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| DECISION-MAKER: | CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL |
| SUBJECT: | EDUCATION AND EARLY YEARS – COVID 19 |
| DATE OF DECISION: | 23 JULY 2020 |
| REPORT OF: | DIRECTOR – LEGAL AND BUSINESS OPERATIONS |

| <u>CONTACT DETAILS</u> | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

None

BRIEF SUMMARY

At the 4 June 2020 meeting, requests for information in relation to closing the education attainment gap exacerbated by Covid-19, and preparations for the 202/21 academic year, were made by the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel. Attached as Appendix 1 is a brief response to questions raised by the Panel, via the Chair.

The Panel are recommended to use the information contained within the appendix to explore the issues raised, and wider concerns relating to education and early years and Covid-19, with the Cabinet Member for Children and Learning, and the Head of Education and Learning.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

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| | (i) | That the Panel consider the information contained within the appendix and scrutinise the actions being undertaken to mitigate the impact of Covid-19, and subsequent Government guidance, on educational attainment for children and young people in Southampton. |
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REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

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| 1. | To enable the Panel to scrutinise developments across Southampton's education and early years settings during the Coronavirus lockdown. |
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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

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| 2. | None. |
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DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

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| 3. | At the 4 June 2020 meeting of the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel the Panel considered the developments across Southampton's schools and early years settings, following the Coronavirus lockdown. |
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| 4. | The Panel, at the 4 June meeting, requested additional information on the following issues for consideration at a future meeting: a) The steps being planned across the school system to begin to close the anticipated widening education attainment gap in Southampton. b) The preparations being made, in conjunction with schools, for the 2020/21 academic year, to support the education of Southampton's children and young people. |
| 5. | In a subsequent email to the Head of Education and Learning the Chair requested information on the monitoring of progression of GCSE students. |
| 6. | Attached as Appendix 1 is a brief response to questions raised. Attached as Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 is the most up to date school attendance data for Southampton. Cllr Paffey, Cabinet Member for Children and Learning, and Derek Wiles, Head of Education and Learning, have been invited to attend the meeting to develop the response provided and to answer questions from the Panel relating to education, early years and Covid-19 in Southampton. |

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue/Property/Other

7. None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

8. The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.

Other Legal Implications:

9. None

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

10. None

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

11. None

KEY DECISION? No

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED: None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

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| 1. | Response to questions raised relating to Education and Early Years (Covid-19) at the 4 June 2020 meeting of the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel |
| 2. | School attendance data – Southampton |
| 3. | School attendance data by school year - Southampton |

Documents In Members' Rooms

1. None

Equality Impact Assessment

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| Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out. | | No |
| Data Protection Impact Assessment | | |
| Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out. | | No |
| Other Background Documents | | |
| Other Background documents available for inspection at: | | |
| Title of Background Paper(s) | Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable) | |
| 1. | None | |