

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

AGENDA ITEM: 7 (a)

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

21 April 2016

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 last meeting of the scrutiny panel was held on 6 April 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to provide the panel with information on its 2013 review of Child Poverty, Deprivation and Attainment.
3. At the meeting the Director for Wellbeing, Care and Learning, the Assistant Director of Learning and Skills and the Assistant Director for Supporting Communities were in attendance. The officers provided the panel with an update on the progress made with the implementation of agreed actions, since the panel's report was submitted to The Executive on 3 December 2013.
4. In respect of the update, the panel was advised:
 - That a new Early Help Strategy and local offer will be considered for formal adoption at the next meeting of the Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT). At the meeting, clarification will be provided on:
 - The preventative, early help and acute services available.
 - The roles and responsibilities of multi-agency partners.
 - That child poverty has been identified as a key priority in respect of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). The CYPP and the Child Poverty Strategy will be updated in summer 2016.
 - That Headteachers are responsible for publishing a statement indicating how Pupil Premium (PP) funding is being utilised. The Learning and Skills Team is currently reviewing this information.
 - That Transforming Tees has undertaken a review of good practice in using the Pupil Premium - to improve the attainment of disadvantaged children. The review involved gathering data and information from Middlesbrough schools, where Pupil Premium pupils are achieving very well. The good practice identified will be published. Furthermore, the Middlesbrough Achievement Partnership (MAP) has produced a plan for raising achievement with a clear emphasis on Pupil Premium pupils, including a plan to have a Pupil Premium Champion in each school.

- That, with regard to the Family and Schools Together (FAST) Programme, the funding from Save the Children had now ceased. Some Middlesbrough schools have continued with the FAST programme but have modified and tailored its content.

5. The scrutiny panel has requested a further update in six months' time.

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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