

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Deputy Chief Executive (People)

to

People Scrutiny Committee

on 8th October 2019

Report prepared by: Amanda Champ, Head of School
Performance & Provision Services

Schools Progress Report

People Scrutiny Committee – Cabinet Member: Councillor Anne Jones

1. Purpose of Report

To inform Members 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. Recommendations

For People Scrutiny to note and approve the information in this report.

It should be noted that several of the initiatives outlined below are a direct implementation of the 2019-20 2050 Outcome Delivery Plan for Opportunity and Prosperity, readiness for school and work.

3. Background

There were no inspections over the Summer due to school holidays so, following a significant number of school inspections towards the end of the summer term, the % of pupils attending a good or outstanding school is 88.1% and is now above target.

A new Ofsted inspection framework which has a greater focus on the quality of education, including the curriculum, came into force at the beginning of September. Schools have been fully briefed on the changes to the framework. Training has been offered to Head teachers and Governors.

Two Southend-on-Sea schools have already been inspected under the new framework. Greenways Primary school was inspected 17th September 2019 to 18th September 2019. Bournemouth Park was inspected 24th to 25th September 2019. The outcomes of these reports are not in the public domain at the time of writing this report. We track schools who are potentially due and inspection (according to the Ofsted Inspection guidelines) and offer preparation support should the schools wish to receive it.

Secondary Schools

The 'three secondary school project' continues to provide funding for support to Southchurch High, Cecil Jones Academy and Chase High school. Each of the three schools, through their Trusts, have submitted a costed business plan which indicates how the funds will support them in their journey to good, and how the Council will hold them to account for the outcomes achieved in relation to that funding. It should be remembered that neither of the schools is likely to receive an inspection within the academic year.

Academy conversions

There have been no Academy conversions since the last People Scrutiny report.

ISOS

The Council has commissioned a national research partnership, ISOS, to undertake a major piece of work on inclusion in our schools. ISOS have conducted similar work at national and local level. Isos researchers have already undertaken visits to selected schools and colleges, and have spoken with pupils and parents concerning their experiences of "inclusion", in effect answering the question "are the right children receiving the right education in the right school". This agenda will allow members to consider the degree to which all schools share a collective purpose for the education of all learners in the Borough rather than those only at their own school, and fits well with the new OFSTED framework due to be implemented in September. The full report will be available to members towards the end of the Autumn Term 2019.

Young people not in employment education or training (NEET) and unknown

Please see draft figures below for July 2019, these are still draft and subject to change.

NEET/ Not Known combined

For July 2019 our **combined NEET and Not Known figure was 4.0%**, this has put the authority into the 2nd quintile for this measurement. When compared to July 2018, our figure was 7.1% and we were in the 5th quintile. The improvement over this past year to this point is significant.

Not Known

For July 2019 our NK figure was **1.4%**, this is a noticeable improvement on July 2018 where our figure was **4.1%** putting the Council in the 5th quintile, we are now in the 2nd for this individual measure. This improvement is even more impressive due to the sustained low level of NEETs from July 2019, we would usually expect a rise in NEETs as the NK's decrease.

Y12/13 Looked after/in care:

July 18: 28.1% NEET, 3.1% Not Known (out of a cohort of 44)

July 19: 22.2% NEET, 0% Not Known (out of a cohort of 48)

Outcomes for Southend's looked after children have improved since July 2018 when 31.3% were NEET or Not Known (meaning that 68.7% were in

employment, education or training), compared to 22.2% in July 2019. This means that as of July 2019 we currently have 77.8% of our Y12/13 Looked after or in care young people in employment, education or training. No national LA data is published for this measure so benchmarking is not possible.

4. Other Options

N/A

5. Reasons for Recommendations

N/A

6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Contribution to the Southend 2050 Road Map

The Schools Progress report links directly to the following Southend 2050 ambition themes and outcomes:

Pride and Joy

- There is a tangible sense of pride in the place and local people are actively, and knowledgeably, talking up Southend-on-Sea

Safe and Well

- People in all parts of the Borough feel safe and secure
- Southenders agree that people from different backgrounds are valued and get on well together
- The benefits of community connection are evident as more people come together to help, support and spend time with each other

Opportunity and Prosperity

- Our children are school and life ready and our workforce is skilled and job ready.
- In addition, this report contributes to the Council's stated ambition that all schools will be good or outstanding.

6.2 Financial Implications

The work currently undertaken by school improvement is covered by the core staffing budget and the SLAs with the teaching schools namely the primary teaching school alliance and SETSA

6.3 Legal Implications

none

6.4 People Implications

none

6.5 Property Implications

none

- 6.6 Consultation
N/A
- 6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications
Equality impact assessments have been completed for both major strategies that link to this progress report, namely the grammar school strategy and the pupil premium strategy.
- 6.8 Risk Assessment
N/A
- 6.9 Value for Money
N/A
- 6.10 Community Safety Implications
N/A
- 6.11 Environmental Impact
N/A

7. Background Papers

No additional back ground papers have been used to prepare this document. This report does take account of OFSTED inspection reports published by Ofsted which can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted>

8. Appendices

None