

# COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

3 FEBRUARY 2020

## REPORT OF HEAD OF PEOPLE, PERFORMANCE AND PROJECTS

### A.1 REPORT UPDATE ON EDUCATION, ECONOMY & SKILLS

(Report prepared by Anastasia Simpson, Head of People, Performance & Projects & Rebecca Morton, Executive Projects Manager)

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To provide the committee with an update on the Education and skills agenda within the District.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Council's Corporate Plan 2020-2024 puts Community Leadership at the heart of everything we do and within this context a number of projects are being undertaken by the Council to support children and young people and their families in the District. Whilst Essex County Council have the statutory responsibility for Education, this report aims to summarise key work supported by the Council which includes work undertaken/supported by officers in the People, Performance & Projects, Health, Community Safety and Regeneration teams.

#### **Education**

A priority has been to ensure that partnership working continues to be effective and that the Council continues to provide support, encouragement and commitment to working collaboratively with schools to improve school attainment levels and raise aspirations and opportunities for children and young people across the District.

The work being undertaken to support the Education agenda also supports both the Essex and Tendring Children & Young People's Strategy 2016 and Tendring's Delivery Plan 2019/2020. Tendring's priorities are:-

1. **Start Well** – to continue to support schools in improving and maintaining attainment levels, and a positive experience and opportunities through school to allow each child to achieve their full potential
2. **Stay Safe** – children and young people feeling safe in their community
3. **Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing** – enjoying good mental health and wellbeing
4. **Positive Futures** - working together with partners to enable families to lift themselves out of poverty, enhance aspirations and provide opportunities for life long wellbeing.

#### **EDUCATION AND SKILLS UPDATE**

#### **EDUCATION**

#### **Start Well, Raising Aspirations & Positive Futures**

#### **North East Essex Teacher Training (NEETT)**

## **Recruitment & Retention of Teachers - North Essex Teacher Training (NETT)**

In the 2018/2019 (academic year), 26 primary trainees and 32 secondary trainees completed the course, with 56% of the trainees being employed in partner schools in Tendring, Harwich and Colchester. 98% of trainees were employed in 'Local schools.'

For this current academic year NEETT have 26 primary trainees and 35 secondary trainees. Further information is available at Website: <http://www.nett.org.uk/>

To date, recruitment is steady for the course which commences in September 2020, with 11 acceptances on secondary (an increase from last year), and 8 for primary (same as last year).

NETT also attend TDC's annual careers fair and from the most recent event currently have two young people on their internship programme.

Website link: <http://www.nett.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Internship-flyer-2.pdf>

### **Teach First**

**Background:** Teach First is a national organisation that operates both as a training provider and recruitment agency and the authority has been working with schools and Teach First to encourage them to place teachers and work more closely with schools in the Tendring area.

Website: <https://www.teachfirst.org.uk/>

Due to the introduction of the Governments' "Opportunity Areas" the number of teachers placed in Tendring dropped in 2018/19. (TeachFirst are part funded by central government and were set targets for areas identified as part of the Opportunity areas initiative).

The following table shows the number of trainees placed in Tendring schools since Teach First commenced work in the district 2017:-

### **Teach First - Teacher Training Programme**

<b>School</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3 (training programme alumni who have remained in their placement schools for a third year)</b>
Clacton County	3 English, maths, science	1 English	1 MFL
Clacton Coastal	1 English	0	2 English
White Hall	1 primary	1 primary	2 primary
St Osyth	0	1	0

		primary	
<b>Total</b>	5	3	5

### **Careers and Employability Leadership Programme (CELP)**

Teach First also offer the Careers and Employability Leadership Programme, which is designed to support a designated middle or senior leader to develop into a highly effective Careers Leader. It helps schools to develop best practice in careers and employability, in line with Gatsby Benchmarks and prepares schools to meet all the elements of the government's new statutory guidance. It also supports schools to prepare for the Quality Award in Careers.

The secondary schools currently taking part in the Careers Leader Programme in 2019-20 are Clacton County High School and Tendring Technology College.

### **IntoUniversity**

**Background:** In 2017, IntoUniversity and Anglia Ruskin University formed a partnership to launch a new Learning Centre in Clacton which opened in October 2017. The joint investment of £1.2 million for the new centre will ensure that the project can run for at least 5 years.

IntoUniversity is an Education charity that provides learning centres where young people are inspired to achieve. There are currently 25 centres across England. IntoUniversity offers an "innovative, long term programme" to young people (age seven to eighteen) from disadvantaged backgrounds to fulfil their potential. To date no centre that has been opened has subsequently closed.

