



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 24 April 2008

Subject: Draft Inquiry report – Education Standards

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 In June 2007, the Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) agreed to carry out an inquiry into Education Standards, as one of the Board's major pieces of work for the year.
- 1.2 The Board is now in a position to report on its conclusions and recommendations resulting from the evidence gathered.
- 1.3 The draft final report will be circulated in advance of the meeting.
- 1.4 In addition the Board will receive an update on queries raised at the March meeting of the Board regarding data on those not in education, training or employment (NEET).

2.0 Consultation

- 2.1 Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 16.3 states that "where a Scrutiny Board is considering making specific recommendations it shall invite advice from the appropriate Director(s) prior to finalising its recommendations. The Director shall consult with the appropriate Executive Member before providing any such advice. The detail of that advice shall be attached to the report".
- 2.2 Any advice received will be reported at the Board's meeting for consideration, before the Board finalises its report.
- 2.3 Once the Board publishes its final report, the appropriate Directors will be asked to formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations within three months.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 The Board is requested to:-

- (i) Agree the Board's final report and recommendations.
- (ii) Request that officers formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations in July 2008.