



REPORT TO CANVEY PRIDE IN PLACE BOARD – 15th July 2026

Steve Bish – Castle Point and Rochford School Sport Partnership (The Deanes School)

SUBJECT: Children and Young People Projects (Revenue)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report will provide greater detail around the children and young people projects put forward by the School Sport Partnership in the initial investment plan and make a formal request to the Board for funding for the 26/27 financial year with in principle consideration for future years (to be revisited)

2 LINKS TO THE CANVEY ISLAND REGENERATION PLAN

- 2.1 The projects included sit within the pre-approved intervention them of 'Education and Opportunity' and the pre-approved category of MHCLG of Enhancing Opportunities for Children and Young People.

The School Sport Partnership led , as part of the initial consultation and engagement phase, detailed research on the views and needs of children and young people through focus group meetings in every school on Canvey and the projects identified also link directly to the findings and outcome.

These include:

- Increased opportunities for older children/youth
- Development of skills and opportunities around sport
- Working with families to provide the best start in life
- Swimming identified as a priority for young people

Regeneration Plan links and priorities:

Need to empower young people – proposal to scale up and further develop the Move With Us Leaders Academy for Canvey Island (Sports Leadership for young people)

Need to better prepare young people for employment opportunities and life – building on previous success of Active Best Start for Canvey project

Lack of opportunities for children and young people to take control of their futures – creation, organisation, management and ongoing support of a Canvey Pride In Place Children and Young People Board/ plus budget for Board

Priority of swimming – scale up and build on the School Sport Partnership Top Up Swimming programme for Canvey Island

3 MATTERS FOR THE BOARD TO CONSIDER

3.1 The Board is asked to consider and take decisions on the following matters and allocate funding to the following sub-projects:

- (1) Canvey Pride In Place Children and Young People Board – funding is requested to enable the SSP to provide capacity to work with the young people in a sustained and meaningful way to ensure the views, opinions and actions of children and young people continue to lead the work of the Board. This will include training for the young people involved, focus group work in individual schools and organising and running of events to benefit the board members, along with ongoing retention and recruitment. The Children and Young People Board is already established and functioning with 36 members representing all schools on Canvey Island. The second part of this has already received Board approval – the allocation of a £5,000 budget for the young people to spend on community events/projects which are important to them. This funding can be released to the SSP so the Children and Young People Board can begin to deliver their projects.

FUNDING ASK - £10,000 in capacity to work with the Board / £5,000 pre-approved budget allocation to spend (for the young people)

Total £15,000 (Year 1 with in principle future funding in the years ahead)

- (2) Canvey Move With Us Leaders Academy – this is a recognised sport leadership course, qualification and volunteering scheme which the SSP has developed in partnership with Active Essex. The scheme is delivered to secondary aged students of 13 years and above over a 6 week training

programme with a focus on employability/life skills such as communication, organisation, teamwork and resilience, using sport and activity as the vehicle. On completion of the 6 week course, young people are then encouraged/helped to volunteer within school and the wider community and work towards rewards. This request is to build upon the work started through the Sport England Place Partnership funding. With support from Pride In Place, we will be able to work with an additional 48 students per year in secondary schools expanding this offer to those at risk of not finishing schools/ future NEETs. The funding will pay for tutor delivery, course materials and support with volunteering placements. The SSP has a tried and tested method and relationships with both Canvey secondary schools to implement and 'scale up' this work straight away, prioritising the need to support young people with employability and life skills. This would sit alongside and part match fund the £10,000 allocated through Sport England. This is another way of demonstrating the leverage and extension of reach through Pride In Place funds.

FUNDING ASK - £6,000 (Year 1 with in principle future funding in the years ahead)

TOTAL £6,000

- (3) Canvey Top Up Swimming Programme – the School Sport Partnership (SSP) currently runs and coordinates a small scale top up swimming programme across the whole of Castle Point and Rochford through the network of schools with contributions from the schools and working in partnership with CPBC Leisure team. Due to lack of finances, this is currently not meeting demand, especially on Canvey Island. With funding of £5,000 the SSP would work in partnership with all schools and CPBC Leisure team to deliver a comprehensive programme supporting children in years 4-6 not able to swim 25m with intensive lessons over holiday periods to 'Get Canvey Swimming'. The seafront remains a priority for capital investment and a hugely important asset so a programme supporting swimming in schools in a centrally co-ordinated way would meet this need, along with the health and well-being benefits. The funding would cover project co-ordination, Instructor time, pool time and marketing and communication. Please note – currently children able to swim 25m in Castle Point sits at 62% compared with Essex average of 76%.

