

**MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL**  
**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

AGENDA ITEM 6 (a)

<p><b>CHILDREN AND LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL</b> <b>PROGRESS REPORT</b></p>
---

**29 APRIL 2014**

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

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

**BACKGROUND**

2. The scrutiny panel met on 26 March to consider the draft final report on the topic of Employability Skills – From Care2Work Pathways for Children in Care. At the meeting the panel approved the contents of the final report and discussed, determined and agreed conclusions and recommendations. The final report is elsewhere on the Overview and Scrutiny Board agenda.
3. The last meeting was held on 15 April. At this meeting Members received an update on the scrutiny panel's 2012 review of Substance Misuse Among Parents and Carers.
4. Jeff Watson, the Council's Young People's Risk Reduction Manager attended the meeting to update the scrutiny panel on the progress made with the implementation of the agreed actions, since the panel's report was submitted to the Executive on 17 July 2012.
5. The scrutiny panel noted:
  - The progress made with the implementation of a Joint Local Protocol, which has been devised to establish a joined up and co-ordinated approach between all relevant agencies.
  - The training and awareness sessions that have been delivered to over 200 professionals on the impact of substance misuse by parents and carers on children, safeguarding, hidden harm, the referral process and the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) processes.
6. Although good progress has been made, the scrutiny panel noted that the training and development of staff and relevant agencies is ongoing.

**RECOMMENDATION**

7. That the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the progress of the Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel.

**COUNCILLOR JEANETTE WALKER**  
**CHAIR OF THE CHILDREN AND LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL**

**Contact Officer:**

Georgina Brown (Scrutiny Support Officer)  
Legal and Democratic Services  
Telephone: 01642 729711(direct line)  
e-mail: [georgina\\_brown@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:georgina_brown@middlesbrough.gov.uk)