

## **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

**18 NOVEMBER 2008**

### **CHILDREN AND LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL - PROGRESS REPORT**

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To provide members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB) with an update on the work of the Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

2. That the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the updated position.

#### **BACKGROUND**

3. Since the last update report to OSB, the Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel has met twice, on 13 October and 6 November 2008.
4. At the 13 October meeting, the panel concluded its investigation of aspects of the Council's corporate parenting responsibilities in the light of the Government White Paper "Care Matters: Time for Change." A final report was agreed on this topic and this was considered at OSB's last meeting. The report is now in the process of being considered by the Executive.
5. On 6 November 2008, the scrutiny panel began to investigate the topic of Middlesbrough Youth Service and Connexions. Members considered a broad overview of these subject areas. Terms of reference for the panel's investigation will be considered at the next panel meeting. The scrutiny panel also considered the draft Children and Young People's Plan 2008-11. This is a statutory document required by the Children Act 2004.

6. The plan is a multi-agency document which is aligned with the aims of the Sustainable Community Strategy, the Local Area Agreement and the comprehensive Spending Review. It outlines how all relevant agencies will work together to help Middlesbrough's children and young people to succeed.

**COUNCILLOR JAVED ISMAIL**

**CHAIR OF THE CHILDREN AND LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL**

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