



## **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

**18 OCTOBER 2011**

### **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 once, on 5 October 2011.
4. The panel's investigation of the 14-19 Reform Agenda (which is primarily aimed at ensuring that all young people, irrespective of academic ability, are equipped with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed and progress in education and employment) is ongoing.
5. To date, information has been submitted on how the most recent national reforms and proposals might be implemented in Middlesbrough. The panel has heard information from the Principal of Middlesbrough College about that organisation's involvement in the subject, including proposals being developed by the college in respect of 14-19 provision in Middlesbrough.

6. Members have also heard from the Councillor M Carr, the Council's Executive Member for Children, Families and Learning, regarding the authority's involvement in this topic and how it hopes to be involved in developing collaborative working arrangements locally.
7. At the meeting on 5 October 2011, the scrutiny panel heard information panel in respect of the Council's responsibilities regarding post-16 education and its involvement in promoting and developing local apprenticeships. This related to:
  - The implications of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009.
  - The position following the abolition of the Learning and Skills Council and the transfer of responsibility for post-16 education to the Council.
  - The formation of the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA).

**COUNCILLOR JEANETTE WALKER**

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

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