

Report to Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: 9 January 2018



Subject: Epping Forest College - Scrutiny of External Organisation

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Recommendations/Decisions Required:

That the Committee consider and agree the scope of further external scrutiny of Epping Forest College, in respect of local further education facilities and services.

1. (Director of Governance) As the Committee will recall, the Principal of Epping Forest College attended its meeting on 28 February 2017 to respond to the concerns of members in connection with the plans of the College to address a report of Ofsted (January 2017) on its 'inadequate' judgement of the quality of its local further education facilities and services. The minutes of that meeting of the Committee are available at:

<https://goo.gl/SLW5PX>
2. Members have expressed a desire to undertake further external scrutiny of the progress of the College with regard to the achievement and delivery of its improvement plans and this is included in the current work programme for the Committee.
3. The Principal of Epping Forest College, Sabhooi Famili, will therefore be attending the meeting of the Committee to be held on 27 February 2018. In accordance with the procedure previously agreed, the Committee is accordingly asked to consider and agree the scope of such further external scrutiny of Epping Forest College. Any matters identified by the Committee will be notified to Ms. Famili as the emphasis for such external scrutiny, in order to ensure that maximum value can be derived from this scrutiny activity.
4. A report (December 2017) of Ofsted setting out the results of its recent re-inspection of the College, is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
5. The identification of additional lines of questioning to be raised with Epping Forest College will also be sought from members through the Council Bulletin.

Resource Implications:

The recommendations of this report seek to enable scrutiny activity to more effectively meet work programme requirements.

Legal and Governance Implications:

The Council's constitution sets out rules for the management of its overview and scrutiny

responsibility. Although external organisations are not generally required by legislation to attend before the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, it is hoped that most would be willing to engage constructively with the Council's scrutiny activity when invited to do so.

Safer, Cleaner, Greener Implications:

There are no implications arising from the recommendations of this report in respect of the Council's commitment to the Climate Local Agreement, the corporate Safer, Cleaner, Greener initiative, or any crime and disorder issues within the district.

Consultation Undertaken:

The Principal of Epping Forest College attended the meeting of the Committee on 28 February 2017. The scrutiny of a number of overarching themes and specific issues of local further education facilities and services at the College, were identified at that time.

Background Papers:

None

Impact Assessments:

Risk Management

The Council's constitution sets out rules for the management of its overview and scrutiny responsibilities.

Equality:

There are no equality implications arising from the recommendations of this report.