

By: Peter Lake - Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee
Benjamin Watts – General Counsel

To: Scrutiny Committee – 17 April 2018

Subject: Select Committee Work Programme – Update

Status: Unrestricted

Summary: To receive an update on the Select Committee Topic Review Programme

Select Committee – Pupil Premium

1. This Select Committee, under the Chairmanship of Mrs L Game, has been reviewing the Pupil Premium and its effectiveness in narrowing the attainment gap for Kent's vulnerable learners.

2. The Select Committee requested that the timescale of the Committee be extended to enable it to complete its evidence gathering and report to County Council in July 2018. Approval was granted by the Scrutiny Committee at its meeting in November 2017 for the timetable extension.

3. The Pupil Premium Select Committee held 25 hearing sessions with a wide range of witnesses, including representatives of nurseries and of Primary and Secondary schools in Kent, the Education Endowment Foundation, other local authorities, as well as a number of senior KCC officers. The Committee also attended one visit with local children in care, four visits at local Primary and Secondary schools, and one visit to the Sacred Heart Catholic School in London – the 2017 National Pupil Premium Award (Secondary) winner. Also, following two press releases and communications via Kelsi (KCC's online Education Hub) inviting submission of written evidence from any interested parties, the Committee received submissions from a variety of sources, including the Kent Association of Headteachers.

4. This Select Committee is due to present its report to County Council in July 2018 for consideration and approval.

Select Committee – Social Isolation

5. At the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 6 September 2017 it was agreed that a Select Committee on Social Isolation be established when the Select Committee on Pupil Premium was nearing completion.

6. It is anticipated that work will begin to establish this review towards the end of May 2018 with a provisional timetable for the review to be submitted to the next Scrutiny Committee meeting for consideration and approval.

Recommendation:

That the progress of the Select Committee on Pupil Premium be noted;

that work begins to establish the Select Committee on Social Isolation in May 2018 and;

that a timetable for the review be presented to the Scrutiny Committee at its next meeting for consideration and approval.

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Background document - none