

**Request by Member for Scrutiny Review
2015/16 Work Programme**



Please complete the form below to request consideration of your issue by the
Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Proposers Name: Ken Angold-Stephens	Date of Request 06.07.15
Supporting Councillors (if any): Cllr. Murray	
Summary of Issue you wish to be scrutinised: The progress of the new 6 th form consortium across secondary schools in Loughton, Waltham Abbey and Epping, including St. Johns, Roding Valley, Debden Park and King Harold Schools	
NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION	
Public Interest Justification: There has, for many years, been serious public concern over the lack of 6 th form provision in the District. Children attending the above schools had to move to other schools or Epping Forest College when reaching 6 th form age and their choices were severely restricted. The lack of continuity of schooling together with the difficulty of attracting talented teaching staff to schools without a 6 th form was not conducive to the provision of optimum opportunities for children in the area. The introduction of a 6 th form consortium has been widely welcomed but there remain concerns over its practical implementation from September 2015.	

Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area: The introduction of a 6 th form consortium will enable a wide range of subjects to be taught locally to University entry grade levels. It will bring greater social cohesion to the towns with greater opportunity for student participation in extra-curricular activities within their communities as well as achieve their educational goals within their own school community.
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Council Performance in this area (if known: Red, Amber, Green):

Red: we have not monitored school performance in this area in the past as far as I am aware although we have monitored the performance of Epping Forest College which does some basic 'A' level courses although arguably its strength lies in its practical skills courses. We have not drilled down to specific courses in our scrutiny of the College but concentrated on the results of Ofsted inspections, action plans, and the financial challenges of the College.

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?)

No other reviews are taking place as it is early days but no doubt the County Council Education Department will do at some stage. The importance of doing it early is that there are issues relating to staff recruitment, availability of new teaching facilities, funding issues, and practical problems in students attending different schools for different subjects and no doubt other issues that may come to light when trying to bed down a new system. It would seem appropriate to scrutinise it after it has had time to bed down but not too long after the start of term in case serious issues have arisen, so probably not before late autumn.

Office Use:

Pick score:

Considered By OSCC: