

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – PEOPLE**

22 November 2017

Review of Permanent Exclusions Update

1. Purpose of the Report

To update Members on the school permanent exclusions review.

2. Information and Analysis

Members approved on the 6 September 2017 a review of school permanent exclusions and appointed Members to be on the working group.

Since then, the working group has held numerous meetings with officers, following the agreed lines of inquiry. This has included the Inclusion Strategy Group, which allowed for Members to discuss with lead officers from various service areas who are involved in the exclusions process.

Further working group meetings are scheduled for November and December, to meet with relevant officers individually. The working group are also arranging to engage with School Cluster Groups and Head Teacher Groups.

Appendix one provides an update on progress being made for each line of enquiry.

3. Officer's Recommendations

The Committee notes the progress of the school permanent exclusion review.

Councillor Judith Twigg

Chairman – Improvement and Scrutiny Committee People

School Permanent Exclusions Scrutiny Review – Lines of inquiry
Progress November 2017

The review will focus the following key lines of enquiry:

LOI 1: The school policies which impact on the permanent exclusion process:

- School behaviour policies from all Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire secondary schools have been collated (to update existing research from Exclusion Research Project Report).
- Schools with higher rates of permanent exclusions have been separated out. Further work to be completed on any significant differences.

LOI 2: The role of the authority in the permanent exclusions process (including alternative provision):

- Discussed in more detail the continuum of provision with the Inclusion Strategy Group on 19th October and what areas working well, for example in preventive work.
- Analysed the outcomes from the Exclusion Research Project. Following up with schools on the audit of the Exclusions Research Project.
- Received a briefing on the feedback from the Exclusion Research Project Report and the learnings from the £1m funding to invest in promoting a collaborative approach in reducing the number of permanent exclusions.
- Research the representation of SENCO's on Senior Leadership Teams. Look at whether there are any correlations in reductions of SENCO's and permanent exclusion rates and the extent of SENCO training in schools.
- Analyse the development of MATs over time (coverage, service provision, number of MATs) in the context of prevention and permanent exclusions in December 2017.

- Meet with the Deputy Director Children's Services to discuss role of the authority in school permanent exclusions and relationship with schools in December 2017.
- Meet with Chairs of the School Cluster Groups and Head Teacher Groups to understand their positions and views of school permanent exclusions.

LOI 3: Information on the number permanent exclusions by school type, area and reasons for exclusions.

- Analysed performance data on the rate and number of school permanent exclusions by school phase, type, locality, year group, reason and by school.
- Analysed the incidence of permanent exclusions from the cohort who are dual registered and through Temporary Additional Pupil Support.
- Analysed 3 years of attainment measures (Progress 8, Ebacc) in comparison to overall for those:
 - Permanently excluded
 - Had a managed move
 - Had a fixed term exclusion(s)
 - Dual registered
 - Had Temporary Additional Pupil Support
- Obtain performance data on placements and outcomes of pupils who have been in the Support Centres for the last three years.

LOI 4: How funding is impacted by permanent exclusions, including pupil payment transfers/penalties.

- Completed desk research on other authority's use of cost recovery mechanisms. Briefing to Members in December 2017 such mechanism in Derbyshire and how it can be applied in light of new national guidance on exclusions.
- Three year financials - actuals, under/overspends and budgeted for:
 - Behaviour Support Service
 - Education Psychologists Service
 - Integrated Pathways Team

- Nurture Team
 - Positive Play Team
 - Cost of Managed Moves (if any to the LA)
 - Temporary Additional Pupil Support
 - Inclusion Team
 - Support Centres (PRU's) and what happens if places not taken
- Income from schools on what services being traded in early interventions, for example the Early Help Offer, Behaviour Support, Education Psychologists etc...
 - Examine if there are any correlations that can be found between permanent exclusions and the level of purchasing of support services as listed above.
 - Investigate Home to School Transport impacts as a result of permanent exclusions.

LOI 5: How mental health contributes to permanent exclusions.

- Obtain briefing on Future In Mind and the service provision in the context of permanent exclusions in December 2017.

LOI 6: National developments and good practice from other Local Authorities.

- Completed desk research and analysis of school policies around delivering wider aspects of the curriculum and pastoral support.
- Invited the Regional School Commissioner to an Improvement and Scrutiny Committee in early 2018.
- Completed briefing on White Paper on alternative accommodation for Members.