The Clacton learning centre, has four full time members of staff and has a particular focus on STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths).IntoUniversity had a very successful first year in partnership with Anglia Ruskin University, raising young people's chances of progressing to University or further education:-

1,007 total students worked with the Centre (academic year)

628 Primary

379 Secondary

76 students seen for academic support

49 students seen on the buddy Programme

608 students seen on the Primary Focus Programme and

340 seen on the Secondary Focus Programme

For further information: <https://intouniversity.org/>

### **School Places**

An ECC report on recent activity in relation to school places in Tendring is provided in Appendix A.

This short report should be read in conjunction with the Essex County Council School Places 10 yr Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028, see website link below:-

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<https://assets.ctfassets.net/knkzaf64jx5x/2bM36X1QCrhipNs9ioBPEG/915cf257efb1b96cdc5322fa4bb8ea47/10-year-plan-Essex-schools-places.pdf>

## **Young People not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)**

### **Tendring - NEET 2018/2019**

<b>% YP 16 - 18 NEET in Tendring broken down by Month</b>	<b>Tendring 2018/19</b>	<b>Essex 2018/19</b>	<b>East of England</b>
30/09/2018	2.4%	2.0%	2.1%
31/10/2018	2.3%	2.1%	2.4%
30/11/2018	2.9%	2.4%	2.7%
31/12/2018	3.1%	2.5%	2.9%
31/01/2019	3.2%	2.5%	2.9%
28/02/2019	3.4%	2.4%	2.9%
31/03/2019	3.20%	2.40%	3.00%
30/04/2019	3.10%	2.60%	3.00%
31/05/2019	3.10%	2.80%	3.10%
30/06/2019	3.10%	2.70%	3.10%
31/07/2019	3.40%	2.70%	3.20%
31/08/2019	4.10%	3.00%	3.30%
30/09/2019	3.40%	1.80%	1.90%
31/10/2019	4.00%	2.10%	2.20%
30/11/2019	4.50%	2.40%	2.60%
31/12/2019	4.70%	2.70%	2.80%

### **Tendring School Attainment Data**

An update regarding Tendring school attainment data will be provided by Essex County Council at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020.

### **Start Well/Stay Well – Mental Health & Wellbeing**

#### **Wellbeing Hub, Gt Bentley Primary School**

**Background** - Within Tendring, one of the Cluster Lead Head teachers at Gt Bentley Primary school set up a pilot Wellbeing Hub within the school which launched in April 2017, and operates as an after school facility. The sessions for the children are arranged in groups around the themes of play, art, construction, and science. As well as the sessions for children the Hub offers information sessions for parents and carers on subjects such as sleep, nutrition and behaviour management.

The Wellbeing Hub aims to build the children's resilience and self-esteem, encouraging them to recognise their own emotions and learn tools and techniques to deal with these. Also, developing a culture where the children accept feelings such as anxiety will happen and learn how to identify that in themselves and others,

gaining a “rucksack of skills” to take them forward into secondary school and beyond.

Both TDC and Gt Bentley School shared the aspiration to see the model of the Wellbeing Hub “rolled out” in primary schools across the District. Working with the Public Health Co-ordinator a bid was submitted to the Alliance transformation fund to extend the work of the Wellbeing Hub at Gt Bentley primary school to up to 21 primary schools in Tendring & Colchester.

The £245,000 bid by TDC was recently approved, it includes peer support for teachers, training to help deliver mental health support, development of a tool kit for use by wider schools and evaluation. Working closely with Gt Bentley Primary school, work is underway to appoint a Project Manager (2 days per week) to lead the project, which will run from 2020 – 2022.

### **Kids Run Free Charity - Marathon Kids**

**Background** – Kids Run Free is a registered national charity. One aspect of what they do includes Marathon Kids, which challenges children to run or walk up to four marathons over an academic year by running laps of a course on either the school field or playground. The programme focuses on personal achievement rather than competition and is fully inclusive regardless of fitness or ability.

Using the Marathon Kids 5 Pillars schools can set goals, track performance and reward effort:

- **Goal Setting** - children set their own goals and work hard for them
- **Tracking** - schools track everyone's participation using the FREE Digital Tracking System provided by Kids Run Free
- **Role-modelling** – Marathon Kids supports teachers and parents to run, because children run further than in schools where adults do not participate
- **Rewards** - the giving of certificates, stickers, medals keeps children motivated to reach each milestone
- **Celebration** - Marathon Kids celebrates every child's achievement no matter the distance

The Executive Projects Manager and Public Health Improvement Officer are working with the charity Kids Run Free to bring Marathon Kids to primary schools within the District. Kids Run Free had been successful in securing funding to launch and support 12 primary schools in the District over two years, with a view to getting children more active, improve their health & wellbeing, to challenge and inspire. 7 schools signed up for the programme in 2018/2019 academic year.

