

ACHIEVING FOR CHILDREN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

31 October 2018

The Achieving for Children (AfC) Board of Directors met on 31 October 2018. The following substantive items were considered:

Education Performance 2018

For Windsor and Maidenhead, it was reported that AfC are working with governor services and holding workshops to address issues which have been identified around disadvantaged children. Every school has a link officer who works with them to support and challenge and the link advisers report back on the impact of this work.

The Board noted that Kingston is ranked 10th for primary achievement and Richmond 3rd. Discussions around any schools needing support across Richmond or Kingston are included in meetings to look at priorities and how to help schools move forward.

Kingston SEND Inspection

The final report is due to be published on 6 November. A Written Statement of Action is being written and this will be published on the website once finalised. It is expected that the inspectors will return within 12 to 18 months to look at progress.

SEND Transformation Plan

The final plan will be submitted to the DfE on 30 November. The plan aims to balance the DSG in Kingston within three years in a number of ways and also includes some quality measures. The plan is recognised as challenging, but it is hoped that through such things as the recovery plan actions and working with early intervention services this will be achievable.

Finance Report

Further work is taking place on reducing the number of agency staff because of the cost to the organisation. The Board noted the initial findings of the London Council's Services Finance survey and would be sent further detailed information before the next meeting.

Medium Term Financial Plan and 2019/20 budget planning

It was reported to the Board that the finance team are currently working with budget managers to set budgets for 2019/20 with growth and savings target agreed by end of November. It is important to have good programme management in areas of the service going through change in order to meet service delivery and budget expectations.

Corporate Governance Review

The Board were informed that work is taking place on the new Corporate Governance Framework making it more business focussed with no real change in the values and mission. The draft Framework would be revisited after Board Members had had an opportunity to send comments to the author.