

Item No. 9.	Classification: Open	Date: 14 July 2020	Meeting Name: Cabinet
Report title:		Education: Exclusions and Alternative Provision – Report from the Education and Business Scrutiny Commission	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Education and Business Scrutiny Commission	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the cabinet note the education and business scrutiny commission report on education: exclusions and alternative provision, Appendix A.
2. That the cabinet considers the recommendations from the education and business scrutiny commission and request that the relevant cabinet member reports back to cabinet within eight weeks.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. The Commission investigated the rising trend of exclusions in Southwark. The Commission also looked at the educational attainment of children attending core alternative provision in Southwark, which has historically been poor.
4. The education and business scrutiny commission agreed its report for referral to cabinet at its meeting held on 20 May 2020 (subject to a few minor amendments). The commission took a comprehensive approach to gathering evidence for the report. The Commission interviewed various council officers, the cabinet member for Children, Schools and Adult Care, surveyed local schools (including academy chains and Dioceses for faith schools), heard from young people with direct experience of exclusions. The Commission also surveyed children, parents and carers across Southwark to try and understand why exclusions are rising. The Commission also interviewed one of Ofsted's Inspectors and took contributions from a national charity providing alternative provision in Southwark (Chance UK). Members of the Commission visited Southwark's Pupil Referral Unit and heard from alternative provision providers in other local authorities as well.
5. The Commission also looked at previous research into exclusions, including the Timpson Review and other research looking at the current trends in exclusions.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

6. The education and business scrutiny commission has made 9 recommendations to cabinet which are set out in the recommendations section of the scrutiny commission report (pages 24 to 26).

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Education and Business Scrutiny Commission Agendas and Minutes 2019/20	Southwark Council Website	Fitzroy Williams 020 7525 7102
Link: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=518		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix A	Education: Exclusions and Alternative Provision – Report from the Education and Business Scrutiny Commission (circulated separately)

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Member	Councillor Peter Babudu, Chair, Education and Business Scrutiny Commission (Report author of the commission report)	
Lead Officer	Doreen Forrester-Brown, Director of Law and Democracy	
Report Author	Everton Roberts, Head of Overview and Scrutiny (Acting)	
Version	Final	
Dated	2 July 2020	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included
Director of Law and Democracy	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		2 July 2020