Website: <https://www.kidsrunfree.co.uk/>

### **Sport England Local Delivery Pilot (LDP)**

The Sport England Local Delivery Pilot which seeks to improve activity in those who are inactive sees £10 million coming to Essex and being delivered specifically in the key target areas of Tendring, Colchester and Basildon. The areas of focus are

around children and their families, those with poor mental health and older people and in particular with a reference to deprived areas. As the Pilot seeks to address those who are inactive funding is unlikely to be directed to traditional sporting activities such as providing football pitches as this tends to make those already active, more active.

This has been worked up via a Core Team at Essex County Council which has Tendring officers represented on the group and has been involved in developing the core thinking behind the project, investment plans, application processes and working with Sport England to ensure the funding is available locally with the initial development grant now having been drawn down.

At a local level the focus has been on developing wider contacts with the community with an officer liaising with these groups and uncovering new groups or individuals who are passionate about making a difference to their community.

A Tendring Leadership Group has also been formed to help deliver locally which has representatives from the community and voluntary sector and other organisations and partners which match the focus areas of children and families, those with poor mental health and older people but also the wider system settings as well. There are a number of key wider system settings where the Local Delivery Pilot needs to work to tackle inactivity for example in relation to social care, community safety, health, the community, the workplace and planning and infrastructure and representatives from these areas are also present either on the Leadership Group or a wider expert panel.

The role of the Leadership Group is to represent the community and wider system settings and it has developed a local plan for Tendring highlighting the work of the Local Delivery Pilot in Tendring and the areas of focus and potential for the community and this will be shared widely with individuals, groups and partners. The next step is to turn this into a delivery plan.

As representatives of the community, members of the group will help inform the wider community of the opportunity presented by the Local Delivery Pilot and support them to make bids which will be initially vetted by the Leadership Group prior to a final sign off at Core Team. If approved the members of the Leadership Group would also then support the applicant to help deliver the project so the whole process is inclusive to assist and support members of the community in what they wish to achieve.

The first funding available will be around micro grants which will be up to £2500 for individuals or community groups to start to develop actions in their area about which they are passionate and it is envisaged that these grants will be available within the next couple of months.

At the same time some training is being provided to members of some of our communities around asset based community development which helps to focus on the strengths in an area and precipitate the passion of local individuals and groups.

Besides helping to deliver improvements to the community there is also a focus on generating system change so partners in the system start to work in a different way to generate and sustain improvements in activity for example, how partners can

assist social care to improve activity in terms of how they interact with people who are discharged from hospital or identifying those at risk of going to hospital and provide an intervention to stop this.

The organisation to deliver this project locally is at an advanced stage and the opening of the micro grants heralds the delivery of further investment in our area.

### **Stay Safe - Community Safety Projects**

Community Safety Projects which specifically relate to Education and young people include:

- Walk Online Roadshow
- Water Safety Event

#### **Walk Online Roadshow:**

The Walk Online Roadshow has been developed by a company called EST E-Safety Training to raise awareness in young people about the potential dangers when using the internet. The roadshow highlight issues that both adults and young people are not aware of, including how easily young people can be exploited through well-known online games and apps. The content illustrates exactly how these sites are used to identify young people for potential exploitation and critically how young people can be alert to these risks knowing how to identify and report them.

One of the Tendring CSP's key priorities is protecting vulnerable people from hidden harm, which includes keeping children safe online.

As our world becomes ever-more digital it becomes increasingly important that we stay safe online, and that extends to our children as well as ourselves.

It is vital that not only do we equip children themselves with the basic skills to protect themselves from various online crime, but that teachers, parents and other adult relatives also keep up to date with the latest trends and make sure that they are monitoring their children's behaviours online and keep settings secure

The roadshow was run 5-7 March 2019, over 700 year 5 pupils attended and 148 staff members. We also ran 2 parents sessions that had over 182 adults attend.

#### **Water Safety Event:**

The CSP ran a Water Safety Awareness Event to coincide with National Drowning Prevention Week to raise awareness of the dangers of the Sea. This was held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The event was attended by partner organisations; R.N.L.I, Coastguard, Essex Police, Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, TDC Beach Patrol and Community First Responders.

#### **Regeneration:**

##### **Start Well/Stay Safe: Tendring Junior Ambassadors Project**

During 2017, following a successful funding bid, TDC received 9k from The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners Community Safety Development Fund. These monies supported the delivery of the Tendring Junior Ambassadors project to 11 schools during 2018. The project was received well by parents, staff and pupils of

the schools involved. Following this success, Tendring District Council funded the project again in 2019, enabling the delivery to a further 13 schools in the area.

Devised in response to a rise in Hate Crime in the Tendring area and involving year 5/6 year students. The project theme is Cultural Awareness. By being part of the project Junior Ambassadors become community ambassadors who will deliver the message to friends and families about their understanding of the differences between themselves and people from other countries or other backgrounds, especially differences in attitudes and values.

