

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

AGENDA ITEM 13 (a)

**CHILDREN AND LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL**  
**PROGRESS REPORT**

**6 JANUARY 2015**

**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**

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

2. At the meeting, held on 8 October 2014, the scrutiny panel received further information in respect of its current topic of Early Help – Improving Outcomes for Children, Young People and Families. At the meeting, John Keelty (0-19 Service Manager), Gail Earl (Townwide Manager, 0-19 Service) and Joanne Tickle (Acting East Locality Manager, 0-19 Service) provided the scrutiny panel with an overview of the 0-19 Service's targeted provision, support and prevention mechanisms. This included an outline of the work undertaken by the Council's locality teams and children centres.
3. At the meeting held on 12 November 2014, the scrutiny panel was provided with the opportunity to consider and discuss information from the Centre for Excellence and Outcomes (C4EO). Members heard that the C4EO is renowned as a best practice hub for 'what works' in children's services. It was conveyed that the C4EO works with local areas and services (across the public, private, voluntary and community sectors) to gather examples of excellent local practice, which have led to significantly improved outcomes for children, young people and their families. The panel received examples of local practices, which have been validated by the C4EO, in respect of early help, intervention and prevention.
4. The last meeting took place on 10 December 2014. At this meeting, the scrutiny panel approved the content of the final report and discussed, determined and agreed conclusions and recommendations. The final report is elsewhere on the Overview and Scrutiny Board agenda.

**School Improvement and Support**

5. At the meeting on 12 November, the scrutiny panel also received an update, from the Assistant Director for Learning and Skills, on the Local Authority's school improvement role and the progress made in addressing recommendations from Ofsted via the Post Inspection Action Plan. In addition, a presentation of attainment results in 2014, across all Key Stages, was made.

## **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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