Harris (Clerk)

New Guidance for the operation and structure of Schools Forum (Southend Education Board)

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1** To inform the Education Board of the guidance issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency in September 2018 concerning the operation, powers and structure of the Schools Forum (Southend Education Board).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1** That the Education Board agrees to set-up a time-limited Task and Finish Group consisting of 5 members of the Board (including the Clerk) to review the operational and good practice guidance and make recommendations to a future meeting of the Board.

3. Background/Context

- 3.1** The Education and Skills Funding Agency issued new guidance entitled 'Operational and Good Practice Guide' to Schools Forum in September 2018.
- 3.2** The Guidance covers the powers and responsibilities and the structure of the Schools Forum (Southend Education Board). This also includes a self-assessment toolkit to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the Education Board.
- 3.3** The Education Board had previously agreed the PriceWaterHouseCoopers Audit report and implementation action plan on the operation of the Board on 15th March 2017.
- 3.4** The Education Board on 5th June 2018 agreed a revised and updated Protocol, Terms of Reference and Membership. In light of this it is timely to carry out a light-touch review of the Board's operation and structure to ensure it is aligned with the good practice guidance.
- 3.5** The Board is therefore asked to set-up a time-limited Task and Finish Group to take this piece of work forward.

4. Implications of the report

4.1 Financial implications

Not applicable

4.2 Consultation

Not applicable

4.3 Risk associated with the report

Not applicable

5. Background Papers

5.1 Education & Skills Funding Agency Operational and Good Practice Guide September 2018

5.2 Schools Forum Powers and Responsibilities

5.3 School Forums Structure