

CABINET

24 MAY 2024

REFERENCE REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

A.11 SCRUTINY OF SCHOOL AGE EDUCATION PROVISION

(Report prepared by Keith Durran)

BACKGROUND

The Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee (“the Committee”) at its meeting held on 23 April 2024, considered a final report from its School Age Education Provision Task and Finish Group, which had been submitted following that Group’s conclusion of its enquiry concerning Education. The Committee had been provided, as the material for them to consider, the final report of the School Age Education Provision Task & Finish Group following its enquiry concerning Education. That report is attached as Appendix 1.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE’S RECOMMENDATION(S) TO CABINET

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:

- a) Advocate and champion where possible local mental health support for young people.
- b) Seek funding opportunities, wherever possible, to provide mental health support for young people.
- c) Promote the suicide prevention training (free online learning package) to schools across Tendring.
- d) Support and have Officer attendance at the Tendring Education Strategic Board, Attendance sub-group.
- e) Champion and continue to work closely with Family Solutions.
- f) To continue to support the Primary Wellbeing hubs and cascade the evaluation from the University of Essex through the Essex Health and Wellbeing Board, Tendring Community Safety Partnership/Health and Wellbeing Board.
- g) To request an update from ECC Education colleagues regarding school attendance data:-

The following requests to be submitted to ECC post January 2025 - (this will be the earliest opportunity for school data to be available under new reporting arrangements for schools. (Ref: Department for Education Guidance, “Working Together to Improve School Attendance,” (update February 2024)):

- Request attendance data relating to the autumn term of 2024/25 to show levels of persistent and severe absence within the district (for the Tendring area and broken down by school).
- Number of alternative commissioning arrangements which have been commissioned by the LA (Education Access Team/SEND Team) for the

Tendring district, including the reasons why such provision has been deemed necessary. This request should cover the autumn term 2024/25.

- Number of SEND children (SEN Support or EHCP) who have been removed from a Tendring school roll in favour of elective home education, during the autumn term (Tendring district data for the autumn term 2024/25, broken down by primary and secondary phases), where the reason provided suggests needs have not been met by the school.

PORTFOLIO HOLDER COMMENT(S) AND RECOMMENDATION(S) TO CABINET

The response of the Partnerships Portfolio Holder will be tabled at the meeting, if it is not circulated beforehand.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET:

That the recommendations made by the Community Leadership Overview & Scrutiny Committee be noted and that the response of the Partnerships Portfolio Holder thereto be endorsed.