

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

1 APRIL 2014

**EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN
MIDDLESBROUGH 2013 AND OFSTED
INSPECTION 2014**

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To present further information concerning queries raised at the Overview and Scrutiny Board's last meeting in respect of:
 - Educational attainment.
 - The recent Ofsted inspection of local authority arrangements for supporting school improvement.

FURTHER INFORMATION

2. **Educational Attainment** - At the OSB's 4 March 2014 meeting, consideration was given to a report of the Director of Transformation on Council Performance and Risk - Quarter Three 2013/14. The report included reference to the final academic attainment results that were published in December 2013.
3. The submitted report indicated that:
 - A new early years assessment model and new headline indicator has been introduced for the 2013 results set. National average for the new measure is 52% and the North East Average is 45%. Local performance sits low within the bottom quartile.
 - The number of primary schools below the 60% threshold has reduced from five to two.
 - Middlesbrough has moved up the national state school league table for the headline GCSE measure (5 A*-C grades include English and maths to 143/151 and has narrowed the gap from 12% to 8.5% nationally. The year on year trend shows a 2.7% improvement, from 47.6% to 50.3%.

- However, the gap between Middlesbrough's GCSE headline pass rate and the Tees Valley average has widened from 6% to 7% year on year.

4. **Appendices 1 and 2** (attached) summarise performance during 2013.
5. Following queries that were raised at the 4 March OSB meeting, the Board agreed that Julie Cordiner, Assistant Director School Partnerships, be invited to attend today's meeting next meeting of the Board in order to discuss further the 2013 academic attainment results and the measures being pursued to seek improvement.
6. **Ofsted Inspection** - During the discussion above, Members also made reference to the recent Ofsted inspection of local authority arrangements for supporting school improvement. It was agreed that the Assistant Director School Partnerships be also asked to advise OSB of the updated position concerning the inspection. A copy of the relevant Ofsted Inspector's letter to the authority is attached at **Appendix 3** of this report.
7. Members will have the opportunity to question the officer in respect of the issues outlined above.

RECOMMENDATION

8. That the submitted information is received by the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

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