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Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 10 April 2008

Subject: Education Standards

Electoral Wards Affected:	Specific Implications For:
	Ethnic minorities
	Women
	Disabled people
	Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At the board's first meeting in June, members agreed to carry out an inquiry into education standards as one of their major pieces of work this year. A copy of the agreed terms of reference is attached as appendix 1.
- 1.2 Inquiry sessions have been held in January and March. At the March session it was agreed to hold a further session in April in order to hear from the Head of the Extended School for Looked After Children about the work being undertaken with this group of young people who are particularly vulnerable to becoming NEET.
- 1.3 There were also a small number of visits outstanding as part of the programme, and this session will offer members a chance to share the issues emerging from the full programme of visits.
- 1.4 The above evidence completes the scheduled activities for the board's inquiry. The board is therefore requested to consider whether it now has sufficient information to complete its inquiry and to consider the conclusions and recommendations to be incorporated into the draft inquiry report.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The board is requested to consider the issues raised by the evidence provided and the visits undertaken as part of the inquiry.
- 2.2 The board is requested to consider the emerging conclusions and recommendations to be reflected in the draft report of the board's inquiry.