One of the many benefits of developing a sense of cultural awareness is that we learn to recognise and understand that we all have different values, shaped by our diverse cultural backgrounds. What we consider to be 'normal' behaviour in one country can be entirely different in another. By being respectful of others and accepting people's opinion, rights and feelings – even when they are different to our own – allows us to develop more as an individual.

As part of the project pupils will take part in educational activities involving several organisations whose work centres on diversity and cultural awareness. Pupils will also have the opportunity to produce a Booklet that demonstrates their understanding of this subject.

This initiative continues to gain an impressive level of endorsement regarding the effect and value of the delivery and outcomes by partners such as: Victim Support, Refuge Action – Colchester and the National Institute of Health Research. It is envisaged that further funding will be sourced to continue the project during 2020.

### **Start Well/Stay Well - Holiday Fun**

Tendring District Council was approached by the Director of Firstsite, Colchester, in late 2018 to discuss the expansion of a project they run at the Gallery in Colchester with the primary aim of reducing food poverty for families during the school holidays. Their aim was to expand on their successful track record and deliver the project further afield into Tendring. In consultation with TDC, it was decided that Harwich and Dovercourt would be the most appropriate location in terms of need for this type of service; it also benefits from established local groups as well as popular, accessible venues which could serve to drive attendance.

TDC and Firstsite applied to and were successful in securing circa £15,000 through Arts Council England's 'Grants for the Arts' scheme, with TDC contributing the remaining circa £5,000 to meet to total £20,000 required for delivery. This input attracted further funding from the North Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), with circa £70,000 allocated to the entire scheme (with Colchester, and Firstsite, as the base). Harwich Festival of the Arts is a delivery partner, in that they have opened their centre as venue for the sessions over the summer. Similarly, Homestart has been a key driver of promotion and attendance with many of the attendees regulars at Homestart's weekly sessions. Local schools, libraries and other services have also assisted in promotion.

The scheme is comprised of arts and physical activity sessions in Harwich, with a hot lunch provided either at low cost or free for those who would be in receipt of free



school meals during term time. Other sessions outside of term time have linked in with existing family sessions from Homestart, which has meant that the reach has been expanded to families with younger children. Through this scheme, not only is food poverty addressed during school holidays, using arts and physical activity to open dialogue with local families can allow signposting to further support where necessary and appropriate.

The arts sessions in Harwich have focussed on ongoing work by artist Susan Pui San Lok, currently exhibiting at Firstsite, with the aim of work produced by local families being exhibited alongside her own at the end of the project. This, alongside sessions including essential skills such as public speaking and teamwork, means that parents/guardians can also gain tangible benefits from the sessions; increasing confidence and accessing/contributing to local creative and cultural activity.

The £20,000 initial cost has allowed for an appropriate kitchen to be fitted at the Harwich Arts and Heritage Centre, as well as for qualified staff to deliver the physical activity sessions and catering. The project ran until the end of the Summer Holidays 2019, and continued outside of term time for families with children below school age until the Autumn. The further funding allocated to Firstsite through the CCG could mean further expansion in subsequent years, although whether this will again be in Tendring, or alternatively will have a wider North Essex focus remains to be decided.

Summary data from programme:

- The adult users of the programme in Harwich tend to be female, part-time workers, aged between 35-44 years.
- The average age of children attending the sessions is 6 years.
- Postcode analysis reveals that the Harwich programme is targeting users who live in areas with high levels of multiple deprivation.
- 65% of canteen users in Harwich were in receipt of free school meals.
- The programme users in Harwich reported high levels of satisfaction (usually over 90% of users in agreement in the statements) in relation to reduced food insecurity, increased pride in themselves, meeting new people and having fun.
- The only area of disagreement/dissatisfaction was with the statement, 'we have tried new foods'.
- Canteen users had high levels of agreement (again over 90%) with the statements 'my concerns about feeding my family have been reduced', and 'Firstsite
- Holiday Fun has helped me financially during the school holidays'
- Child questionnaire responses were also very positive, with over 90% of children agreeing they'd had fun, done something creative and would want to come back and do the activity again.

(Source: Report for Firstsite Holiday Programmes, Evaluation of user surveys from Colchester and Harwich Programmes, Summer Holidays 2019 – Essex University)

This project has contributed to:

- Community Leadership: Our Council Our Community, Health and Housing, Employment and Enjoyment
- The emerging Creative and Cultural Strategy, Youth Agenda and Public Health Priorities
- Tending Children and Young People Strategy 2017-2020.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that:

- (a) That the Committee notes the contents of this report.
- (b) The Committee determines whether it has any comments or recommendations it wishes to put forward the relevant Portfolio Holder or Cabinet.

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