

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

AGENDA ITEM 8 (a)

<p style="margin: 0;"><b>CHILDREN AND LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL</b> <b>PROGRESS REPORT</b></p>
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**19 August 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**

**School Improvement and Support**

2. The last meeting was held on 16 July 2014. At this meeting, the scrutiny panel received information and key documents in respect of the Local Authority's plans for improvement, following the Ofsted inspection of the Council's school improvement role in January 2014.
3. Julie Cordiner, Assistant Director for Learning and Skills, was in attendance at the meeting to provide:
  - A general overview of the feedback received from Ofsted.
  - A detailed outline of the actions that the Local Authority intends to take to improve education provision in Middlesbrough.
4. A report, detailing the scrutiny panel's findings, conclusions and recommendations is detailed elsewhere on the Overview and Scrutiny Board agenda.

**Early Help – Improving Outcomes for Children, Young People and Families**

5. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 27 August 2014. At this meeting, the scrutiny panel will begin its new topic of Early Help – Improving Outcomes for Children, Young People and Families. On 27 August, John Keelty (Assistant Director for Supporting Communities) will provide the scrutiny panel with:
  - A definition of early help, including a summary of the social and economic benefits of intervening early.
  - An outline of how those in need of early help are identified and assessed.
  - An overview of the preventative and early help services available for Middlesbrough's children, young people and families.
  - A summary of how early help services are commissioned and aligned to the needs of Middlesbrough's population.
  - An outline of how early help services are analysed and how success is measured.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

6. 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**

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