

# MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 8a

## OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

21 AUGUST 2012

### 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 report to OSB, the Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel has met once - on 25 July 2012. At that meeting, the panel began examining the topic of future local authority involvement in academies.
4. The panel heard that, as schools move to academy status, the role of local authorities changes fundamentally. However, authorities will continue to have a number of statutory duties - for example ensuring that every child has a school place, responsibility for excluded pupils and responsibility for vulnerable pupils. Clarification is also awaited on the issue of future local authority involvement in monitoring and addressing underperformance.
5. The scrutiny panel heard information on how these, and other relevant issues, might be best addressed in the future.

**COUNCILLOR JEANETTE WALKER**

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

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