

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, the Director responsible for Democratic Services

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	09 March 2018
Subject:	Pupil Exclusions – Proposal for a Working Group

Summary:

This report sets out a proposal to establish a working group to look into the work being undertaken by officers and schools to reduce pupil exclusions in Lincolnshire.

Actions Required:

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is invited to

1. Approve the establishment of a working group to look into the work being undertaken by officers and schools to reduce pupil exclusions in Lincolnshire.
2. Agree the membership for the working group.

1. Background

At the meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on 19 January 2018, the Committee considered a report on the Inclusive Lincolnshire Strategy – Policy Review.

Subsequent to the meeting, the Chairman of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Robert Foulkes, has suggested that it might be useful to establish a working group to look in more detail at the work being undertaken by officers and schools to reduce pupil exclusions in Lincolnshire's primary and secondary schools.

Establishment of a working group

Scrutiny Committees may appoint working groups to undertake specific tasks in relation to a matter within the remit of the Committee, provided that each Committee has no more than two working groups in operation at any one time.

A working group is time limited and can meet up to three times. If a working group proposes to meet on more than three occasions, the Committee will need to seek approval from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

Tasks undertaken by a working group could include research, analysis, supporting officers writing reports, information gathering, and interviewing experts or witnesses. A Scrutiny Committee must have regard to the level of officer support and other resources required when appointing a working group.

The outcomes of each working group will be reported to the relevant Scrutiny Committee for consideration and approval, where approval is required.

Terms of Reference

The proposed terms of reference for the Pupil Exclusions Working Group are:

1. To examine with officers the current levels of pupil exclusions in primary and secondary schools in Lincolnshire.
2. To examine with officers the Inclusive Lincolnshire Strategy and the usage of the Strategy within Lincolnshire's schools.
3. To examine with officers the strategies used in primary and secondary schools which have successfully reduced pupil exclusions, in particular those in socially disadvantaged areas.
4. To report back to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on the outcomes from the working group and any recommendations on how pupil exclusions in Lincolnshire could be addressed.

2. Conclusion

So that members can have an input into the work that officers are undertaking on pupil exclusions, it is proposed that the Committee establishes a working group to work collaboratively with officers, with a suggestion that this would comprise of three members of the Committee.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A

4. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Tracy Johnson, who can be contacted on 01522 552164 or Tracy.Johnson@lincolnshire.gov.uk.