FUNDING ASK - £5,000 (Year 1 with in principle future funding in the years ahead)

TOTAL £5,000

(4) Active Best Start Canvey – In 2022/23 academic years, the Castle Point and Rochford School Sport Partnership was commissioned by Essex County Council to design and deliver a physical activity intervention aspect/programme for the Best Start programme across Canvey. This led to a 2 year intensive programme with schools, providing all Reception aged children on Canvey with the opportunity to attend a before school/breakfast club called 'Ready4School Club' (working on fine and gross motor skills , along with fun and engaging physical activity challenges, all monitored and tracked against baseline data) and all Reception classes received a minimum of 1 term of curriculum support from SSP Physical Activity Specialists (working alongside the school staff) to deliver a curriculum programme called Flying Start and Beyond (a curriculum programme designed by KS1 specialists in the SSP team to teach physical activity and movement through storytelling and also improved the literacy skills of the children/love of reading and books). The final aspect of the programme is to deliver a Flying Start Family Festival , whereby all children and families are invited to a community day on Canvey to try new sports and activities, signposting to free and accessible local age appropriate family activities, services on offer , mobile library etc.

This programme gained a lot of interest because over the two years , it was found that the Good Levels of Development(GLD) of reception children increased by 16.8% when other areas in Essex, they fell.

The issue was the funding was too short-term and this proposal is asking the Board to consider running/developing/growing this programme over a longer and sustained period to make a generational difference to the youngest students in Canvey schools, creating vital early good habits and building relationships with young families around knowledge and understanding of healthy, active and literate lives.

Funding would enable capacity to develop new yearly resources for schools to support the legacy , specialist staff for delivery , capacity for evaluation and monitoring of progress and proof of impact and the delivery of the large-scale family festivals. The project would reach every school and every Reception aged child./family each year.

FUNDING ASK - £30,000 (Year 1 funding with in principle future funding in years ahead)

4 INTRODUCTION

All of the sub-projects presented in this report are part of the initial investment plan and pre-approved themes identified at the point of consultation and engagement.

The reason these projects are being presented to the Board for consideration in July 2026 is so they can be actioned and implemented from September 2026 onwards, in line with the start of the new academic year to assist planning and delivery timeframes.

5 OPTIONS

5.1 Option 1: Do Nothing

5.2 Option 2: Fund all aspects of sub-project proposals

5.3 Option 3: Fund some aspects of sub-project proposals

5.4 Preferred Option – Option 2

6 COMMUNITY CONSIDERATIONS

Based on extensive community consultation through children, young people and schools. The projects link young people to community opportunities and the wider outcomes/aims of the regeneration and investment plan.

7 DELIVERY TIMEFRAMES

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8 FINANCIAL AND COST CONSIDERATIONS

Summary of Funding request:

Canvey Pride In Place Children and Young People Board - £10,000 capacity

Canvey Pride In Place Children and Young People Board - £5,000 delivery budget

Canvey Move With Us Leaders Academy - £6,000

Canvey Top Up Swimming Programme - £5,000

Active Best Start Canvey - £30,000

Total £56,000 (Year 1)

9 OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 The resource to deliver these projects would be provided by the Castle Point and Rochford School Sport Partnership (The Deanes/SEEAT)

10 RISKS

- 10.1 The only risks would be the potential failure to deliver these projects within the necessary timeframe which is mitigated through the high level strategic and operation relationships which exist through the structure of the School Sport Partnership and Canvey Schools for 23 years.

11 LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no legal considerations or restrictions to the delivery of these projects. The Castle Point and Rochford School Sport Partnership is The Deanes School (SEEAT Trust) and all projects will be delivered in line within the governance of the 12 Canvey schools.

Steve Bish

Partnership Development Manager Castle Point and Rochford School Sport
Partnership, The Deanes (SEEAT)

Attachments:

None or list attachments here