

Children's Services and Education Scrutiny Scrutiny Board

9 January 2023

Subject:	Scrutiny Review on the Impact of Lockdown on Children and Families
Director:	Law and Governance Surjit Tour Surjir_tour@sandwell.gov.uk
Contact Officer:	Connor Robinson Democratic Services Officer Connor1_Robinson@sandwell.gov.uk Democratic Services Unit

1 Recommendation


That the Board considers the final draft report following its review on the Impact of Lockdown on Children and Families along with an accompanying presentation from the Director of Children and Education, and determines the recommendations it wishes to make to the Executive.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

A working group was established to carry out the review. The Scrutiny Board now needs to consider the final draft report of the Working Group and the recommendations it wishes to submit to the Executive, in accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rules.



3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	<p>Best start in life for children and young people</p>	<p>Best start in life for children and young people.</p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic had and continues to have an impact upon children and families across Sandwell. The Scrutiny Board wanted to examine the impact of the pandemic and understand the key pressures now facing children and young people.</p>
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4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 The Board decided to carry out this review at its work programming event in June 2021. Subsequently, a working group was established to carry out the review.
- 4.2 The working group has engaged with multiple stakeholders to gain further understanding of the issues within the education sector.
- 4.3 The attached report sets out the findings of the working group. At the time of publication discussions were ongoing with the Director of Children and Education and his assistant directors on the draft recommendations, following deferral of the matter at the Board’s meeting on 14 November 2022. The Director will give a presentation at the meeting on the final draft recommendations for the Board to consider.
- 4.4 The approved final report and recommendations will be presented to the Cabinet in February 2023.



5 Implications

Resources:	There are no specific financial implications arising from this report. Any financial implications as a result of the recommendations will be considered by the Executive, should they be approved.
Legal and Governance:	Scrutiny Procedure Rules require the Board to prepare a report following a review and submit it to the Executive.
Risk:	There are no specific risk implications arising from this report. Any risk implications as a result of the recommendations will be considered by the Executive, should they be approved.
Equality:	There are no specific equality implications arising from this report. Any implications as a result of the recommendations will be considered by the Executive, should they be approved.
Health and Wellbeing:	There are no specific health and wellbeing implications arising from this report. Any implications as a result of the recommendations will be considered by the Executive, should they be approved.
Social Value	There are no specific social value implications arising from this report. Any implications as a result of the recommendations will be considered by the Executive, should they be approved.

6 Appendices

Impact of the Lockdown on Children and Families Working Group – Final Report

