

## **THIRD INTERIM REPORT OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP (TFG) OF THE SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SUB-COMMITTEE ON EXCLUSIONS, OFFROLLING AND MANAGED MOVES**

Interim Report presented to the meeting of the Scrutiny Children and Young People Sub-Committee on 20 April 2021

### **1. Recommendations**

The Sub-Committee is invited:

(i) to note the report;

(ii) to support the requests of TFG for data which the TFG believes will assist it to enable it to arrive at sound conclusions and recommendations;

(iii) to schedule a meeting between 6 and 22 July 2021 at which the TFG will present its final report.

### **2. Membership of the TFG**

2.1 Upon joining the Cabinet in October 2020, Cllr Callton Young ceased his Scrutiny role, and hence his membership of TFG. His work on the TFG from his appointment in March 2019 was greatly valued. Cllr Young took part in a number of interviews with stakeholders during the consultation phase of the TFG's work.

2.2 The remaining members of the TFG are Cllr Jerry Fitzpatrick (Chair), Elaine Jones, Leo Morrell, and Cllr Ian Parker.

### **3. Progress since the presentation of the second interim report on 5 November 2019**

3.1 The TFG has met 11 times in this period. In addition to these meetings, the TFG has had over 30 meetings with stakeholders, speaking in total to over 40 people at these meetings. In addition, we have had 6 meetings with officers of the Education department.

3.2 At section 7 of the report which we presented on 5 November, we referred to the problem we experienced in 2019 in engaging the resources of Council Comms in setting up stakeholder consultation. By the end of 2019, these problems had been resolved, and the TFG undertook significant stakeholder consultation in January and February 2020 and occasional stakeholder consultation thereafter. The Notice inviting stakeholders to contribute views and experiences to TFG was published on the website, and quite widely communicated by interested organisations through email and other forms of social messaging.

3.3 The stakeholder consultation has been by way of interview. Pre-pandemic, the interviews were in person and since the start of the first lockdown virtually.

3.4 The stakeholders comprised parents, senior school managers, other teachers, health professionals, advisory teachers, counsellors and therapists, providers of AP, and a recent former school student.

3.5 The work of the TFG was largely in abeyance during the first lockdown.

#### **4. The evidence base**

4.1 The stakeholder interviewees provided the TFG with a valuable and significant evidence base.

4.2 The TFG has also received a considerable amount of data from the Council and other sources. We are grateful to Council officers for the time and trouble they have taken to address the questions which TFG have posed.

4.3 At the time of writing, the TFG awaits granular data about Managed Moves in Croydon. The data we seek is essential for anybody seeking to hold a clear glass to the Managed Moves process in Croydon, which is precisely one of the tasks which the TFG has been set up to do.

#### **5. The main issues which the TFG have been exploring**

5.1 We anticipate that our final report will present recommendations on the following issues:

- Permanent Exclusions

- Managed Moves
- Offrolling
- Internal Seclusion
- Alternative Provision (including PRUs)
- Exclusion of Pupils with SEND
- Developing Inclusive Practices
- Primary to Secondary Transition
- Developing Governor knowledge and awareness
- Supporting and Signposting Parents and Pupils

## **6. Further work to be done**

6.1 The TFG (set up in November 2018) is now very close to the end of its work. What remains is to review further the evidence which we have received, and some evidence still awaited, to crystallise the wording of the recommendations, and then to put together a report which sets out the nature and extent of our work, the recommendations, and the reasoning which has led us to make the recommendations.

## **7. Acknowledgements**

7.1 The TFG once again gratefully acknowledges the co-operation of the Interim Director of Education and her team in giving time to meet its members and answer their questions.

Cllr Jerry Fitzpatrick (Chair)

Elaine Jones (Archdiocese of Southwark Education Commission)

Leo Morrell (Southwark C of E Diocesan Board of Education)

Cllr Ian Parker

Task and Finish Group: Exclusions and Offrolling in Croydon Schools

15 April 2021