

Cabinet Member Update Report

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services and Safeguarding) –
5 December 2017

| Councillor | Portfolio | Period of Report |
|------------|---|------------------|
| John Kelly | Cabinet Member Children, Schools and Safeguarding | November 2017 |

Academisation

The following schools have had academy orders made by the Secretary of State: Holy Trinity CE Primary School; Litherland Moss Primary School; St Andrew's CE Primary School; St Teresa's Catholic Infant School; and St Thomas' CE Primary School; Savio Salesian College and Shoreside Primary School. Once an academy order is made the local authority have a statutory duty to facilitate the process and St Thomas' became an academy on 1 November.

South Sefton College

Following a dip in student numbers in September Cabinet agreed a revised business plan with Hugh Baird to ensure that the merger could still proceed and it is now proposed that the merger takes place on 1 December. The merger of South Sefton College with Hugh Baird College was recommended by the Liverpool City Region Area Review of post 16 education and training institutions.

SEND Inspection

The Council's statement of action which was required following the SEND inspection has been approved by Ofsted and the first two quarterly monitoring visits by DfE and NHS England have taken place. Both organisations are satisfied with the progress being made to date.

National Funding Formula

Sefton schools will not receive a funding reduction as originally proposed in government's consultation but due to funding pressures on high needs and statutory services which are now unfunded it is unlikely that schools will see an increase in real terms. In fact once staff pay awards and other inflationary increases are factored in many schools will see a real terms reduction in their spending power.

Family Well-being Service

The Council's consultation on a proposed Family Well-being Service ended on 17 November. The main proposals would involve widening the offer to provide support from 0-19; providing outreach into schools and communities; complementing the approach of health and well-being services and locality working; and introducing a transparent funding formula which addresses those children and families most in need. The results of the consultation will be reported to O&S and Cabinet in December.